



Little Miners  
**MONTESSORI**

**PARENT STUDENT HANDBOOK  
EARLY CHILDHOOD**

Little Miners Montessori  
School Policies and Procedures

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## ***Little Miners Montessori School Contact Information***

www.littleminers.org  
subie@littleminers.org

Phone: 435-940-1822

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Mailing Address: 3681 Wagon Wheel Way, Park City, UT 84098

### **Montessori Background**

Dr. Maria Montessori was an amazing woman. In 1896, Maria Montessori graduated from the University of Rome with top honors as the first female doctor in Italy. Her medical background led Dr. Montessori to approach education not as a philosopher or educator in the usual sense, but as a scientist. Maria Montessori demonstrated that children learn best by doing, not by being passive recipients of knowledge. She emphasized the need to observe which activities deeply involve a child in his or her own learning. Montessori teachers are therefore trained to continually evaluate the effect of each and every learning activity. This open-minded attitude and the respect for the child, which it suggests, is the cornerstone of Montessori education. Her book *The Montessori Method*, remains one of the most influential books ever written in the field of education.

### **The Montessori Environment**

The Montessori approach enables children to learn for themselves and make learning fun!

The Montessori class is divided into nine areas, or disciplines:

- |                  |             |                    |
|------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| * Practical Life | * Sensorial | * Language         |
| * Music/Movement | * Art       | * Mathematics      |
| * Geography      | * Science   | * Cultural Studies |

Each material in the classroom has been designed to isolate one skill and has a built in "control of error", so that a child can check his or her own work. In a Montessori environment, children are able to learn at their own pace, according to their own interests. Through their own work with the specially designed materials, children learn and make their own discoveries. The end result is confident, happy children with a love for learning and an ability to think on their own.

## Utah Fits All Scholarship

The UFA scholarship is a universal school choice scholarship program designed to empower families across the state of Utah. All K-3<sup>rd</sup> grade students who are Utah residents are eligible to receive up to \$8000 per year in scholarship funds, depending on how the funds are used.

Families receiving funds through the UFA program must acknowledge and understand the following:

- If a scholarship student withdraws and a tuition refund is applicable under the school's standard refund policy, any refund will be sent directly to Odyssey for deposit back into the student's scholarship account. Refunds will not be issued directly to parents or guardians.
- Scholarship students will not be charged different tuition amounts or subject to different refund policies than other students enrolled in the same program.
- Scholarship students are not required to sign any agreement waiving their right to transfer to another qualifying educational provider during the school year.
- LMM will notify Odyssey within five business days if a scholarship student withdraws during the school year.
- LMM enrollment is for the entire school year; a 30-day written notice is required when choosing to withdraw your child. (see tuition obligation & withdrawal policy below)
- Little Miners Montessori complies with the anti-discrimination provisions of U.S.C. S 2000d.

## Park City Resident Scholarship

Park City Municipal and *Upwards* announced its new partnership intended to provide childcare funding to local families. Upwards is a leading childcare network in the United States dedicated to matching families with local caregivers in their area.

This program will offer three different scholarships and incentives to local families who qualify:

- A needs-based childcare tuition scholarship for children up to kindergarten age.
- An infant and toddler childcare tuition scholarship for children from infants to age three.
- A regulated childcare providers incentive to help support qualified caregivers.

The funding will be available on a first-come first serve basis every month beginning Jan. 1 and will be distributed to regulated childcare providers by Upwards.

### **Parent Education Classes**

Little Miners will host one Parent Education class throughout the school year and asks that all parents try to attend. These classes will be led by the teacher and will allow parents to gain a better understanding of the Montessori Method. Our goal as Montessorians is for parents to have more hands-on knowledge of what their child experiences while at school and within the unique Montessori environment. This will provide an important reference point when meeting with the teacher during Parent Teacher Conferences as well as help to make decisions regarding future school enrollment and commitment to Montessori education.

### **Admissions**

At Little Miners Montessori, all children are welcome. We do not discriminate against race, color or creed. Little Miners Montessori Toddler Program accepts children 18 months - 3 years old. The Early Childhood Program accepts children 3- 6 years old & Lower Elementary 6-9 years old (1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grade). Exceptions will be considered on an individual basis. Children must be completely toilet trained prior to enrollment in the Early Childhood Program and must be physically and emotionally able to participate in the program.

A complete application form and a non-refundable registration fee of \$800 are required to initiate the registration process. A completed Student Enrollment packet (including immunization records), bank or credit card account information, and a signed Tuition Agreement must be submitted through Enrollsy when accepting your child's spot.

### **Pre-Registration**

Current LMM students and siblings will have priority to register in January prior to the upcoming school year. If you request a schedule that is not one of the set options offered by LMM, we cannot guarantee that this atypical schedule can be accommodated. We will do our best to meet scheduling requests if the overall numbers and ratios allow.

### **Tuition Obligation & Withdrawal Policy**

Parent understands that Student is being enrolled for the entire School Year. Parent further understands that the overhead expenses of the School do not diminish with the departure of some students during the course of the School Year and agrees that it is impossible for the School to determine at the time

of Parent's execution of this Contract the damage and loss to the School that would occur due to the later cancellation/withdrawal of some of the students who have enrolled. Therefore, once this Contract has been submitted to the School with the Registration Fee set forth in Paragraph 2, Parent becomes liable for the entire year's Tuition and fees as liquidated damages (and not a penalty) even if the Student is absent or is involuntarily separated from School. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if Parent withdraws Student during the School Year, Parent agrees to notify the school in writing, at least thirty (30) days prior to or on December 1<sup>st</sup> (the "Notice Period"). If Parent has selected Option 1 Payment Schedule and the withdrawal request is not made before expiration of the Notice Period, the final January 2<sup>nd</sup> payment remains due and Parent agrees that he/she will make the final Tuition payment. If Parent has selected Option 2 Payment Schedule and Parent provides the withdrawal request before expiration of the Notice Period, School will refund to Parent, on a pro rata basis, the remaining unused portion of Tuition. If withdrawal request is made after expiration of the Notice Period, Parent understands and agrees that Tuition or other payments already made are non-refundable and no pro rata refund will be provided. Student may continue to attend School for thirty (30) days after Parent delivers written withdrawal request to School.

On very rare occasions, we find that a child may not be ready for our Montessori program. Therefore, each child is given a two to six-week trial period. During this time, the teachers will evaluate the child's placement to be sure that he/she will fully benefit from the program. If we do find it necessary to ask you to remove your child, a prorated tuition refund will be made.

### **Contact Information / Parent Communication**

It is imperative that you keep all your contact information accurate and up-to-date. Please update your child's information and parent information on Enrollsy when necessary throughout the school year. *LMM communicates regularly with families through email regarding school announcements, upcoming events, classroom scheduling availability, etc. so please be sure to provide an accurate email address that will be checked regularly.* We also communicate with parents through a portal called **Montessori Compass/Classroom Share**. You will be sent an invitation with login information to view the Parent Portal that will allow you to view updates specific to your child, calendar reminders, pictures and more. Please watch for an invitational email at the beginning of each school year with details regarding your *Montessori Compass/Classroom Share APP* account and how to join. LMM will also provide you with a monthly calendar and important updates through *Montessori Compass/Classroom Share* at the beginning of

every month, which provides details on topics covered each day. The monthly calendar can also be found on the LMM website;

[www.littleminers.org](http://www.littleminers.org)

### **Curbside Drop-off and Pick-up Procedure**

Please enter the parking lot by driving into the second entrance and line up directly behind one another, Please **DO NOT** park or exit your car along the curbside. **For the children's safety, DO NOT pull up alongside cars lined up curbside** - it's a very hazardous practice that endangers your child. Little Miners Montessori is an *Idle Free Zone*. Please turn off your engine while waiting at the curb or when parked in the lot.

A teacher or staff member will greet you daily during drop off and pick up. If you arrive earlier than 8:30am, please wait in your vehicle until a teacher comes out to greet you. If you are late for either the morning or afternoon session, please call the front office and a staff member can greet you at the front entrance to walk your child into class. Please be on time for circle. It is very disruptive to the class when a child walks into circle late. If your child has a doctor's appointment or other engagement that will result in a late arrival, please notify the office by phone or email.

Children attending the lunch hour following the morning session can be picked up between 12:30 and 12:45pm. Please park and enter through the front entrance or east playground to connect with a teacher or staff member before leaving with your child. If you are dropping off children at 12:30pm we ask that you walk your child to the front entrance or playground gate to be greeted by a teacher or staff member.

Afternoon pickup is between 3:15 and 3:30pm. Please line up at the curbside and a staff member will retrieve your child from their classroom and walk them to the front entrance for the end of the day pick-up. The Maple classroom pick-up occurs at their east classroom door. We ask that everyone be patient while your child prepares to go home from their busy and productive day at school.

### **Late Pick-ups**

If you are late picking up your child, please notify the office and provide an estimated time of pickup. Also keep in mind, not only is your child very tired and anxious to see you, but the teachers still have prep work and cleaning to do before they can leave for the day. Your cooperation is appreciated.

## Nanny / Babysitter:

If your family has a regular nanny or babysitter who will be picking up or dropping off your child, please be sure to introduce them to the office staff and teachers ahead of time if possible. If we have not met the caregiver, please send an email, or call the office to let us know. Also provide the caregiver's full name and a phone number to contact.

### Curbside Schedule for Drop-Off and Pick-Up

#### 9:00AM → AM Session Begins

Regular Drop-Off: 8:30 - 9:00AM

Early Drop-Off: 8:00 - 8:30AM\*

#### 11:30AM-12:30/1:00PM → Lunch & Recess

AM Students NOT staying for Lunch: 11:20 - 11:30AM Pick-Up

AM Students staying for Lunch: 12:30 - 12:45PM Pick-Up\*

PM Students arriving for Lunch: 11:20AM Drop-Off\*

#### 1PM → PM Session Begins

Drop-Off: 12:30 - 12:45PM\*

Regular Pick-Up: 3:15-3:30PM

\* During these times we ask that parents park and walk their child to and from the lunchroom/playground. The teachers will be in the classrooms or on the playground during these hours, so there will be no curbside assistance.

## School Hours

<b>Morning</b>	<b>8:30am - 11:30am</b>
<b>Lunch</b>	<b>11:30am - 12:30pm</b>
<b>Afternoon</b>	<b>12:30pm - 3:15/3:30pm</b>
<b>Full Day</b>	<b>8:30am - 3:15/3:30pm</b>

*\* The LMM calendar shadows the Park City School District yearly schedule but when necessary LMM will adjust as needed to meet the needs of a private school.  
(Parent/Teacher conferences, Montessori conferences/trainings, etc.)*

## Enrollsy

Enrollsy is an online platform that serves schools and the families who enroll their children at LMM. With Enrollsy, parents have an account where they can:

- Easily enroll and re-enroll
- Make tuition payments using electronic check, or credit/debit card
- Update payment information

- Sign up for extracurricular events
- Print tuition payment receipts

## Tuition

The school year tuition amount you pay for your child's schooling is based on an annual tuition figure (not a monthly, weekly or hourly calculation). In order to ease the burden of paying an annual tuition in one lump sum, we have set up a tuition payment plan (May 1<sup>st</sup> 10%, July 1<sup>st</sup> 10%, September 1<sup>st</sup> 40%, January 1<sup>st</sup> 40%). For example, September's payment does not represent the days your child attends class for that month. Instead, it is broken down into four payments to pay for your child's annual tuition. LMM will not discount/prorate for time off due to personal time, vacation or illness.

<u>Annual Tuition</u>	
<i>Non-refundable annual registration fee:</i>	
<b><i>\$800</i></b>	
Half day (MWF & TTHF)	\$11,150
Half day (M-TH)	\$12,240
Half day (M-F)	\$13,450
Full day (MWF & TTHF)	\$14,670
Full day (M-TH)	\$15,880
Full day (M-F)	\$17,100

<u>Annual Tuition Payment Plan</u>	
May 1 <sup>st</sup> <i>(Non-refundable)</i>	10%
July 1 <sup>st</sup> <i>(Non-refundable)</i>	10%
September 1 <sup>st</sup>	40%
January 1 <sup>st</sup>	40%

<u>Lunch Pricing</u>	
1 day/wk	\$45 monthly
2 days/wk	\$75 monthly
3 days/wk	\$95 monthly
4 days/wk	\$105 monthly
5 days/wk	\$115 monthly

The option for children to stay for lunch is based on availability. Lunch is not provided. Each child is required to bring their own lunch.

## Payments and Late Fees

Tuition is due in four payments beginning May 1st. It is considered late if we receive it after the 5th of the month. At that time, and without exception, you will incur a \$30 late fee. Returned payments will also incur a \$30 fee. You may pay your tuition one of two ways through the online Enrollsy application. LMM accepts electronic checks (ACH \$1 fee) and credit card payments (3% fee will apply when using credit cards)

## Absences

If your child will not be in school for a day or an extended absence, please call or email LMM and let us know. In order to maintain our child/teacher ratio, missed days cannot be made up.

## Daily Schedule

The classroom curriculum includes lessons focused on History, Geography, Anatomy, Astronomy, Geology, Zoology, Botany, Ecology, Art and Music. Specific themes for lessons will be outlined daily on the monthly calendar that is emailed at the beginning of each month. There will be one circle lesson in the morning and one circle lesson in the afternoon that all children participate in as a group. When not in circle, children are free to choose a Montessori activity or may be asked if they would like to work with a teacher on an individual or small group basis

\*\*Each child attends Art class one day a week for 45 minutes. The art teacher will be at LMM Monday-Thursday 8:00 - 4:00pm. Art classes will be set-up in groups of 6/8 children and will be grouped within their designated classroom. For example, only the Poplar class will have art with their classmates.

LMM a Music & Movement program on Tuesdays and Wednesdays with Miss Camille Allred. The children will attend Music class in their classrooms for 45 minutes once a week.

## Recess

All children are required to play outside each day as weather permits. LMM cannot excuse a child from outdoor play because of an existing illness. **If a child is well enough to come to school, he/she is well enough to play outside.** The only alternative is for your child to sit in the office until recess is over. If a child is complaining of going outside because they do not feel well, we will call the parent to come and pick them up. Daily recess will be organized within each classroom and alternate playgrounds when necessary.

## Lunch

Children should bring a ready-to-eat lunch if they attend the lunch hour (see "snacks and lunch" below for guidelines). Every classroom will enjoy lunch together within their designated classroom. Please remember, children attending the additional lunch hour should be picked up between 12:30-12:45/1:00Ppm or dropped off at 11:15am to ensure they have enough time

to eat.

## **Snacks and Lunch**

LMM stresses the importance of healthy, whole foods. Children are allowed to sit down for snack whenever he/she is ready to eat after they have washed their hands thoroughly. We also ask that families follow our guidelines when preparing breakfast at home and lunches for school. Your child will be expending a lot of energy during their time at school and we ask that you prepare them with a healthy nutritious breakfast. We suggest eggs, whole grain breads or muffins, fruits, hot cereals, and yogurt as a good start to the day. These foods have "staying power" and your child will be happy to work all morning.

Children staying for lunch should bring a ready-to-eat lunch every day either in a labeled lunchbox or lunch bag. Putting a cold pack inside the lunchbox ensures a cold drink and fresh food. Please send Protein: meat, fish, chicken, boiled egg, yogurt, cheese, cottage cheese, almond butter etc., Vegetables: carrot, tomato, celery, cucumber, jicama, peas, corn etc., Fruits: banana, apple, orange, grapes, melons, peaches, plums etc., Grains: please send whole grain foods and seeds. Please cut food into bite size pieces for further independence of the child. When a child does not like a food in their lunch box or does not finish something, we will wrap it back up and send it home to you, so you are aware of what they ate. We request that you do not send sugary desserts to school. The Montessori method has a strong base in real-life activities and materials. For this reason, we ask that you supply "real" and healthy items in your child's lunch, not heavily processed and packaged foods. Thank you.

We also suggest that you discuss with your child the importance of not sharing anything from their lunch, as there are often children with food-based allergies and/or food restrictions. Sharing food can also spread unwanted germs. Please label all containers and silverware to make certain these items make it home. In cold weather, foods such as soup and spaghetti can be put in a thermos to keep warm. Due to State Health Department regulations, we cannot cook or reheat food. The lunch session usually lasts 45 minutes and then, weather permitting, we go outside to play, or have inside play time until 1:00pm

## **Snow Days/School Cancellations**

School will be closed if the Park City School District cancels due to weather or other emergency conditions. Notification of closing will be announced on

Park City radio KPCW (91.7 FM). LMM will also send out an early message through *Montessori Compass/Classroom Share* and SMS text message as soon as we are aware of the school closure. If you have additional questions on the morning of a cancelled day, please feel free to message Subie through *Montessori Compass/Classroom Share*. The LMM calendar shadows the Park City School District schedule but may adjust days accordingly to meet the needs of a private school (parent teacher conferences, Montessori conferences/trainings, etc.)

### **Emergencies**

A medical release form must be completed on Enrollsy by a parent or guardian in order for the school to seek proper emergency care. **Please make sure that all telephone numbers and contact information stay up-to-date throughout the year.** At any point of time, a parent can edit their information through Enrollsy. Please make sure you update information as it changes. Forms will need to be re-signed and dated through Enrollsy each year you attend LMM.

### **Medication Policy**

We will not administer prescription or over the counter medication to a child unless the medication is accompanied by written authorization from the parent, and the written order of a licensed health practitioner. Please send an email to the front office to request a medication form that can be accessed and filled out through Enrollsy. LMM will ask that you set up a time to drop off in the office where it will be stored properly with other student medications/ prescriptions. (i.e.: EpiPen, Benadryl, Motrin)

Medication must be in the original container and labeled with the name of the medication, dosage, name of the child, and if a prescription, the name of the physician. The office will provide a Medication Release Plan/Form online through Enrollsy.

If your child has any allergies, you must also complete a Medication Release Plan/Form as well as a Food Allergy Action Plan/Form (if applicable) through your Enrollsy account. All EpiPen's must be in the proper container clearly labeled with the child's name and the expiration date. It is the parent's responsibility to track the expiration date and provide a new EpiPen when necessary.

## **Health Procedures**

In order to comply with the Health Department regulations, we must have a record of your child's immunizations and a description of any physical problems of the child such as asthma, seizures, diabetes, allergies, etc. A copy of your child's immunization record must be uploaded onto your Enrollsy account **prior** to the first day of school. If you are exempt, you must provide us with an official Exemption Form, which can be obtained from the Summit County Health Department and uploaded onto your Enrollsy account **prior** to the first day of school.

**Failure to submit exempt/immunization forms before the first day of school will result in child's suspension until the completed forms are filled out and uploaded to Enrollsy.**

In an effort to prevent the spread of contagious illnesses and respect the guidelines of the CDC (Centers of Disease Control), we remind you to please keep your child at home if she/he has had a fever within the last 48 hours, during the first few days of a common cold, if she/he has a chronic cough, pink eye or green nose mucus. If your child becomes ill at school, she/he will be isolated from the children and you will be contacted immediately and asked to come and pick up your child from school. We ask that all families perform regular head lice checks throughout the school year. If a child has head lice, they will be asked to remain home until remedied.

## **Discipline Policy**

Occasionally, a child may be a disruption to his/her classmates. If this occurs, our first step is to redirect the child toward a different activity, giving him/her a choice between two activities. If the child's behavior continues, we will ask the child to move away from the others (circle time), to observe the class, or to think about the proper behavior. Many times, the child will be asked to lie down in the rest/reading area or sit in a chair and watch and listen from there. If the behavior does not improve and the disruption continues, the problem will be brought to the parents' attention and, if necessary, a conference will be scheduled. In extreme cases, if behavior does not improve, the child may be excused from the program.

## **Parent Observation and Involvement**

Parents are always welcome to observe our classes in action. Please schedule your visit with the office first so that we can avoid having too many visitors in the classroom at one time. If you would like a one-on-one meeting with

your child's teacher, you will need to schedule it outside of regular school hours so that we can minimize interruptions during class and maintain our focus on the children.

Many parents enjoy being a part of their child's education, and everyone at Little Miners respects and welcomes your involvement. Please see the director, for more information regarding the parent volunteer opportunities.

### **Parent/Teacher Conferences**

Twice a year, parent/teacher conferences are held between 9:00-5:00pm at Little Miners Montessori. Parents have the option of in person or Zoom PTC meetings and will receive an email from Sign-Up Genius to schedule your 20-minute conference. School will not be held on conference days, which take place in October and March.

If you would like, you can observe your child in the classroom before your conference. This will enable you to not only observe your child and the class but may prompt specific questions relating to the classroom. Please contact the front office by email ([subie@littleminers.org](mailto:subie@littleminers.org)) to schedule an appointment.

Throughout the year, please feel free to discuss any questions or concerns you may have about your child; you do not need to wait until the conference time. Open communication is encouraged and necessary for the success of your child both at home and at school.

Occasionally a problem arises at home, which may affect the child's behavior at school. Please consider informing one of the teachers if there are any family or home changes that may affect your child. All information will be kept confidential. Common causes of distress may include: a family member being away for an extended period of time, a new person living in the home, illness, accident or death in the family, separation or divorce, etc.

When you come to your conference in person, please try to make outside arrangements for your children. If you are unable to find a sitter, you may bring them with you, but they will have to wait outside of the classroom for you. Finally, **please be respectful of other parents by wrapping up your questions when your allotted time is up (20 minutes)**. If you have more questions or concerns, you'd like to discuss, you may make arrangements with the office to meet with your child's teacher another time.

## Dressing for School

It is important that your child feels comfortable with what he/she has chosen to wear for the school day. Please consider your child's comfort when he/she gets dressed and be sure that he/she is dressed appropriately for the weather. As Montessori teachers, we understand and encourage your child's self-expression. A child who shows up with a mismatched top and bottom is not seen as a result of a parent's failed fashion sense, but a child who was allowed to express his or her individuality.

Do, however, be sure that your child is wearing something that can be easily taken off or down by themselves. Often, belts, tight pants, tights and even overalls are very difficult to remove when your child is in a hurry to use the bathroom.

Please remember that art is an important experience for your child and wearing clothes that are washable is important. A smock will be provided to avoid the majority of spills.

During winter months, we will continue to go outside for recess as long as the temperatures are not dangerously cold. Please provide warm/waterproof gloves or mittens, boots, coats, snow pants, hats, etc. In addition, please bring a pair of slippers or inside shoes that your child can wear during class. Wet, bulky snow boots will be left outside the classroom. During the fall and spring, our playground can be breezy, cold and wet. Light jackets, rubber boots and thin gloves often come in handy.

**Please label all clothing, lunch boxes, and any other important items your child may bring to school.**

Finally, please provide us with a *Ziploc* type bag labeled with your child's name that includes an extra set of labeled clothes (including socks and underwear). We will keep this for the year and use it if there are any unexpected spills or accidents. If this bag comes home, please refill it and return it the following day.

## Birthdays

It is always exciting to recognize a child on his/her birthday. Prior to their birthday your child's teacher will send home pages of a *Birthday Book* for you to complete with your child including pictures and stories. This birthday book will be used for a special circle celebration with the class on a

date/time you will schedule with the teacher. We do not accept individual birthday treats or food. *Please do not send cookies or cupcakes or other edible treats.* If you would like to bring in something, we encourage you to speak with the teacher about a classroom gift such as a special book, a treat for the classroom pet, or another item the classroom as a whole may be in need of.

A Class Directory containing Little Miners' names and email addresses can be found on Montessori Compass/Classroom Share. Please use this list when sending out birthday invitations for home parties.

### Toys

We ask that you do not send toys to school with your child. We have specific shelf works at school for the children to work with during certain times. Please discourage children from bringing anything to school from home. If something is brought to school, we will ask the child to leave the item safely in their backpack or cubby. LMM cannot be responsible for lost or misplaced items, please avoid this by leaving all cherished items at home or in the car.

### Grievances

Please feel free to bring any concerns to us and we will problem-solve for a mutually agreeable solution. If, at any time, you have questions or concerns about your child or our program, please speak directly to a teacher, administrator or the Director. *If this does not resolve the problem, we would be happy to have a Zoom meeting with all parties.* Our goal at Little Miners Montessori is to resolve problems so that everyone feels a satisfactory solution has been reached. With this type of procedure, compromise is often necessary.

### Fundraising Information

Little Miners utilizes fundraisers to provide the best possible learning environment and opportunities for our students. Additional funds from fundraising allow us to continually update our classroom materials, playground equipment, extracurricular activity options, fun events, and teacher education and training. We pride ourselves in offering state-of-the-art facilities and education for all of our students. Fundraising allows for our continual growth as a school and in turn the best educational experience possible for your children. We pick fundraisers that we feel benefit you as much as they do us. Please consider participating whenever possible. We greatly appreciate any support and participation no matter how large or small! Below are a few examples of recurring fundraisers:

**Montessori Services Small Hands:** During the fall every parent will receive a catalog from Montessori Services. The *For Small Hands* catalog is filled with favorite child-size, age-appropriate, open-ended items, many of which are found in the Montessori classroom. These items make great holiday gifts and Little Miners will receive 15% of the merchandise total purchased by Little Miners families in merchandise credit for the classrooms.

### **Parent Committees:**

Volunteering is a cornerstone of Montessori philosophy, and nothing teaches your child this value better than your own example. Most parents who have served on past committees enthusiastically express what a rewarding and fun experience they had serving on a committee. It's a wonderful way to meet other LMM parents and teachers while allowing you to have a direct impact on your child's school experience. Below are some volunteer opportunities LMM has to offer:

Yearbook Committee

*To collect pictures, quotes, and school year highlights throughout the year.*

Community Service Committee

*Encourage an increased sense of appreciation for us community through the organization of donations from LMM family members*

Ski Program Committee

*Help get as many Little Miners up on skis as possible by helping to organize our fun, safe, instructional program at Park City Mountain Resort.*

Learn to Skate Committee

*Offer support (on and off the ice) to our Little Miners as they learn to skate at the Park City Ice Arena.*

Social Committee

*Help to plan and coordinate our parent/child social events such as the Ice Cream Social, Fall Festival and Graduation BBQ Celebration.*

Teacher Appreciation Committee

*Help organize daily lunches and gifts for the teachers at the end of the school year.*

At any level, we encourage parents to take an active role in your child's education. We understand that all parents' lead busy lives, and some have more time to volunteer than others. Each committee requires a time commitment in varying degrees. Even if you only have a few hours to commit for the year, your help is appreciated. Please call or email the front office if you have an interest in volunteering.

## All-School Social Events

Little Miners Montessori hosts school-wide events for all families in the LMM community. We would like to give parents the opportunity to meet and socialize with each other while providing the children an opportunity to share their school community with their families. Three socials are scheduled throughout the school year: Ice Cream Social, Winterfest, and Graduation BBQ Carnival. We look forward to hosting these annual events again in the near future.

- Ice Cream Social
- Fall Festival
- Graduation and BBQ

## Field Trips

Little Miners Montessori **has several** field trips throughout the school year. We will often have special guests come visit the school as well. Some of our favorite onsite field trips are *Park City Fire Station*, *Scales and Tails*, and *Birds of the World*. In order for your child to participate throughout the year, please be sure to sign the Field Trip Authorization that is part of the Enrollment packet.

LMM relies on parent volunteers to help drive and chaperone field trips. Parents who sign-up to drive are asked to watch and supervise the children assigned to their vehicle during the entire field trip. No child should ride in the front seat and all children must be in a booster or car seat. All parents are required to leave a labeled booster seat for their child at the school on field trip days. Little Miners will provide T-shirts for all children to wear while attending the field trip with school contact information on them. These shirts should be returned to a teacher and remain at school following the field trip. LMM will notify parents through email about specific field trips. Children who do not attend school on a field trip day may join us, but it is the parent's responsibility to sign them up in the front office ahead of time.

## Extra-Curricular Activities

**Ski Program:** Little Miners offers a seven to eight-week ski program beginning the first Friday in December each year. This program is an extra cost in addition to the yearly tuition. The program is held at Park City Mountain Resort from 9:15-11:15AM. The cost of the program includes a certified ski instructor with a maximum of 2 children who are grouped

according to their ability. Registration begins in early November, parents register through Enrollsy. All participants are required to be seasonal pass holders.

**Ice Skating Program:** Little Miners offers a learn to skate program at the Park City Ice Arena. This program takes place on Wednesday mornings from 9:45-10:45AM. Registration will take place directly through the ice arena website link provided by LMM. The program is limited to 50 children.

***Please Note:** Parents are welcome and encouraged to drive their Little Miners to and from the ski and skate programs and watch their progress. If your child needs transportation to and from LMM an extra cost will apply. Transportation will be by school van and is limited. Priority is given to students with full-time schedules. Please sign-up in the main office by paying the extra fee and completing all necessary permission forms.*

## **Resources**

There are many excellent sources of information that can be used to gain a better understanding of Maria Montessori and the Montessori Method. Also, you may find interesting answers to questions that your Little Miner has about the world. You will probably find that your child will come home from school with information as well as questions about a wide array of things: Is a bear a mammal? How far is the sun from Earth? Their experiences in the classroom will foster continued curiosity with the world. Encourage this! Visiting the library or the Internet with your child will enable you both further explore their interests. Listed below are just some of the many resources available for both parent and child.

## **Websites**

- The Montessori Foundation:  
[www.montessori.org](http://www.montessori.org)
- Maria Montessori and the Montessori Method:  
[www.montessori.edu](http://www.montessori.edu)
- Montessori Services:  
[www.montessoriservices.com](http://www.montessoriservices.com)
- The Helpful Garden:  
[www.thehelpfulgarden.blogspot.com](http://www.thehelpfulgarden.blogspot.com)

## **Books**

The Absorbent Mind, Maria Montessori  
Children: The Challenge, Rudolf Dreikurs  
Discovery of the Child, Maria Montessori  
Dr. Montessori's Own Handbook, Maria Montessori

The Montessori Method, Maria Montessori

Montessori Read and Write: A Parent's Guide to Literacy for Children,

Lynne Lawrence

P.E.T.: Parent Effectiveness Training, Dr. Thomas Gordon

The Secret of Childhood, Maria Montessori

A Parent's Guide to the Montessori Classroom, Aline D. Wolf

Nurturing the Spirit, Aline D. Wolf

## **Publications**

*Tomorrow's Child* is the Montessori Foundation's independent, nonprofit magazine serving Montessori schools and families around the world:

[www.montessori.org/Tomorrow's-Child-Magazine](http://www.montessori.org/Tomorrow's-Child-Magazine)