

RAM Newsletter

Welcome to the 2013-2014 School Year!

On behalf of RAM, welcome back to the new school year. We hope everyone enjoyed the summer and is settling back into the routine.

RAM had another busy year, as we supported our Montessori program. We purchased \$8500 of Montessori materials that were distributed among our classrooms, and \$1500 in teacher bursaries and education. We also celebrated our very last payment of the school board loan, \$3,420.

Parents are truly a critical part of the success of the Montessori program in Richmond. Our children's classrooms rely on our support. Our program does not get additional funding from the Richmond School District. What does this mean? All costs associated with this alternate program are the responsibility of participating families.

The specialized materials your children use every day are expensive and when damaged need repair or replacement. These materials are essential to the program you've chosen for your child and RAM

provides the funds for them. Without parental support, it's just another classroom.

As some of you know, RAM's financial support has been declining over the last number of years. However, I am pleased to report that last year was a more successful year. Through memberships, fundraisers and donations we raised \$21,561 which will provide for our children & Montessori classrooms this year.

Being back at previous levels of revenue is good news as we will not have to cut our budget this year and we thank all who supported RAM last year. However, we all need to continue that support to avoid putting RAM & the Montessori Program in Richmond in jeopardy.

We can not continue without your support and involvement. Please continue to work with us to make sure that the Montessori program is the best it can be. Our children depend on it.

-Ally Medweth, Chair RAM

Your 2012-2013 RAM Executive Committee

Name	Position	School	Name	Position	School
Ally Medweth	Chair	McKinney	Trish Jardine	RAM Liaison	McKinney
Vacant	Vice-Chair	---	Joanna Yee	RAM Liaison	Garden City
Kanny Chow	Treasurer	Garden City	Connie Fung	RAM Liaison	Steves
Vacant	Secretary	---	Ileana Chen		McKinney
Sheila Lau	Purchasing and Inventory Coordinator	Steves	Vacant	Materials Receivers	Steves
Tammy Ross	Volunteer Coordinator	McKinney	Vacant		Garden City
Alana Yee	Fundraising Lead	McKinney	Minghui Yu	Webmaster	McKinney
			Bridget Rebiffe	Members at Large	McKinney
			Danny Yu		McKinney



We need your help! RAM needs parents to volunteer their time to support the Montessori program in Richmond. We are particularly trying to fill the Materials Receiving Leads for Steves and Garden City, Secretary and Vice-Chair positions. Contact us to see how you can help. We can't do it without you.

PARENTS, what can YOU do to help?

Our fundraising goal for the year is \$25,000.

Help us reach this goal:

1. Take part in the **Membership and Cash drive** attached to this newsletter. This is our biggest source of fundraising every year.

If you missed renewing your annual membership last year, double up if you can. And remember: every donation of **\$200** or more will include your annual membership at no extra cost.

Don't forget that tax receipts are provided for any donation over \$10.

2. Join us for our **Pub Night Fundraiser** on October 21, 2013 at O'Hares GastroPub from 7 - 9 p.m. \$15 gets you a burger and beverage of your choice. Bring your friends, meet other Montessori parents and support our program at the same time. Tickets are limited, so get yours before it's too late!

3. **Volunteer** your time and lend a hand. Complete and return the volunteer sign up form attached and help us help the program. There are many different opportunities to help out, so check it out.

4. Join us at our **meetings**. Our meetings are held every other month from September to May and run from 7 - 8 p.m. Dates are posted on our website. Help us organize and make the program great for our children! Our next meeting is **Thursday, November 14th, 7 p.m. at McKinney Elementary.**

5. **Questions, comments, suggestions or ideas?** We welcome your ideas, suggestions and feedback. E-mail us at info@richmondmontessori.ca or contact us on our facebook page. We'd love to hear from you! -



Upcoming Events:

October 21, 2013

Pub Night Fundraiser
7-9 p.m. at O'Hares Pub

November 14, 2013

RAM Meeting
7 p.m. at McKinney School

November 2013

Gift Card Fundraiser with delivery early December, just in time for the holidays!

December 31, 2013

Deadline: donations must be dated and postmarked by this date to receive a tax receipt for the 2013 tax year. (Otherwise a tax receipt will be issued for the 2014 tax year.)



We Need You!

We can't do it without you. RAM can not succeed without your involvement. The success of the Montessori program that you have chosen for your children depends on your involvement. Let's work together to make this year a success for our children!



RICHMOND ASSOCIATION FOR MONTESSORI
Ste. 211 - 8155 Park Road
Richmond, BC V6Y 3C9

www.richmondmontessori.ca

www.facebook.com/RichmondMontessori