

"Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much." ~Helen Keller

Together is defined as being in close proximity to other people, but it is also defined as being in companionship with others. This is an interesting distinction as I reflect on a school year unlike any we have experienced. While we have all missed being in close proximity with one another, I have felt the constant companionship of our community. Spring is a time of renewal and hope, and our campus has truly sprung to life in the past weeks. We are overwhelmed with gratitude and look forward to the many days of being together.

Heading into the spring semester, we are focused on showing love for our Keystone family and the greater Montessori community. With that in mind, I hope you enjoy some highlights of activities on campus and school updates, which illustrate some of the ways we are showing our love for Keystone, our families, and the Montessori community.

- Our Montessori Journey: Re-imagined was held on Saturday, January 30th, which gave us time to focus on the Montessori philosophy that guides us. The event was well attended and our staff did a superb job sharing the Montessori experience with our guests.
- Our popular parent support and education program, Coffee Talk, has returned to Keystone! Coffee Talk promotes community connection, supports our families, and facilitates discussion on a variety of Montessori topics. Meetings will be held monthly for the remainder of the school year, and we hope to share some coffee talk with you in the coming months!
- We are excited to announce Ms. Lidia shared her love for Montessori as a presenter at the annual Association Montessori International/USA (AMI) Refresher Course in February. It is an honor to be asked to speak at the annual AMI conference and we are so proud of Ms. Lidia.
- Our Guides are in demand! As you know, we have some of the very best Montessori leaders here at Keystone. Two of our staff members, Mr. Stefan and Ms. Shahnaz, are completing their training to become AMI consultants. To be chosen to join the team of Montessori leaders who help shape the future is the highest honor and we could not be more proud.
- As a lifelong learner myself, I have taken the wonderful opportunity to participate in Whole School Leadership Institute's multi-year master program for Montessori administrators. The program is led by Montessori leadership experts such as Kathy Minardi, Sue Pritzker and Peter Davidson. I am also attending an eight-week intensive, "Reimagining Racial Equity", led by the consulting groups, Conscious Collaboratory and Culture Principles, as a continuing commitment to our community.

I would like to share one more definition with you - community: a feeling of fellowship with others, as a result of sharing common attitudes, interests, and goals. At Keystone, we share a commitment to authentic Montessori education and a passion to create a lifetime love of learning for our children. The often quoted proverb, "It takes a village to raise a child" is particularly poignant during these times. While it has been especially challenging to cultivate

and adapt opportunities for fellowship this school year, our Keystone village continues to rise to the occasion.

In Health and Peace,

Laura Hertzler