

Program Highlights

- ▶ Free Juneau School District Program for grades K-8. Children's House students ages 3 and 4 pay tuition as established by the JSD.
- ▶ Curriculum with a strong emphasis on language development, ideal for English Language Learners (ELL).
- ▶ Rigorous academics include place-based science and culture.
- ▶ Appropriate for children of all academic achievement levels because of differentiated instruction.
- ▶ Extended, uninterrupted work periods allow children to concentrate and complete work at their own pace.
- ▶ Includes specially designed Montessori materials to help children learn specific concepts and skills.
- ▶ Offers opportunities for leadership, modeling, and long-term relationships.
- ▶ Integrated drama, art, vocal and instrumental music.
- ▶ Small and supportive learning community.
- ▶ Montessori-trained teachers abide by the standards of the Association Montessori Internationale.

Enrollment

The Montessori Borealis program is open to all students in grades pre-K through 8th grade.

Openings are filled using the Juneau School District placement process (aka. lottery). Please contact the school office to arrange for an observation, learn more about the program, and decide whether Montessori is right for your child.



MONTESSORI BOREALIS

Contact Information

Location:

Marie Drake (downtown)
School bus transportation is provided for K-8th graders

Contact for information:

Kristin Garot, Principal
kristin.garot@juneauschools.org

For information and to set up an observation:

Melissa Patterson, Administrative Assistant
melissa.patterson@juneauschools.org

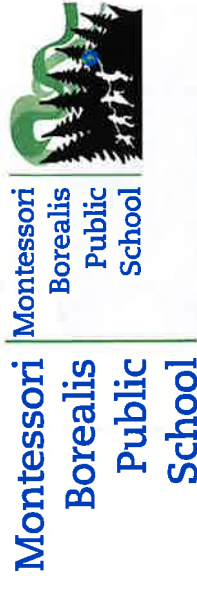
School Main Phone: (907) 523-1848

Contact for Enrollment:

District Office

Sally Hand, JSD Administrative Assistant
sally.hand@juneauschools.org
(907) 523-1771

www.juneauschools.org



GRADES PRE-K THROUGH 8

Montessori Borealis is an alternative school in the Juneau School District. It includes a Children's House (ages 3, 4, and kindergarten), an elementary program (1st through 6th grade) and a middle school program (7th and 8th grade) called Adolescent Montessori Program (AMP).

Montessori Borealis is open to all students in the Juneau area; they are not limited by a specific boundary. Children ages 3 and 4 pay tuition as established by the Juneau School District (JSD). No tuition is charged for kindergarten – 8th grade.

What is Montessori?

Montessori is an educational approach based on the philosophy and teaching methods developed by Dr. Maria Montessori, an early 20th century Italian physician and teacher. The Montessori approach accommodates each child's unique learning style and pace in a supportive atmosphere.

Montessori is appropriate for students with a wide range of academic achievement levels, as well as of varying backgrounds. Special Education, English Language, and other educational services are provided to qualifying students in a manner



consistent with other Juneau District schools.

The Montessori teaching method is a proven educational approach used in a number of Alaskan public schools, as well as schools across the nation and around the world.

► Children's House



The Children's House is a multi-age (ages 3, 4, and 5) classroom with younger children joining the community of learners for a three-year period. Parents and teacher form a strong partnership and a community network of families to support each other and the development of their children.

The Children's House stimulates the development of executive functions: independence, self-motivation, self-direction, and self-control; the development of social skills and interpersonal communication; and a sense of community in a diverse, small learning environment.

The curriculum provides early literacy with a strong emphasis on language development, which is an indicator of later success. It also provides early exposure to math, and place-based science, art, and culture, emphasizing the development of the senses. It is ideal for English Language Learners (ELL), since sensorial experiences precede language.



Supported in part by SEAFOM (Southeast Alaska Friends of Montessori).



► Montessori Elementary

The elementary classrooms are multi-grade (1/2/3 and 4/5/6) and children generally remain with the same teacher for three years. This gives teachers and families an opportunity to get to know each other well, develop community, and work together from one year to the next.

The day is organized around an uninterrupted 3-hour "Great Period", during which children focus on academic subjects. Children plan and select their work and the order in which their work will be done, while the teacher provides guidance and presents lessons.

Children as young as 1st grade are encouraged to research subjects that interest them. Depending on the subject and the child, the result of this exploration may take the form of a research paper, map, poster, science experiment, art or other project. P.E., recess, silent reading, and other aspects of the elementary school day are scheduled after the Great Period. Lunch is eaten family-style in the classroom. Art, drama, vocal and instrumental music are integrated into the child's day.

The elementary community is designed so children can work with those who are older and younger. Children have the opportunity to be leaders and followers, to both teach and learn, and to socialize with children of different ages.

► Montessori Middle School



The Adolescent Montessori Program (grades 7-8) emphasizes academics, social responsibility, and service to the community.

AMP provides a small and supportive setting in which students can attain personal independence through academic choice, social responsibility, and service to the community. In this environment, students feel secure enough to risk being different and to consider unfamiliar points of view.

Basic to advanced math and literature are taught daily, while science, history and geography are covered in intensive blocks to allow for in-depth exploration and learning. Classes in Spanish, art, music, and P.E. round out the curriculum.

AMP provides a supportive community where students know they are respected and cared for, where they can challenge themselves through hard work, grow responsibly, and build meaningful relationships with peers and teachers.

