

Fayetteville Montessori School

APRIL NEWSLETTER

Welcome Our New Director of Education & Curriculum

We are thrilled to officially welcome Courtney White to FMS as our new Director of Education & Curriculum, beginning May 18.

Courtney brings over 30 years of experience as both a Montessori educator and school leader. She is trained at the Primary level and most recently owned and operated a Montessori program in Little Rock. Many of you may also be excited to know that Courtney was part of the FMS community years ago, making this a meaningful return.

In her role, Courtney will:

- Provide on-site coaching and support to teachers
- Lead professional development and Montessori training
- Support classroom consistency and instructional quality across all levels
- Partner closely with leadership to strengthen our academic program and enrollment policies

We are especially looking forward to prioritizing her time in classrooms to directly support both students and staff.



Teacher Appreciation Week

Next week is Teacher Appreciation Week, and we are excited to celebrate the incredible educators who make FMS so special.

We have a full week of fun activities and treats planned. If you would like to participate or contribute, please keep an eye on Brightwheel for sign-ups and opportunities to support.

Our teachers give so much to our students every day, and we are grateful for the opportunity to celebrate them as a community.

International Showcase – A Meaningful Return

Thank you to all the families who joined us for our International Showcase. It was incredibly special to bring back this long-standing FMS tradition after its pause in 2020.

This event has been part of our school community for decades, and it was truly meaningful to see it come back to life with such a strong turnout and joyful energy. Watching our students share their learning, culture, and confidence on stage was a powerful reminder of the impact of a Montessori education.

We look forward to continuing and growing this tradition for years to come.

Staffing Updates & Summer Transition Season

As we enter the month of May, we appreciate your continued understanding and flexibility.

This time of year naturally brings staffing shifts as:

- University schedules change
- Some team members transition for the summer
- Others move on to new opportunities

While staffing remains tight, please know we are working thoughtfully to maintain as much consistency as possible for students and classrooms.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ▶ May 4- 8
Teacher Appreciation Week
- ▶ Thursday, May 21st
Last Day of Spring Semester
(Elementary)
- ▶ Monday, May 25th
Memorial Day -
CAMPUS CLOSED
- ▶ Friday, May 29th
Last Day of Spring Semester
(Rest of Campus)

FMS Now Accepts Education Freedom Account (EFA) Funds

We are excited to share that Fayetteville Montessori School has been approved to accept Education Freedom Account (EFA) funds through the LEARNS Act for the 2026–2027 school year.

This opportunity applies to:

- Students who are 5 years old by August 1
- Students enrolled in our Elementary Program

We just received official approval this week and expect to be visible on the portal soon.

If you are interested in learning more about:

- Our Elementary program
- Transitioning into Elementary at FMS
- How EFA funding works

Please reach out—we would love to connect and support your planning.