



Damariscotta Montessori School

Annual Report for 2009-2010

2009-2010 School Year



“Building a Foundation for Life.”

Letter from the Director

Dear Families, Friends and Alumni,

We are off to another tremendous start this year at Damariscotta Montessori School! The leaves are changing, our youngest children have settled wonderfully into their new classrooms, the Middle School children can be observed working tirelessly in their new “hoop house”, and the campus is abuzz with productive activity, both during and after school.

Last year was another successful year at DMS, all to the credit of our families (children and parents), staff, friends, and board members. Thank you! As we start a new school-year as members of the DMS community, I invite you to embark on a journey in which we work together to create a supportive and nurturing environment where our children’s curiosity, independence, and self-confidence can blossom as they grow into young adults.

I encourage everyone to join us with intention as we continue to create a special place for our children. As our school has grown, the need for the involvement of all members of our community has increased. Your gifts of time, talent, energy, and financial support are critical to our continued success in building a thriving educational community.

We hope that you join us this year as we journey together, as we ***BUILD A FOUNDATION FOR LIFE!***

Warmest regards,
Chip DeLorenzo
Executive Director



Paty Matrai, PhD.
President,
Board of Directors

**“Free the child’s
potential and you
will transform him
in the world.”**

-Maria Montessori



Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for New Elementary Building in Fall '09 with youngest and oldest student at DMS.

Letter from the Board President

Dear Members of the DMS Community,

I have recently become Chair of the Board, after three years as a Board member. Why do we commit to the DMS Board? Once upon a time, my children were also students at the Damariscotta Montessori School (DMS); they are now college and high school students. Other board members also have children who are both DMS and, more recently, college graduates! The academic foundation they received at DMS has served them well; more importantly, it is the quiet self confidence instilled by an environment and staff that nurtured their natural curiosity which has benefited them most. The success of our children, alumni from long ago, has motivated us to give back to the DMS community. I hope it will be the same for you.

DMS has reached the last major goal of its current Strategic Plan with the opening of a Middle School Program for the 2010-2011 academic year. Furthermore, new building additions were completed, providing much needed space and beautification. As you have undoubtedly noticed, a fabulous green house has been built by and for the Middle School program and soon raised bed gardens will be built to benefit all DMS students. While a grant from the Davis Foundation (\$8,000) greatly helped obtain the green house, it has been the involvement of a number of dedicated parents and community members that has made this facility possible.

This annual report summarizes the results for the year ended July 31, 2010. The school operated on budget for the year, achieving a modest increase in our reserves even while expanding our facilities, and increasing enrollment by 10%. We also awarded a record level of financial aid, reaching \$48,000 in aid last year. The deliberate approach to financial management by administration and staff and by your board of directors in its role as stewards of the school has served us well during this period.

As our outgoing Chair of the Board said last year: **“We are all united in a mission – that of providing an outstanding educational and developmental experience for our children.”** This mission will continue to guide us into our next phase of development.

Speaking on behalf of the Board, I would like to acknowledge the efforts of all who provide their time and talents as volunteers in support of our school. The Board would like to thank all of you for your generous support of the Annual Fund and Spring Auction, and all the many volunteer hours that were given to help enrich the classrooms, maintain a strong financial aid program, develop the Middle School, and beautify the DMS campus. I also want to extend our gratitude to our professional teaching staff for their tireless efforts, as the results achieved in our classrooms are a testament to their work.

Finally, we would like to recognize two outgoing Board members who, for the past six years, provided DMS with invaluable educational and legal guidance as part of the first board of the school. We wish Martha Monahan and Hylie West all the best in their new adventures!

This coming year of 2011, we will be revisiting the school’s Strategic Plan, working with parents and staff to help develop this long range vision for the school. Please join us as we build on our momentum and drive Damariscotta Montessori School to be recognized as one of the best schools in the region!

With warm regards,
Paty Matrai,
President, Board of Directors

Board Members

President ~ Paty Matrai, PhD, (Sr. Research Scientist, Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences)

Vice-President ~ Pamela Gormley, (Executive Director, Skidompha Public Library)

Treasurer ~ Diana Williams, (Retired Certified Financial Planner)

Secretary ~ Gabrielle Rigaud, (Grants Manager, Natural Resources Council of Maine)

Member ~ Misse Carolyn. (Trainer, Northeast Montessori Institute)

In Appreciation

It is with deep gratitude that we acknowledge the dedication of two of our Board Members, whose terms ended at the end of the 2009-2010 school year. Hylie West and Martha Monahan, our recent President of the Board of Directors, leave a terrific legacy at DMS. Both Hylie and Martha were members of the Board for 6 years and saw the school through tremendous growth and change, as the school moved from its location on Main Street in Damariscotta to our current location here in Nobleboro, and the recent addition. Martha is the Executive Director of Northeast Montessori Institute and has provided important academic, teacher and administrative support over the years. Hylie West, attorney at law, gave much needed legal and strategic direction to the Board and has served the school since Chip DeLorenzo arrived in 2001.

2009-2010 Milestones

- Program design implemented for Middle School Program (begin fall 2010)
- New Building additions completed.
- Grant Received by Davis Foundation for Middle School Farm Program.
- Record breaking Spring Auction.
- Full participation by teaching staff at AMS National Conference.
- All three 2008 DMS graduates make honor roll at Lincoln Academy.



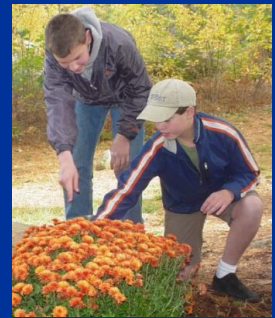
Classroom Highlights

The Primary classrooms saw a total enrollment of 49 students in both our 3 day and 5 day programs. We had a successful start of our Reading Buddies Program established with the Upper Elementary students who come and read to primary students, or allow new readers to read to them. The primary classroom attended the PSO's Kinderkonzert, Botanical Gardens, and the Chewonki Bird of Prey program came to us! The two primary classrooms also planted their first "primary garden."

The Lower Elementary children enrolled a record 28 students and started the year off with a one night/two day stay at Camp Kieve and continued working with the Damariscotta River Association, making several trips to DRA to experience first hand their botany, zoology and earth science curriculum. At the end of the year, the classroom performed Kiplings the "Just So Stories" and held their first Cultural Fair where students studied and exhibited artifacts, foods, and details about different countries and cultures over the world.

The Upper Elementary program had an exciting year, as they ventured to Camp Kieve for a three day stay, and also made a third trip to the Boston Science Museum and the Museum of Fine Arts for an overnight trip. In the spring, the students put on a very funny performance called "The Almost True Tales of Robin Hood."

All classrooms hosted their parents and Grandparents in the classrooms for Bring Your Parents to School Nights and Grandparents Day, as well as with other community events.



Facts and Figures for 2009-2010

Total Enrollment: 92

Programs:

- Primary Classrooms (2),
- Lower Elementary Classroom (1)
- Upper Elementary Classroom (1)

Full-Time Teaching Staff: 8

Part-Time Specialists: 3

Administrative Staff: 2

Board of Directors: 5

Annual Fund Percentage of Participation by DMS Families: 65%

Annual Fund Total Revenue: \$6,385.00

Spring Auction Total Revenue: \$14,335.00

Restricted Gifts: \$8,000

Volunteerism: 87%

Financial Aid Awarded: \$48,820.00

Grants Received: \$8,000





**DAMARISCOTTA
MONTESSORI
SCHOOL**

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www.damariscottamontessori.org



**Arthur "Chip"
DeLorenzo, Director**

Annual Fund Donors 2009-2010

Parent Donors:

Kim and Mark Andrews
Jennifer Atkinson & Mike Tatro
Joey and Will Avantage
Pam Brawn and James Bailey
Dave and Sue Beauregard
Jessica and Kenny Bickford
Jody Corbett and Liz Profetty
Chip and Sondra DeLorenzo
Linda and Gary Doucette
Anne Geisler and Miles Geisler
Mary Dee Grant
Dustin and Bethany Hancock
Bruce and Elaine Hardina
Chrys and Melissa Hearth

Amy and Bill Hinkley
Shannon and Patrick Hunter
David and Melissa Karas
Mic and Katie LeBel
Fred and Kerri Lilly
Matthew and Katie Maddox
Vincent and Tracy Martin
Lisa and Steven Masters
Vicki Black and Jean Moon
Lucy and Haskell Padgett
Joan Ray and Dieter Weber
Doug and Carolina Rushton
Julie Lamy and Ramunas Stepanauskas
Stacey and Malcolm Simmons
Yvette Sullivan
Michael and Kimberley Tolley

Willie and Susie Wharam

Grandparents, Alumni & Friends:

Bobbi and John Atkinson
Arthur and Debra DeLorenzo
Thomas and Nancy Dunlap
Pam Gormley
Jenny and Bill Hardina
Dan and Myla Kelley
Martha and Ray LeBel
Marvin Martin
Patricia Matrai
Ruth Monsell
Peter and Andrea Profetty
Diana Williams
Dunlap-Black Trust

Spring Auction Donors 2009-2010

Amatos of Rockland
Amy and Bill Hinkley
Anchor Inn
Animal House
Boothbay Railway Museum
Pam Brawn and Jim Bailey
The Bickford Family
Bullwinkles Restaurant
Camden National Bank
Christy Lavigne and Allison Roberts
CLC-YMCA
Cloutier & Associates
Coast Journal
Cohen and Cohen
Robert Colburn
Coveside Restaurant
Damariscotta River Association
DeLorenzo Family
Evergreen Nursery
Anne Geisler
Hancock Lumber
Bruce Hardina
Hatchet Cove Farm
Melissa Hearth
The Hinkley Family
The Hunt Family
Shannon Hunter
The Hunter Family
Dave Karas and Melissa Palmer
Kindred Gifts

King Eiders Pub
Knickerbocker Group
Lake Pemaquid Campground
Laurie Green/Robert Colburn
The LeBel Family
The Lilly Family
Louis Doe's Home Center
The Lucas Family
Tyler Lupien/Moose Crossing
The Maddox Family
Maine Coast Book Store & Café
Vincent Martin
Woodbury and Yvonne McLean
Mediterranean Kitchen
Medomak Vet Services
Mexicali Blues
Mill Pond Inn
Moose Crossing
Morning Dew Farm
NC Hunt
Newcastle Publick House
Nobleboro Village Store
Pacos Tacos
Haskell Padgett
Plant Friendly Public Relations
Poole Brothers
Liz Profetty
Reny's
Rising Tide Cooperative Market
Cristina Rushton
Thomas Rushton

The Sewall Family
Shapers Fitness
Sharde Ceramic Studios
Spear's Farmstand
Spencers Greenery
Stackhouse Landscaping
Strong-Hancock Funeral Home
Yvette Sullivan
The Sweetser Family
Tidewater Telecom
The Tolley Family
Michelle vanAbshoven
The Villeneuve Family
The Waldo Theatre
Washburn and Doughty
Well-Tempered Kitchen
Wiscasset Ford
Julie and Oliver Wilson
The Wilson/Wharam Family
Yudy's
Our host: The Anchor Inn

Auction Committee:

Jenny Villeneuve, Chairperson
Jessica Bickford, Vicki Black,
Barb Belknap, Chip DeLorenzo,
Anne Geisler, Alicia Hunter,
Shannon Hunter, Christy Lavigne,
Kerri Lilly, Christina Sewall,
Kimberlee Sweetser, Kimberley Tolley

DMS Parents Association Department Chairs 2009-2010

Development:
Jenny Villeneuve

Community:
Jessica Bickford

Volunteerism:
Shannon Hunter

Financials

2009-2010

INCOME

Tuition and Fees	\$ 522,780.00
Fundraising/Annual Giving	\$ 32,951.00
Grants Received	\$ 8,000.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 563,731.00

EXPENSES

Salary and Benefits	\$ 309,076.00
Program Expenses	\$ 48,868.00
Facility	\$ 11,909.00
Utilities	\$ 17,964.00
Debt Service	\$ 72,676.00
Financial Aid	\$ 48,617.00
Other Operational	\$ 36,682.00
Reserve Increase/ Debt Retirement	\$ 17,939.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 563,731.00

