

## 2019-2020 Accomplishments

- “Excellent” rated Middle School
- “Good” rated Elementary School
- MUSC Boeing Center for Children’s Wellness Grant
- First MCS Girls’ Volleyball Teams
- First MCS Coed Soccer Team
- Fun Pan Program for 4k and 6th grade
- Reading Buddies
- Junior Great Books program
- First Tee Member
- Gifted and Talented endorsed teachers
- National Board Certified teachers
- Jump Rope for Heart
- Food Drive for Lowcountry Food Bank
- Composting and recycling school-wide
- Career Speakers
- MCS Running Club
- Strings Program
- Student Talent Show sponsored by MCS PTO
- Camp Greenville Trip for Upper Elementary
- Tybee Island Trip for Middle School



## Mission Statement

The work of the Montessori Community School is to guide the development of the whole child, empowering each student to make a positive impact on our world.



# Montessori Community School



## *School Improvement Council School Summary Report 2020*

### SIC Members

Traci Lewis, Chairperson  
Kimberly Hay, Principal  
Renee Jansen  
Mark Crider  
Teresa Hartnett  
Ed Kosak  
Colleen McDonald, Secretary

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# MONTESSORI

# COMMUNITY

# SCHOOL

## SCHOOL SUMMARY REPORT 2019-2020



The Montessori Community School celebrates a variety of events and accomplishments for the 2019-20 school year. The school closure that occurred in March 2020 cut short many of our school plans and traditions. Despite the

challenges, we learned to adapt Montessori methods to online learning and turned eighth grade graduation into a Youtube event. We are proud to share that the new South Carolina School Report Card rated the MCS Elementary program overall as “Good”, with scores of “Excellent” in both Academic Achievement and Student Engagement categories. The MCS Middle School received an overall rating of “Excellent”. The categories of Academic Achievement and Preparing for Success received ratings of “Excellent” at this grade level. MCS faculty and staff are committed to providing high quality Montessori instruction and an authentic environment to support our students’ growth in independence, self-regulation and self-efficacy.

We continue to offer students additional opportunities. Activities this year included the Strings program for fifth through eighth grade students. Students, parents and staff participated in the MCS Running Club. Students in grades 5th through 8th had opportunities to participate in our first MCS Girl’s Volleyball Teams and the Middle School Coed Soccer Team. The newly formed PTO sponsored a Talent Show where many students from Lower Elementary to Upper Elementary displayed their musical, dance and artistic talents.

Social emotional development is a key component of Montessori education. Many teachers this school year received training in Restorative Practices, helping students learn to resolve disagreements, take ownership of behavior, and engage in acts of empathy and forgiveness. The MCS school guidance counselor utilizes Second Step curriculum for bully prevention and social emotional learning.

The gardening and natural world experience continues to expand for MCS students. While Middle School students worked at Sweetgrass Garden during the year, Primary through Upper Elementary students planted and harvested vegetables, herbs and flowers on our campus. MCS is fortunate to have knowledgeable volunteers that are certified through Clemson Extension for school gardening.

Younger students enjoyed another year of “Fun Pan” cooking on Friday afternoons. Led by West Ashley High School’s Culinary Arts Department, four year old students, aided by sixth grade students, used fresh produce to make salads, pastas, stir fry and soups. The success of our school gardening program ensured that much of the produce was grown right on our own campus!



In the area of literacy, the Junior Great Books program was expanded to include all second and fifth grade students. And MCS faculty model life-long learning as they completed courses in literacy instruction, Montessori professional development and Gifted and Talented endorsements.

As is our tradition, field trips, including the multi-day trips for students in Upper Elementary and Middle School, continue to be an important part of our curriculum, providing academic and social learning experiences. Our students participate in The First Tee, a youth development organization that introduces students to golf, Jump Rope for Heart supporting the American Heart Association and our own Reading Buddies, pairing Upper Elementary students with Primary students.

Looking forward, in the 2020-2021 school year the MCS SIC and PTO will work collaboratively, opening up new avenues for parent, teacher, student involvement. Also for the coming year, the MCS School Improvement Council has identified student engagement as an area of focus as we support students and their families.

We are looking forward to a great 2020-2021!

