

**A Day of
Inspiration, Enlightenment and In-service**

Presented by the



Friday, February 12, 2010

8:00 AM – 3:45 PM

at The Hockessin Montessori School
1000 Old Lancaster Pike
Hockessin, DE 19707
302-234-1240

Program

8:00 Registration Begins and Continental Breakfast

8:30 Welcome – Dr. Linda Zankowsky, MTAD President

9:00 Keynote Speaker A:

Catherine McTamane, Author of *The Tao of Montessori*

Quests: The Spiritual Preparation of the Teacher: Dr. McTamane addresses our own endless quests to connect with spiritual selves in order to better serve the children in our classrooms. This presentation offers a practical perspective on the struggles of remaining mindful and the essential work Montessori teachers do when they acknowledge their own spiritual needs.

10:45 Morning Session

B1) Reading Aloud – Building Comprehension and Vocabulary

Dr. Linda Zankowsky – Wilmington Montessori School

Reading aloud to children is a daily practice in most Montessori classrooms. Indeed, Montessori understood that teachers should continually model the reading of good literature. Her writings refer often to the necessity of reading to children and of talking about the books they read each day. Today research confirms that those teachers who interact with books and children as they read aloud positively impact children's vocabulary development, comprehension, and their use of language. However, research shows that many teachers do not interact with the text as they read aloud. In these classrooms, there is a low correlation between the amount of time children are read to and their future reading development. It is important that Montessori teachers understand how to use read alouds to support children's reading development.

This session focuses on effective read alouds supporting the development of vocabulary and comprehension. Montessori teachers of children ages 3 – 9 years learn how to plan for effective read alouds including thinking aloud as they read, engaging children in the story with thoughtful questions and strategically focusing children on vocabulary.

B2) The Whole Teacher – A Multi-disciplinary approach to healing the body

Dr. Seth Torregiani, Kate Gugerty and Jodi Hutchinson

The Agada Center team offers a multi disciplinary approach to healing the body at all levels. Dr. Seth Torregiani, founder of The Agada Center, will discuss the physiological effects of an unhealthy lifestyle. He will explore aspects of diet, stress and lack of spiritual practice. Kate Gugerty, the center's holistic health counselor, will guide the group through making the lifestyle changes necessary to alleviate the ill effects of an unhealthy lifestyle by identifying and incorporating the elements of a whole foods eating plan. Jodi Hutchinson, the center's mind body healer, will guide the group through a meditation to address the deeper level of cellular healing that comes with the development and implementation of a meditative process.

B3) Reconsider Your Footprint - Children's House Montessori School Staff

With the support of DNREC and Recycle Bank grants, a small Montessori School in Wilmington, DE takes on a venture to create a DVD showing how even the youngest individual can make a difference in ensuring a future healthy planet Earth. Be the first to see their 20 minute DVD presentation and learn more about "reconsidering your footprint."

B4) Touchpoints: Maximizing Parent Relations through Communications

Beth Reaves, Communication Office, Wilmington Montessori School

Think about all of the interactions you have with your students' parents over the course of a school year – your teachers, assistant teachers, classroom newsletters, invoices, and website – even your facebook page! Are you making the most of each of these "Touchpoint" opportunities? It is important for a school to recognize the impact of each of these touchpoint interactions, to ensure the school community communicates effectively and makes the most of each interaction. These points form and accumulate in a parent's mind – and help to shape their opinion of your school, their child's experience and Montessori education.

Understand how the role of each person in the school community can create effective touchpoints, and explore how a school's communications efforts can influence a parent's feeling about Montessori overall.

B5) Neurologically Appropriate Activities for Active Children

Dr. Trent Ryan

Dr. Ryan will present the hemispheric approach to AD/HD and related disorders by sharing activities that stimulate specific weak and/or dysfunctional areas of the brain. This repeated stimulation will result in increased brain activity and better overall performance of the affected child. Fine tune existing sensory integration materials already in your environment to help children increase focus and exercise control over their behavior.

B6) Integrating Yoga into Your Daily Curriculum

Alyson Leinbach of Serenity Yoga Studio

Using songs, animal movements, nature, storytelling, games, meditation, and breathing techniques you can teach children to relax, encourage awareness of the spirit, increase self-confidence and self-awareness, and support left and right brain coordination. You'll receive many lessons to use immediately in your classrooms through this one hour yoga session.

B7) The Importance of Responsibility in the Elementary Classroom

Judy Bauerlein

This workshop will provide examples of Elementary Practical Life activities that foster Responsibility. Responsibility Charts, Ground Rules, and Research will be discussed.

**B8) Heads of School Breakout Session – Catherine McTamoney
Scientist, Servant and Saint: Adopting the roles of the Montessori teacher
toward effective school leadership:**

This workshop will provide an overview of the multiple roles of school heads when viewed through a Montessori lens. Combining contemporary research on effective school leadership with traditional Montessori philosophy, this workshop is designed to provide a first taste for school heads who want to focus their leadership, support more effective teaching practices in their classrooms, and align their administrative practices with the Method.

11:45 Lunch

1:00 Keynote Speaker C:

Judith Bauerlein, 2010 AMS Living Legacy

"Reflections of my Montessori Journey" - Judy Bauerlein discusses:

- Her passion for the vision of Dr. Montessori,
- the essential meaning of the Living Legacy,
- including the importance of the Montessori community,
- and a look at Teacher Education.

2:45 Afternoon Session

D1) Montessori in the Technological World

Amy Dwyer – Elementary Workshop Montessori School

The workshop will cover the crucial topics of Internet safety and digital literacy, as children must learn how to navigate on the web safely, how to assess the value and accuracy of the sites they visit and how to determine the appropriate tool to use to solve the problem at hand. The National Education Technology Standards for Teachers and Students will be introduced in order to link Montessori teachers to best practice in the educational world outside Montessori school.

D2) Would you Rather be Rich, Thin or Emotionally Intelligent?

Cate McCarthy, Ph.D., Licensed Clinical Social Worker

Leslie Connor, Ph.D., Licensed Psychologist

Daniel Goleman's groundbreaking book, Emotional Intelligence, offers a persuasive argument that our view of human intelligence is narrow and ignores many key life skills such as self-motivation, impulse control, mood regulation, empathy, persistence, and the ability to delay gratification. Together this set of skills can help explain why a student with a high IQ is not guaranteed success and why someone with good self-knowledge, good interpersonal skills, and only a moderate IQ may live a more rewarding life. Montessori Education offers a wonderful platform for teacher EQ, but first we need to understand it for ourselves. With this in mind, Dr. Leslie Connor (WMS parent) and Dr. Cate McCarthy will make a brief presentation on EQ and will then lead a discussion of how we nurture and strengthen emotional intelligence for ourselves and our children.

D3) Stewards of Peace

Cathy Simon Cord and Laura Muhlbauer – Wilmington Montessori School

This is an opportunity for participants to discover new ideas and understand how much of what they already do in the classroom is contributing towards creating peace. In this workshop we will share out experiences to help the participants make connections that they can use in their classroom environments. We will provide suggestions and examples of art projects, general activities, books, questions for morning message, and more. We would like participants to come away feeling confident about talking with their student about peace and knowing that they have meaningful ways of encouraging and teaching peace to their students.

D4) Making Snack Time Fun

Carol Wandling and Janna Vandegrift – Children's House Montessori

For the past two years of working together, this teaching team has developed Montessori curriculum based thematic snacks keeping nutrition and licensing regulations in mind. Power point, sample snack "plans" and time to participate in our version of "American Chef" are planned and promised in this workshop.

D5) Think Globally, Act Locally

Lisa Lalama and Laura Z. Orsic – Wilmington Montessori School

"What is the task of man in this wonderful universe?" – Dr. Maria Montessori

An essential role of 21st century teachers is to prepare students for the responsibilities of global citizenry. This demonstration of a project-based approach to lesson planning, student projects, and field trips related to environmental sustainability will provide exciting ideas about how to nurture students' abilities to shape the future.

D6) Revisiting the AMS and NAEYC Code of Ethics

Cathy Lopez-Cooling and Staff of Children's House Montessori School

How the NAEYC Early Childhood Code of Ethics support and align with the AMS Code of Ethics professionally reflecting on what we do every day to support best practices in our classrooms and schools.

D7) A Lens Inward: Self-Observation for the Montessori Teacher

Catherine McTamane

This workshop session will focus on our obligation as Montessori teachers to observe our own practices as we try to perfect them for the children we serve. We are well trained in observing children and understand the importance of those observations toward creating the prepared environment. This workshop will focus on observing ourselves as teachers to be sure that the conclusions we draw as scientists in our classrooms are sound.

D8) Heads of School Breakout session – Judy Bauerlein

Judy will share some of her experiences in both public and private Montessori schools. This time will be spent discussing concerns, issues, and successes.

3:45 Conference closes – Certificate of attendance will be available in the lobby.

Conference Registration

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Montessori Credentials Held: I/T _____ 3 -6 _____ 6 - 9 _____ 9 - 12 _____
12 - 15 _____ Other _____ None _____

MTAD Member ? Yes _____ No _____ Fee included below _____

N.B. You are automatically a member of MTAD if you work at a member school*

Program Choices

Morning Session: Choose 1: B1 _____ B2 _____ B3 _____ B4 _____
B5 _____ B6 _____ B7 _____ B8 _____

Afternoon Session:

Choose 1: D1 _____ D2 _____ D3 _____ D4 _____
D5 _____ D6 _____ D7 _____ D8 _____

Fee: Includes morning refreshments, Keynote Speakers, morning session, lunch, and afternoon session

Pre-Registration Payment (Must be **received** by February 8, 2010.)

MTAD Members by Dec. 18 \$50.00 _____ (at the door: \$60.00)

MTAD Members by Feb. 8 \$55.00 _____

Individual MTAD Membership \$10.00 _____

Non-Members \$65.00 _____ (at the door: \$70.00)

Total: _____

Make Checks Payable to MTAD and remit to:

MTAD c/o Wilmington Montessori School, 1400 Harvey Road, Wilmington, DE 19810

MTAD Member Schools:

BBMS, CHMS, EWMS, THMS, TMAD, MCL, MLC, NMS, WMS