

## **Parkside Montessori Program Improvement and Program Expansion - Strategic Plan (2020-2025)**

### **Our Big Goal:**

In 5 years: Parkside Montessori will become a model TK to 8th-grade public Montessori option for all students in San Mateo and Foster City. Our program will be accredited by the American Montessori Society, and our staff will ensure academic proficiency on Common Core Standards through Montessori instruction.

**Strategy #1: Parkside will strengthen our TK-5 Program by...**  
Implementing High-Fidelity and High-Quality Montessori Instruction in all classrooms TK-5

### **Actions:**

- 1. Launch Parkside Montessori TK-5 Leadership Team** - This team will be guided by [The Essential Elements for Montessori in the Public Sector](#). This will be an ongoing team at Parkside.
- 2. Parkside will engage in a Montessori School Review with the National Center for Montessori in the Public Sector <spring 2020>.** This review feedback and subsequent strategic planning will be documented for implementation into Parkside's Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA)
- 3. Montessori Coach (ToSA/Consultant)** will engage in coaching cycles of observation, feedback and support as well as planning support for staff to increase Montessori fidelity and improve Montessori Program Alignment. Paid for by the school district for SY 20-21, 21-22, 22-23 and 23-24.
- 4. Increase the number of [Montessori Trained Teachers](#),** efforts will include:
  - District funding to pay for current staff to obtain their AMS training (budgeted for 8 teachers in 20-21; approximately 4 per year thereafter, depending on need)
  - Recruiting at Montessori job fairs and reputable Montessori job posting sites
  - Working with local colleges of education to develop pipeline partnerships
- 5. Montessori Training and Professional Development for site principal**
- 6. [Montessori materials](#)** will continue to be provided to all classrooms
- 7. Programmatic changes to align with implementing the Montessori approach with fidelity, including**
  - [Montessori Multi-Age Classrooms](#)
  - [Uninterrupted Work Periods](#)

**Strategy #2: Parkside will expand to add a 6th, 7th and 8th grade and become a TK-8**

### **Actions:**

- 1. Launch Middle Years design team (parents, staff and administration) and begin to research best practices in Montessori middle years programming.**
- 2. Montessori Coach (ToSA/Consultant)** will work with the design team and school site staff to develop and support the implementation of the Montessori middle years program (see #3 above).
- 3. Update Classroom Facilities to accommodate the middle years program**
- 4. Hire and Train Additional Staff to accommodate the growth of the program (see #4 above)**

## **Strategies to be determined**

### **Essential Montessori Elements** not yet finalized:

1. Staff:
  - Paraprofessional/ assistant Montessori-specific support.
2. Environment:
  - Specialty programs such as music, art, and second languages are integrated into the three-hour work cycle.
  - The learning environment offers appropriate access to a prepared outdoor environment.
  - SPED students are fully included and supported within the classroom.

### **District Program Elements** not yet finalized:

1. Assessment Framework:
  - Assessment protocols integrate measures of academic achievement with measures of executive functions such as self-regulation, initiation, and cognitive flexibility.
  - Ongoing, personalized qualitative assessment, in the form of observation and documentation, drives all instructional decisions
  - Use of District benchmarks to be determined
2. English Language Development Services to English Learners
  - Integrated & Designated ELD in the Montessori Classroom
3. Special Education Services to Students with Disabilities
  - Accommodations and Modifications in the Montessori Classroom

## **Tools referenced in this document from the National Center for Montessori in the Public Sector:**

[The Essential Elements for Montessori in the Public Sector](#) - This two-page document gives essential guidelines for fully implemented, sustainable public Montessori programs. [View/Download →](#)

[Essential Elements Rubric](#) - A fully-articulated rubric for evaluating schools according to the Essential Elements. The Rubric can be used independently, or as part of a contracted Essential Elements Review . [View/Download →](#)

[Essential Elements Guidelines](#) - Guidelines for independent use of the Essential Elements Rubric. [View/Download →](#)