

THE GROVE SCHOOL PTG
200 NEVADA STREET ~ REDLANDS, CA 92373 ~ (909) 798-7831
2008/2009 ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN

August 13, 2008

Dear Friends and Families of The Grove School:

Welcome back to The Grove, a place where students and families grow and learn in ways that support individuals and community. The Farm campus program is now a model for several other Montessori junior high level programs in Milwaukee, Redding and Marin. The new Farm science program features botany and earth science, and is augmented by our new green house which was completed over the summer by our staff, alumni, and volunteers. The High School science lab remodel is nearly complete with new equipment to support lab work for all students through their senior year. We have renewed our partnership with our Montessori community at Montessori in Redlands and the North American Montessori Teacher's Association. Our support for parents continues with a new parent education program which focuses on developing independence and responsibility in our children.

We are grateful to have the majority of the Grove School faculty returning and we celebrate their commitment to the Montessori program and the consistency of their support for our children. We are proud that the school has added a new science position to the Farm Campus to help with occupation projects. We want to support the faculty in their dreams of giving the students the best prepared environment for our students' academic success. We need to provide the funding and materials that they need to bring our children to their full potentials. This year the PTG has been challenged to raise \$60,000 to help bridge the funding gap for our school. Even though we are a public school, our funding is significantly less than the other already struggling schools in our district. Your volunteer efforts will go a long way to facilitate the unique approach to education that our school provides.

Although our program is consistently among the best in the district, the county, and the state, our already deficient funding has been cut as a result of the state budget crisis. We need your help in a variety of ways. First of all, we need your communication. In this year of WASC Accreditation and Charter Renewal we need your participation and feedback on surveys, phone trees and forums. Secondly, we need your time. All Grove families commit to thirty hours of school service as a condition of continuing enrollment. This is essential to our community and directly correlates to student success. Perhaps the most tangible part of your participation is the Annual Giving Campaign. This year we are seeking 100% participation from all families, community members and alumni. A pledge of any size is greatly appreciated and our levels of participation remind other potential funders of the across-the-board commitment of our families. This year we are, once again, asking families to join us in paying a "Dollar-a-Day" to support their children's education. This would go a long way to helping us, as fellow parents, continue to insure that all of Grove's students have the best in project-based, holistic education. Of course, families who can afford more are urged to give at a level that reflects their ability and their commitment to this unique approach to education.

Please reflect, discuss with your families and give generously and know that by enrolling your student at Grove you have already proven that you understand and believe what Montessori says about our children: that in our sons and daughters "lies all our hope of future progress and the judgment of ourselves and our times."

With great appreciation,



Maryhelen Campa
PTG Farm Parent Representative



Stacey Easley
PTG High School Parent Representative