



Philomath Montessori School

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November 15, 2021

Dear PhMS friends and families,

For over thirty-five years, Philomath Montessori School has offered a singular space of gracious learning and peaceful engagement for children and families of Benton County and beyond. The value of this special school has never been as evident as it is in these challenging times. The gifts of PhMS are not only in what they offer current students and families. We also find hope and solace in the many ways that a Montessori education contributes to development of creativity, grace, and confidence that we need to navigate ever-changing circumstances. As we all continue to draw on our deepest wells of resourcefulness to get through these difficult months, the value of PHMS is more apparent than ever.



Throughout the pandemic, PhMS has remained open during the 2020-21 and 2021-22 school years. Following best COVID mitigation practices, we have continued to provide an ideal setting for the emotional, social, physical and intellectual growth for our community's young children. Our ongoing presence in our students' lives has been a beacon of hope for families who wish to provide a stable social group and learning opportunities for their children. Although we are eager to accommodate as many families as possible, safety measures have required us to proceed with fewer children than usual, placing a financial burden on our school.

In years past, the Annual Giving Campaign has asked friends of PhMS to give in support of financial aid, the purchase of classroom materials, and quality professional development for our staff. The decision to operate this year at lower enrollment means that this year we need to ask for support in a more general and pressing way, for the financial stability of the school going forward. We recognize that these are difficult times for everyone. We hope that, if you are able, you will consider giving generously to secure the ability of Philomath Montessori School to continue providing that oasis of calm engagement and love of learning into the far future.



With all best wishes,

Karin Bolender Hart, Secretary of the PhMS Board of Directors