



Heartland Montessori School

Montessori Education

- The child-centered and individualized instruction
- The main objective is to learn and retain information using community values and mutual respect
- Every child is taught uniquely based on their own abilities and skills
- Knowledge based on real world concrete experiences and examples
- Academic subjects are connected throughout the classroom
- Peace education, Kindness, perspective taking, and many social aspects are intertwined into every lesson the child receives
- Students work in a self-contained classroom allowing freedom of choice throughout the curriculum
- Teacher guides the child based on the whole individual using academic skill, social interactions, and observation
- Multi-age classroom allows the child to both learn from others and lead
- Parent communications usually consist of a personal narrative of the child along with constant dialogue of the whole child
- Assessment is based on effort; knowledge can always be built upon and improved

Traditional Education

- The teacher centered instruction using direct instruction
- The main objective is to achieve high test scores, grades, percentages graduated
- Every child is taught the identical information using the same materials
- Knowledge based on abstract lectures and textbooks
- Academic subjects are independent on themselves with no connection
- Core curriculum areas and benchmarks/standards are the main focus and social aspects are not usually a priority
- Student work on subjects the teacher instructs at the time. Freedom of choice is limited.
- Teacher knows a limited part of the child at school. Child usually has multiple teachers based on subjects through their day.
- Single age classroom allows competition to be the motivator
- Parent communications usually consists of letters or numbers as the overall achievement of the child academically
- Assessment is based on performance; knowledge is either achieved or not in that moment