

# Welcome New Families!

Ask Questions email:

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June 2020



# Agenda for New Family Welcome



1. Introductions
2. Basic Information about Grove
3. Montessori Theory
4. Grove in Practice
5. Calendar and Practical Information
6. Q&A

# Welcome and Introductions to Leadership and Governance



- Andrew Christopherson - Head of School
- Andy Schadwinkel Board Chair for Grove
- Josh Crocker - President of Parent Teacher Group
- Melanie Knypstra - Middle School Level Coordinator
- Amy Nottingham - High School Level Coordinator
- Beth Hauso and Sandy Longman- Office Managers
- Connie Brown- Human Resources and Finance
- Aimee Austin- Operations Manager



# **Basic Information and Organizational Structure**



# Basic Information



- Started in 1999
- Public Charter School #180 (over 1200 in CA)
- Authorized by Redlands Unified School District
- WASC Accredited – 6 year accreditation
- A California Distinguished School
- Graduation standards meet UC requirements
- 1 of around 20 Montessori schools serving 12-18 year olds
- 1 of only 2 public Montessori adolescent schools with a farm

*“Education should not limit itself to seeking new methods for a mostly arid transmission of knowledge: its aim must be to give the necessary aid to human development. (From Childhood to Adolescence)*

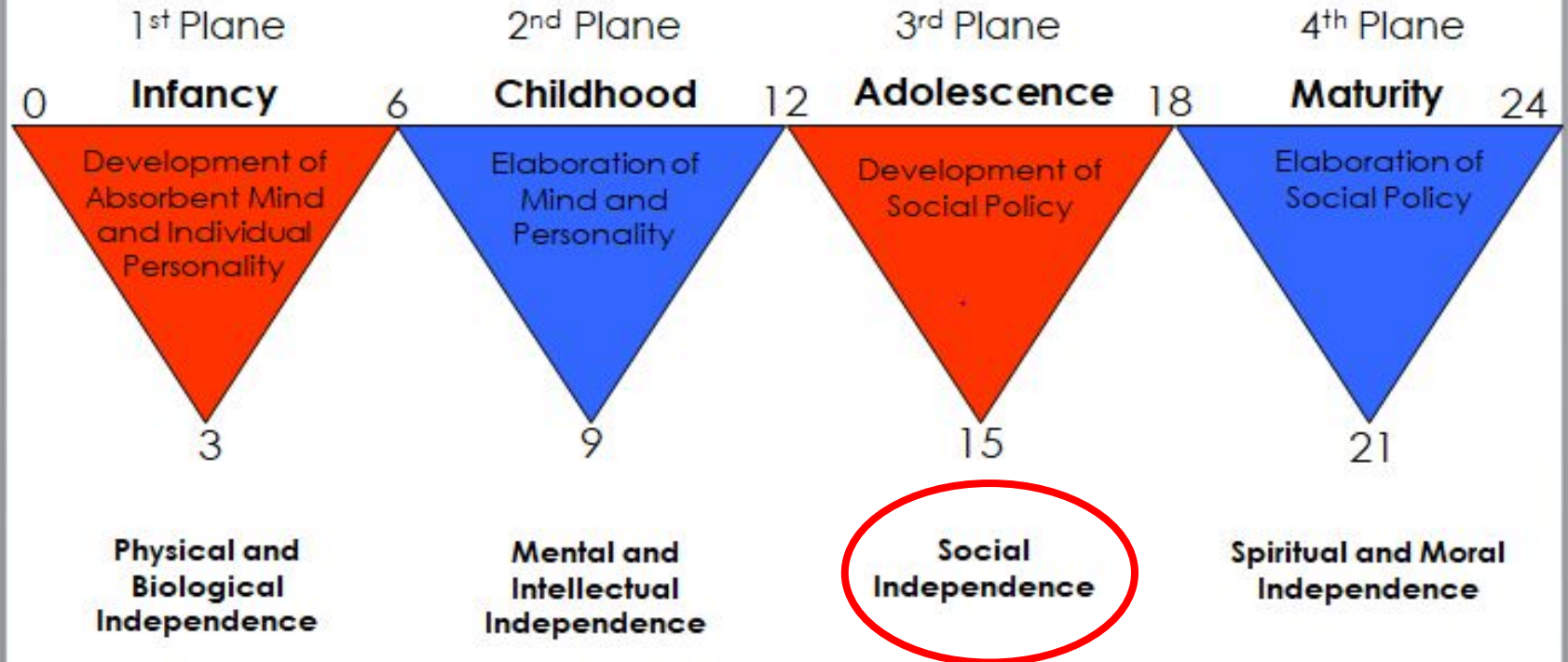
## Montessori Theory

*“We must help the child to act for himself, will for himself, think for himself; this is the art of those who aspire to serve the spirit.”*

*“Education should not limit itself to seeking new methods for a mostly arid transmission of knowledge: its aim must be to **give the necessary aid to human development...**Each preceding phase prepares the one that follows, forms its base, nurtures the energies that urge towards the succeeding period of life.”  
(From Childhood to Adolescence)*



# Four Planes of Development



## The Third Plane is a sensitive period for:

- belonging (friendships) / tribal age (12-14)
- Identity: social power / social hierarchy social justice / helping society
- being an adult (having a role in community/society)
- the arts (music, drama, visual) being human
- intimate relationships
- economic independence





# Montessori Adolescent Theory



- Experience main mechanism of society, that of production and exchange
- Learn academically and through experience in elements of social life
- To teach details is to bring confusion; to establish the relationship between things is to bring knowledge

# In Practice

- Open, thinking, challenging
  - No answers
  - Interdisciplinary
- “Unsupervised” at times
  - “Help me do it by myself”
- Diverse community, where diversity is valued
  - Actively working to create peace through social change
- Social learning environment
  - Group work, Community Meetings and Service
- Weekly and annual calendar



# Grove Outcomes



- A Grove graduate actively participates in their academic development.
- A Grove graduate is an active community member.
- A Grove graduate expresses ideas creatively.
- A Grove graduate is involved in physical expression.
- A Grove graduate is prepared for life as an adult.

# Calendar and Practical Information



# 2020-2021 School Year will be unlike any before



1. Grove has begun planning based on CDC guidelines and fact sheets from various Charter School organizations fact sheets.
  - a. The CDE released guidance on Monday 6/8
  - b. Extensive Safety Checklist
  - c. Guidance for in person classes
2. In communication with RUSD and watching for updates from state and county

# Goals

1. Health and Safety of Staff and students
2. Providing a high quality rigorous education that stays true to the Grove School Mission
  - a. Addressing our Outcomes
  - b. Focus on tendencies and needs identified in Montessori Pedagogy
  - c. Continue to Challenge students academically and prepare them for life beyond high school



# What we know and what we don't know



## Subject to change

- Start and end times
- Weekly and daily schedule
- COVID19 Infection Rate effect on the school
  - Directions from Local and state agencies will affect our operation



# Planning for Next Year

## Expectations

- Students need to use Grove School assigned email daily
- Blend between distance learning and in person classrooms
- Use of Google Classroom and Aeries

## Will not change

- Safety and health is the number one priority
- Work to meet the needs and tendencies of adolescents through the programs we design
- We will work to meet your student where they are, and provide them support





## Key Experiences

- **Mentoring** - Advisory periods. A point of contact for students and their families
- **Student Led Conferences** - Family participation is requested at fall and spring meetings
- **Project Time and Place Study** - 1-2 times per trimester where class time is dedicated to interdisciplinary study and work.
- **Field Trips and Camp-outs** will be suspended until further notices

Watch for More Information



Questions?