Montessori for the Grownups: The Montessori Community as A Prepared Environment for Adults

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1. Montessori as Recipe versus Montessori as Philosophy

2. Self-Awareness: What are your lenses?
   - Age, Birth, Gender, Ethnicity
   - Family Background
   - Socio-Economic Status (SES)
   - Education
   - Life Circumstances
   - Experiences
   - Personality

3. Emotional Intelligence
   - “Great Leadership works through the emotions.” [Goleman et al. 2002]
   - Leadership is about relationship-building
   - Understanding the perspective of the other is vital to leadership
   - Collaborative environment

4. Education for Peace versus Peace Education

Montessori for the Grownups: Top Ten Considerations

1. Recipe vs. Philosophy
2. Self-Awareness
3. Emotional Intelligence
4. Education for Peace vs. Peace Education
5. Maslow’s Hierarchy
6. Prepared Environment:
7. Physical
8. Emotional
9. Social
10. Normalization for Adults
11. Respect – Communication, Collaboration

4. Education for Peace versus Peace Education

PEACE
5. Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs and Employee Engagement

- Self-Fulfillment
- Self-Actualization
- Knowledge
- Love/Belonging
- Safety
- Physiological


6. Prepared Environment: Physical

- Greeting area
- Rest areas
- Bathrooms
- Coffee Area
- “Lounge”
- Parent-Teacher Connections
- Cultivated
- Observation Set Up
- Aesthetic Beauty

7. Prepared Environment: Emotional

- Consistency
- Transparency
- Healthy, high expectations
- Culturally sensitive
- Resources for Support
- Safe
- Engaged

8. Prepared Environment: Social

- Shared responsibility
- Safe opportunities for feedback
- School culture
- Connection
- Communication
- Bought into the organization’s “Why”

9. Normalization for Adults

- Concentration
  - Drive, focus, engagement
- Work
  - Purpose, Csikszentmihalyi and Gardner’s “Good Work” theory
- Discipline
  - Method to the madness, understanding of the philosophy, functional organizational system, self discipline
- Sociability
  - Sees him/herself as a part of the larger community, has a helpful role within the community, makes an impact

10. Respect

- When I don’t remember what you try to teach them, They remember what you are
Recognize that YOU are a Prepared Environment and a Model

- Strive for balance
- See and be the good
- Continuously learning
- Share and Help
- Seek Connection
- Independent and Interdependent
- Positive Influence
- Fair

Components of the Montessori Children’s House

- The Child
- The Adult
- The Prepared Environment

Components of the Montessori Children’s House Community

- Community Member
- The Prepared Adult (Myself)
- The Prepared Environment

Remember:

- The Montessori Approach can work for any child
- Montessori is not a match for every adult!
- We are here to inform and guide Choice for the adults

“Be the change you wish to see in the world”

- Mahatma Ghandi -

Thank You!

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