

CALIFORNIA MONTESSORI PROJECT ELK GROVE CAMPUS



2007•08 School Accountability Report Card

Published During the 2008-09 School Year

Executive Director's Message

California Montessori Project (CMP) is a public charter school network (K-8) serving approximately 1400 students in the greater Sacramento area. Previously sponsored by Wheatland School District from 2001 through 2006, CMP currently operates under four charters, authorized by Buckeye Union, Elk Grove Unified, Sacramento City Unified and San Juan Unified School Districts. Our campuses are located in Shingle Springs, Elk Grove, mid-town Sacramento, Fair Oaks, and Carmichael.

The Montessori philosophy states that a child has an innate desire to learn and produce purposeful, meaningful work. Dr. Maria Montessori believed that the role of an adult in a child's education is to provide an appropriate environment, complete with tools and methods, to facilitate the child's own discovery of knowledge and skills at the time when it has the most impact for him/her as an individual. This system has a foundation in trust and respect of the individual, and a belief that children will soar beyond traditional expectations.

California Montessori Project offers an environment which has the tools, programs, resources, and support to enable students to become educated to high international academic standards, and to develop themselves to their fullest capacity as competent, happy, productive individuals, family members, workers, and contributors to a better society and a peaceful world. This is achieved through a strong commitment from the community: parents, teachers, community groups, the legislature and, most importantly, the individual child. CMP is grounded in a philosophy of trust in individuals to seek their greatest potentials.

CMP holds that an educated person is well-rounded and balanced. The CMP student shall become a collaborative member of a community, motivated to set and achieve high goals. CMP encourages students to demonstrate empathy towards others through respectful and productive communications. The student is guided to view him/herself as a global citizen who is empowered, and responsible, for making positive changes in the world and within the immediate environment. The CMP student develops personal habits leading to a healthy lifestyle which include balancing leisure, work, family, and community.

While recognizing that the traditional system meets the needs of many, CMP offers an option where students work in multi-age classrooms, with individual learning plans of instruction and materials which are progressive, and frequently self-correcting.

Principal's Message

The California Montessori Project, Elk Grove Campus, is a Montessori public charter school offering kindergarten through eighth grade education under a charter authorized by the Elk Grove Unified School District. We are accredited by the Montessori School Accreditation Commission (MSAC) and the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). Our program quality is sustained by supporting our California credentialed and Montessori trained faculty with continued professional development and quality Montessori materials in low student/teacher ratio classrooms.

We encourage our students to be independent learners and problem solvers. Our students utilize individualized work plans to allow them to work at their own level and pace. Cooperation and positive peer relationships are supported through daily Class Meetings. Respect is strongly emphasized and reinforced on a daily basis: respect for self, respect for others, and respect of our environment.

We have a strong school community with a high level of family involvement. Parents are encouraged to volunteer in the classroom, participate in field trips, and help organize special events and fundraisers. There are many opportunities for our families to be involved as a community and get to know one another. Among such events are the Annual Walk-a-Thon and Barbeque, Science Fair and Pancake Breakfast, Art Walk, Chili Cook-off, Family Dance, Continent Party, Ice Cream Socials, and class performances.



"In accordance with the Charter School Act of 1992, California Montessori Project seeks to provide parents and pupils with expanded choices in the types of educational opportunities that are available within the public school system."

Elk Grove Campus

Grades K-8

8828 Elk Grove Blvd. #4
Elk Grove, CA 95624
Phone: (916) 714-9699
Fax: (916) 714-9703
www.cacmp.org

Gary S. Bowman, M.S. Ed.
Superintendent/Executive Director

Mickey Slamkowski
Principal

*"We must help the child to act for himself, will for himself; this is the art of those who aspire to serve the spirit."
Maria Montessori*

California Montessori Project's Mission

The mission of the California Montessori Project is to offer a quality, tuition-free Montessori education to every child in the state of California.



“The first aim of the prepared environment is, as far as it is possible, to render the growing child independent of the adult.”
-Maria Montessori

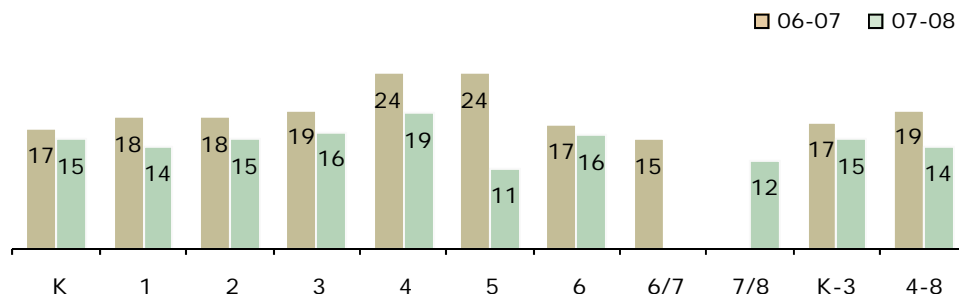
Parental Involvement

Parents play an active role in the California Montessori Project. Many parents exceed the required 40 hours of participation time, as they assist in the classrooms, chaperone students on field trips, volunteer in the office, and organize special school events and fundraisers. Parents are also involved in many leadership roles, including service on the Campus Advisory Council, Gardening Committee, Fundraising Committee, and the CMP Governing Board.

For more information on how to become involved, contact Mickey Slamkowski, Principal, at (916) 714-9699.

Class Size

The bar graph displays the two-year data for average class size.

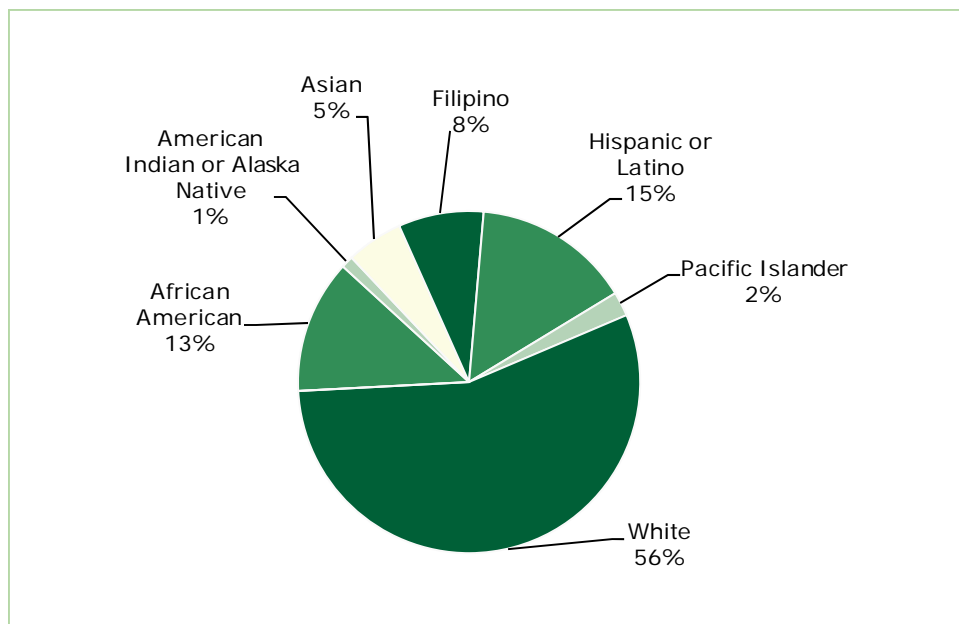


Class Size Distribution — Number of Classrooms By Size									
Grade	05-06			06-07			07-08		
	1-20	21-32	33+	1-20	21-32	33+	1-20	21-32	33+
K	◆	◆	◆	2			2		
1	◆	◆	◆	3			3		
2	◆	◆	◆	2			3		
3	◆	◆	◆	2			2		
4	◆	◆	◆	1	1		1	1	
5	◆	◆	◆	1	1		1	1	
6	◆	◆	◆				2		
6-7	◆	◆	◆	1					
7-8	◆	◆	◆				2		

◆ California Montessori Project Elk Grove Campus was authorized by Elk Grove USD in 2006. Therefore, this SARC does not reflect data prior to Elk Grove USD sponsorship.

Enrollment and Demographics

The total enrollment was 261 students for the 2007-08 school year.



School Facilities

The CMP Elk Grove Campus facility is a former public school campus leased through the Cosumnes Community Services District. The facility houses four traditional classrooms and four large portable classrooms.

This year our Middle School Program moved into classrooms within the Elk Grove Congregational Church complex adjacent to our school grounds. This has allowed our Middle School room to grow.

The school grounds include a spacious field, a playground, and a large asphalt play area with a basketball court.

Custodial and maintenance services are provided in the late afternoon and evening through contractual services and parent volunteers.

CMP Elk Grove Campus is currently looking for a larger facility in the Elk Grove area to accommodate the school's growing population.

School Safety

California Montessori Project has a School Safety Plan and Emergency Preparedness Handbook that are reviewed every year with staff and teachers at each campus.

The CMP schoolwide Safety Plan was submitted and approved as part of the 2006 Charter Petition in April 2006. Key elements of the plan include monthly drills and crisis intervention plans.

This plan is reviewed annually and was most recently reviewed, updated, and discussed with school faculty in August 2008.

Textbooks and Instructional Materials

Montessori curriculum and materials used at the CMP Elk Grove Campus are aligned with the California State Standards. The school uses State-adopted texts and materials to complement the Montessori materials.

Textbooks and Instructional Materials List	
Subject	Textbook
English-Language Arts	Primary Phonics, Modern Curriculum Press, Open Court, Houghton Mifflin
Mathematics	Harcourt Brace Math
Mathematics	McDougal Littell: <i>Algebra I Concepts and Skills, Algebra 1, Geometry, Middle School Math</i>
Science	Prentice Hall: <i>Science Explorer</i>
History-Social Science	Houghton Mifflin: <i>From Sea to Shining Sea, This Is My Country, Oh California, America Will Be</i>
History-Social Science	Teacher's Curriculum Institute: <i>History Alive!</i>

Note: This data was most recently collected and verified in October 2008.



“The child is truly a miraculous being, and this should be felt deeply by the educator.”

-Maria Montessori



California Physical Fitness Test

Each spring, all students in grades 5 and 7 are required to participate in the California Physical Fitness Test (PFT). The test measures six key fitness areas:

1. Aerobic Capacity
2. Body Composition
3. Abdominal Strength
4. Trunk Extension Strength
5. Upper Body Strength
6. Flexibility

To meet fitness standards, students must score in the Healthy Fitness Zone (HFZ) on all six fitness tests. For 2007-08, 36.4% of students in the 5th grade and 0.0% of students in the 7th grade scored in the HFZ. For more information on the California PFT, please visit www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/pf/.

California Standards Tests

For the 2008 STAR exam, students in grades 2-8 took an English-language arts and mathematics test. Students in grades 4 and 7 also participated in an essay writing test. History-social science tests were given to students in grade 8 and students in grades 5 and 8 took a science test.

Because tests are meant to measure how well students achieve standards rather than how well they do compared to other students, the results are reported as performance levels. The five performance levels are:

- **Advanced** (*exceeds State Standards*)
- **Proficient** (*meets Standards*)
- **Basic**
- **Below basic**
- **Far below basic**

Students scoring at the Proficient or Advanced level meet State Standards in that content area.

The tables show the percentage of students that scored at Proficient or Advanced levels in English-language arts, mathematics, science and history-social science. For a complete report on all groups and their scores by grade level, please visit <http://star.cde.ca.gov/>.



“Only practical work and experience lead the young to maturity.”
-Maria Montessori

California Standards Tests Results

The multiple-choice California Standards Tests (CST) are part of the Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) and are administered only to students in California public schools. These tests determine students’ achievement of the California Academic Content Standards and provide feedback on their success given what they are expected to know in each grade level and subject.

Percentage of Students Scoring At Proficient or Advanced Levels									
	CMP Elk Grove Campus			Elk Grove USD			California		
	05-06	06-07	07-08	05-06	06-07	07-08	05-06	06-07	07-08
English-Language Arts	◆	46%	47%	48%	49%	51%	42%	43%	46%
Mathematics	◆	35%	43%	47%	48%	49%	40%	40%	43%
Science	◆	29%	48%	38%	43%	51%	35%	38%	46%
History-Social Science	◆	★	❖	37%	37%	40%	33%	33%	36%

◆ California Montessori Project Elk Grove Campus was authorized by Elk Grove USD in 2006. Therefore, this SARC does not reflect data prior to Elk Grove USD sponsorship.

★ For 2006-07, no students were enrolled in the 8th grade. Therefore, no data is available for the history-social science portion of the CST.

❖ Scores are not shown when the number of students tested is 10 or less, either because the number of students tested in this category is too small for statistical accuracy or to protect student privacy.

CST Student Group Results: English-Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and History-Social Science

Percentage of Students Scoring At Proficient or Advanced Levels				
Group	Spring 2008 Results			
	English-Language Arts	Mathematics	Science	History-Social Science
Male	35%	40%	58%	❖
Female	60%	47%	33%	❖
Economically Disadvantaged	36%	50%	❖	❖
English Learners	❖	❖	❖	❖
Students with Disabilities	9%	14%	❖	❖
Migrant Education Services	❖	❖	❖	❖
African American	42%	25%	❖	❖
American Indian or Alaska Native	❖	❖	❖	❖
Asian	❖	❖	❖	❖
Filipino	62%	69%	❖	❖
Hispanic or Latino	31%	28%	❖	❖
Pacific Islander	❖	❖	❖	❖
White	52%	47%	59%	❖

❖ Scores are not shown when the number of students tested is 10 or less, either because the number of students tested in this category is too small for statistical accuracy or to protect student privacy.

Adequate Yearly Progress

Adequate Yearly Progress Criteria				
	CMP Elk Grove Campus		Elk Grove USD	
Met Overall AYP	Yes		No	
AYP Criteria	English-Language Arts	Mathematics	English-Language Arts	Mathematics
Participation Rate	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Percent Proficient	Yes	Yes	No	No
API	Yes		Yes	
Graduation Rate	✧		Yes	

✧ Not applicable. The graduation rate for AYP criteria applies to high schools.

Adequate Yearly Progress

No Child Left Behind (NCLB) requires that all schools and districts meet Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) requirements. To meet these standards, California public schools and districts must meet or exceed criteria in four target areas:

1. Participation rate on statewide assessments
2. Percent of students scoring proficient on statewide assessments
3. API scores
4. Graduation rate for high schools

The table displays whether or not the school made AYP overall and met each of the AYP criteria for 2007-08. For a detailed report on AYP, please visit www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/ay/.

Academic Performance Index

API Ranks — Three Year Comparison			
	04-05	05-06	06-07
Statewide API Rank	✧	◆	3
Similar Schools API Rank	✧	◆	1

Academic Performance Index

The Academic Performance Index (API) is an annual measure of the academic performance and progress of schools in California. The API is a score on a scale of 200 to 1,000, with 800 set as the statewide target. Schools are ranked in ten categories of equal size from 1 (lowest) to 10 (highest). A similar schools API rank reflects how a school compares to 100 statistically matched "similar schools." The tables show the school's three year data for API rank and API growth. For more detailed information, please visit www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/ap.

API Growth by Student Group — Three Year Comparison				
Group	Actual API Change			2007-08 Growth API Score
	05-06	06-07	07-08	
All Students at the School	✧	◆	23	745
African American	✧	◆	■	■
American Indian or Alaska Native	✧	◆	■	■
Asian	✧	◆	■	■
Filipino	✧	◆	■	■
Hispanic or Latino	✧	◆	■	■
Pacific Islander	✧	◆	■	■
White	✧	◆	35	755
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged	✧	◆	■	■
English Learners	✧	◆	■	■
Students with Disabilities	✧	◆	■	■

✧ California Montessori Project Elk Grove Campus was authorized by Elk Grove USD in 2006. Therefore, this SARC does not reflect data prior to Elk Grove USD sponsorship.

◆ First year of data collection, baseline information only for 06/07.

■ Data are reported only for numerically significant groups.

Testing Note: Assessment data are reported only for numerically significant groups. Data may not appear if ethnic/ racial, socio-economically disadvantaged, or other groups: (1) contain less than 100 students with valid test scores, OR (2) comprise less than 15% of the school population tested and contain less than 50 students with valid scores.



“We must help the child to act for himself, will for himself, think for himself; this is the art of those who aspire to serve the spirit.”
-Maria Montessori

School Support Staff

The following is a list of the support staff at the school and their full-time equivalent (FTE):

• Classroom Teaching Assistants	4.5
• Academic Counselors	0.0
• Library Media Services Staff (paraprofessional)	0.0
• Library Media Teacher (Librarian)	0.0
• Nurse	0.0
• Occupational Therapist	0.1
• Psychologist	0.1
• Resource Specialist (non-teaching)	0.8
• Speech/Language/Hearing Specialist	0.6
• Social Worker	0.0
• Other	0.0

Professional Development

CMP has five days each year dedicated to staff and professional development involving special education, Montessori curriculum development, academic planning and other pertinent topics. In addition, staff members are encouraged to seek additional professional development opportunities and are offered incentives for doing so.

Teacher Qualifications

The table shows information about teacher credentials and teacher qualifications. More information can be found by visiting <http://data1.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/>.

Teacher Credential Information				
	Elk Grove USD	CMP Elk Grove Campus		
Teachers	07-08	05-06	06-07	07-08
With Full Credential	3,086	◆	14	18
Without Full Credential	48	◆	0	1
Teaching Outside Subject Area of Competence		◆	1	0

◆ California Montessori Project Elk Grove Campus was authorized by Elk Grove USD in 2006. Therefore, this SARC does not reflect data prior to Elk Grove USD sponsorship.

No Child Left Behind Compliant Teachers

No Child Left Behind (NCLB) requires that all teachers of core academic subject areas be “highly qualified.” In general, for a teacher to be considered highly qualified, they must have a bachelor’s degree, an appropriate California teaching credential, and have demonstrated competence for each core subject he or she teaches. The table displays data regarding NCLB compliant teachers from the 2007-08 school year. For more information on teacher qualifications related to NCLB, please visit www.cde.ca.gov/nclb/sr/tq.

Core Academic Courses Taught by NCLB Compliant Teachers		
	% of Classes Taught by NCLB Compliant Teachers	% of Classes Taught by Non-NCLB Compliant Teachers
CMP Elk Grove Campus	100.0%	0.0%
All Schools in District	97.7%	2.3%
High-Poverty Schools in District	98.2%	1.8%
Low-Poverty Schools in District	97.6%	2.4%

Suspensions and Expulsions

The table shows the rate of suspensions and expulsions (the total number of incidents divided by the school’s total enrollment) for the most recent three-year period.

Suspension and Expulsion Rates						
	CMP Elk Grove Campus			Elk Grove USD		
	05-06	06-07	07-08	05-06	06-07	07-08
Suspension Rate	◆	11.8%	11.9%	19.7%	31.1%	20.3%
Expulsion Rate	◆	0.0%	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%	0.4%

◆ California Montessori Project Elk Grove Campus was authorized by Elk Grove USD in 2006. Therefore, this SARC does not reflect data prior to Elk Grove USD sponsorship.

Federal Intervention Program

Schools that receive Title I funding can enter Program Improvement (PI) if they don't reach AYP over two consecutive years in the same content area (English-language arts or mathematics) or on the same indicator (API or graduation rate). With each additional year that they don't meet AYP, they advance to the next level of intervention. The table displays the 2008-09 Program Improvement status for the school and district. For more information, please visit www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/ay.

Federal Intervention Program		
	CMP Elk Grove Campus	Elk Grove USD
Program Improvement Status	Not In PI	Not In PI
First Year of Program Improvement	✧	✧
Year in Program Improvement	✧	✧
Number of Schools Identified for Program Improvement		
		0
Percent of Schools Identified for Program Improvement		
		0.0%

✧ Not applicable.

Financial Information

The data displayed is from the 2006-07 school year because the most current fiscal information available provided by the state is always two years behind the current school year, and one year behind most other data included in this report.

District Salary Information — Does not include benefits		
Range	Elk Grove USD	Similar Sized District
Beginning Teacher Salary	\$40,047	\$40,721
Mid-Range Teacher Salary	\$59,384	\$65,190
Highest Teacher Salary	\$82,031	\$84,151
Average Principal Salary (Elementary School)	\$109,155	\$104,476
Average Principal Salary (Middle School)	\$109,139	\$108,527
Average Principal Salary (High School)	\$120,324	\$119,210
Superintendent Salary	\$221,536	\$210,769
% of Budget for Teacher Salaries	45.4%	39.9%
% of Budget for Administrative Salaries	4.7%	5.5%

Financial Data				
	Total Expenditures Per Pupil	Expenditures Per Pupil From Restricted Sources	Expenditures Per Pupil From Unrestricted Sources	Average Teacher Salary
CMP Elk Grove Campus	\$6,341	\$237	\$6,104	\$34,070
Elk Grove USD			\$4,857	\$62,890
California			\$5,300	\$65,008
% Difference Between School and District			20.4%	-84.6%
% Difference Between School and California			13.2%	-90.8%

Types of Services Funded

California Montessori Project does not receive any Federal or categorical funds. The programs and supplemental services provided are Class Size Reduction (CSR) and Special Education.

Additional reading support is provided through a Read Naturally pullout program during school day afternoons, provided by a credentialed teacher.

Our credentialed staff also offers no-cost, after-school tutoring programs targeting at-risk students.

“As soon as children find something that interests them they lose their instability and learn to concentrate.”

-Maria Montessori



“We especially need imagination in science. It is not all mathematics, nor all logic; but it is somewhat beauty and poetry.”

-Maria Montessori

Public Internet Access

Public Internet access is available at most public libraries. The public library closest to CMP Elk Grove Campus is the Elk Grove Library, located approximately two blocks east of our campus on Elk Grove Blvd.



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Grades K-8

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Web site: www.cacmp.org

SARC: Data provided by the California Department of Education (CDE), school and the district office. For additional information on facts about California schools and districts, please visit DataQuest at <http://data1.cde.ca.gov/dataquest>. DataQuest is an online resource that provides reports for accountability, test data, enrollment, graduates, dropouts, course enrollments, staffing and data regarding English Learners.

All data accurate as of December 2008.

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800.487.9234 www.sia-us.com