



Wilmington Montessori School



WEDNESDAY WEEKLY

Calling all book-lovers!



The Annual WMS Scholastic Book Fair Starts Monday

Join us next week for Wilmington Montessori School's annual book fair! For the entire week, you and your children will have the opportunity to shop from our excellent selection of books before, after and during school hours.

Join us on Tuesday, October 11 at 5 p.m. for Family Night, which will include pizza, snacks and crafts—along with the excellent reading material. From October 12-22, WMS will also host its first online book fair with even more great selections. The online fair will be available at the link below starting on October 12 .

For daily schedule info and more, visit our official WMS Book Fair site: <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/wmsde>



Mark Your Calendar

October

- 6-7 **9-12 Overnight—Echo Hill**
- 10-14 **Scholastic Book Fair**, Great Room
- 11 **Book Fair: Family Night**, 5-7 p.m., Gym & Great Room
- 12-22 **Online Book Fair**
- 17 **Montessori Monday**, 9:30 a.m., Lobby
Invite a friend!
- 19 **Diversity Parent Movie**
"Autism: The Musical," 7-9 p.m.
- 21 **Parent Education—Building Strong Relationships Workshop with Dr. Lani Nelson-Zlupko**, 7 p.m., Great Room
Registration requested—see page 3.
- 22 **Presentation of Daniel Potter's Eagle Scout Project—Talent Show & Rededication of Outdoor Stage**, 4-5:30 p.m.
- 23-26 **Sixth Grade GCAP trip**
- 27 **Halloween Parades**
- 28 & 31 **Preschool/Elementary Conferences**
No preschool/elementary classes.
Pre-registered childcare only.
Email cass_winner@wmsde.org to register.

November

- 2 **Parent Education—Montessori at Home**, 7-9 p.m., Library
Registration requested

Save the Date:

Grandfriends Day—November 22
(BEFORE Thanksgiving this year!)

Email lori_oberly@wmsde.org with grandparents' addresses to ensure that all of our grandfriends receive invitations!

Wilmington Montessori School's Board of Directors

Part 2: Meet the Current Board Members

Learn more about these important members of community:

Tanya Vaillancourt Looney (Board Chair) - Tanya has served on the WMS Board of Directors for eight years, including six years as Board Chair. She earned a B.A. in Biology with a minor in Chemistry and an M.S. in Biology from the University of Delaware. Before choosing to stay home with her children in 1995, Tanya was an immunobiologist and facility manager for Strategic Diagnostics in Newark, DE. Presently, she is a school program deputy and Kids Creek Mentor for Hagley Museum's school and visitor services programs as well as assisting in account management for a local financial advisor. Tanya is the mother of three children who are alumni of WMS. Her energy and enthusiasm for community service is evident in her participation in her neighborhood civic association as past President and current Secretary, on the Mount Pleasant High School International Baccalaureate Parents Network as President, and as a Level 1 certified stroke and turn official at summer league (NBSL) swim meets.

Mark Conces (Vice Chair) - Mark served on the WMS Board from 2003-2005, serving all three years as Treasurer, then rejoined the Board in 2007 for his current term. He has a bachelor's degree in Economics and Computers from the University of Notre Dame and an MBA from Duke University. Mark is the father of three WMS graduates who attended the school between 1996 and 2010. Mark recently completed a contract with Research in Motion (RIM) developing marketing strategies for the Higher Education market. Previously, Mark spent a decade at Chase Card Services managing numerous business segments with a focus on profitability, streamlining, identifying and implementing marketing initiatives to generate growth, and successfully renewing partnership agreements at lower costs.

Stephen Johnson - Steve has served on the school's Finance Committee for the last three years and joined the WMS Board in 2010. Steve served for six years on the Salesianum School Finance Committee. Steve began his career at Fidelity Investments in Boston and has progressed into leadership positions with global investment firms and hedge funds. Currently, he leads InvestorForce as the Chief Operating Officer, a 50-person firm that provides performance reporting and measurement software for the institutional investment consulting community. Steve holds a B.A. in Economics and History from Yale and an MBA from Harvard Business School.



Pamela D. Politis, Ph.D., Esq. - Pam is serving her first term on WMS's Board of Directors, having joined the WMS Board in 2011, and has been a parent within the school for eight years. Professionally, Pam is currently Senior Legal Counsel at Endo Pharmaceuticals. Prior to joining Endo in 2007, Pam was in private practice in Delaware. Pam received her B.A. in Chemistry from the University of California, her Ph.D. in Biophysics from the University of Michigan and her J.D. from Widener University School of Law. She is an active member of the Arden community, serving on the boards of the Buzz Ware Village Center and the Arden Community Recreation Association.

Susan Thomas - Susan Thomas is serving her third term on the WMS Board of Directors and is the mother of two graduates and one current WMS student. She holds a B.A. in Economics from George Mason University and a Masters in Education from Temple University. In addition, she is a Momentum Education Leadership graduate and holds USA Track & Field Coaching certification. She has experience volunteering for numerous causes including the Philadelphia Eagles Youth Partnership, Eagles Fly for Leukemia, and People for People Philadelphia. She is the CEO/Principal of INFINITY Unlimited, LLC, an e-commerce women's sports apparel company.

Linda S. Zankowsky, Ed.D. (ex officio) - Born and raised in Wilmington, Linda earned a B.S. in Educational Research from Bucknell University. She also holds a master's degree in Reading and a doctorate in Educational Leadership with a focus on assessment and literacy from the University of Delaware. Linda's career in education spans 29 years; nine as a Delaware teacher, nine as a Delaware public school principal and 11 years as the Head of Wilmington Montessori School. Linda has shared her leadership, serving on various statewide and local committees for the improvement of education in Delaware. These include: State Language Arts Standard Committee, the Governor's Task Force on Early Childhood Education, and the STARS standards for early childhood education. Currently, she serves as the President of the Montessori Teacher's Association of Delaware as well as participating on the Research Committee of the American Montessori Society.

Interested in getting involved with the Board of Directors? Contact Linda Zankowsky, Head of School, at Linda_zankowsky@wmsde.org.

Important Information about the Peace Park



For safety reasons, the current fencing will be REMOVED during the weekend of October 8. Until the new fence is built, we invite families to use other identified age-appropriate play areas around the school. The Peace Park may still be used by those who wish, but we recommend that special care be taken to ensure little ones stay inside the play area and out of the parking lot.

Looking forward, Wilmington Montessori School is in the process of raising necessary funds to surround our Peace Park with appropriate, safe and aesthetically pleasing fencing.

If you would like to know more about how you may help, please contact Jennifer Burns, Director of Advancement, at jennifer_burns@wmsde.org.

Strong Relationships:



How to Make Your Relationship Last

What are the hallmarks of a successful relationship? Who stays connected for the long haul? Is it an "accident" or intentional? Find out who stays connected and what you can do today to begin increasing the strength of your primary relationship at 7 p.m. on October 21. Top tools for strong relationships will be provided, as well as major roadblocks to be avoided. Come skill up! All individuals and couples are welcome at this inspiring, humor-filled and empowering event presented by WMS favorite Dr. Lani Nelson-Zlupko.

Learn how to:

- Move from blame to cooperation
- Turn an angry moment into a loving one
- Validate your partner routinely
- Get the love you need
- Strengthen your connection
- Tap into positive feelings on a regular basis

...and more!

Advance registration is appreciated. Register online and learn more at www.wmsde.org/parenteducation.

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Earn Co-op Hours by Diving into Diversity

Do you have a topic for Diversity Corner you'd like to display?



Please contact Donna Irby at iimdboss@aol.com with the topic details and the date you'd like to post your display. All displays must meet Diversity Corner guidelines.

See the Diversity Communications board for details.

Our Mission

Wilmington Montessori School is a collaborative learning community rooted in Montessori principles, inspiring the joyful discovery of self and a passion for learning and independent thinking. We empower children to be knowledgeable and responsible contributors to the global community.