



## VINEYARD MONTESSORI SCHOOL STRATEGIC INTENT 2021

VMS 2021 is a vibrant, independent Montessori school located on Main Street in Vineyard Haven, MA, serving 90 children from ages 18 months to 14 years old in Grades 1 through 8, with toddler and preschool programs. The school is respected by the Cape and Island community as an exceptional progressive school that fosters self-motivated, creative, independent thinkers whose educational foundation has imparted the lifelong love of learning and skills necessary to navigate the complexities of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

VMS is philosophically centered on the educational approach developed by Italian physician and educator, Maria Montessori. Known for its “intellectually active” and remarkably effective child centered classrooms, the school creates a successful environment for students to achieve their full academic, creative, physical and social potential.

The parents, leaders and faculty are preparing Martha’s Vineyard’s next generation for future success, aiming to exceed the Massachusetts State Standards for each grade by fostering each students potential to become bright, outside-the-box thinkers - creative and open-minded about the future.

The VMS facility is intimate, caring and passionate. The revitalized campus offers a refurbished original building and a separate elementary building with a beautiful and dynamic outside learning environment. The school’s location in the heart of the Vineyard provides the unique opportunity to take part in diverse community programs, such as food education with Island Grown Schools, dance with The Yard, art exploration with Sense of Wonder, physical activities with Vineyard Youth Tennis, Sail MV, MV Ice Arena’s Snowplow Sam, music appreciation with Music Together, foreign language with in house instructors and community philanthropy and education opportunities with Vineyard Haven Public Library and the local Senior Centers.

VMS 2021 transforms lives.

Governance	Programs & Services	Faculty
VMS’s Board of Trustees supports the leadership of the school preserving and guiding the school’s mission while contributing time, expertise and financial resources to its current and future success.	VMS makes meaningful, impactful contributions to the community by maintaining academic excellence in an authentic Montessori child-centered learning environment serving children from 18 months through 8th grade.	VMS cultivates and supports a mission driven faculty that is passionate, highly qualified, and dedicated to the Montessori philosophy.
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Board has fully transitioned from parent board to parent, community and fundraising Board.</li> <li>Board operates on committee model and maintains processes for future success.</li> <li>Board follows Non-profit NAIS Best Practice Guidelines.</li> <li>Board members are trained in Montessori Schools of Massachusetts guidelines for Board participation.</li> <li>Board members are school ambassadors, support VMS special events and contribute in many ways above and beyond meeting attendance.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VMS is fully enrolled with a waiting list</li> <li>VMS offers expanded innovative programming.</li> <li>VMS’ student body is demographically representative of the Vineyard community.</li> <li>VMS school hours meet the needs of the families.</li> <li>VMS is AMS accredited.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Faculty culture of collaboration is driven by the mission and success of the school.</li> <li>Staffing levels are appropriate for an expanded school and all teaching positions are filled by Certified Montessori teachers.</li> <li>Faculty succession plan informs planning and hiring.</li> <li>Faculty compensation and benefits are commensurate and competitive.</li> </ol>

Facilities	Finances	Development & Communications
VMS offers an expanded, attractive, welcoming campus with facilities to serve children from 18 months through 8th grade.	VMS is fiscally stable and has anticipated growth and changing market conditions.	VMS has transitioned to an independent progressive school with a \$3 million fully-funded endowment to meet future needs.
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Campus expansion includes land acquisition, new and upgraded buildings.</li> <li>Campus landscape includes new and improved outdoor areas, playgrounds and parking lot.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VMS has developed and implemented a business plan for planned expansion.</li> <li>VMS has developed and executed a robust scholarship program serving all grades.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VMS has a strong Annual Fund and Capital Campaign with 100% family participation.</li> <li>VMS aggressively pursues all funding resources including major donors, grants etc.</li> <li>VMS’ internal community thrives!</li> </ol>