



# Montessori of the Rio Grande Charter School

Volume 2, Issue 3  
December 19, 2008

## Dragonflies Monthly News Minute

### Upcoming Events

December 19th.-

- Book Exchange in all classrooms
- Last Day before Winter Break

January 5th.

- Return to school

**Mission:** "Our school will provide a peaceful, safe, and nurturing academic environment using Montessori principles to develop children who love to learn, contribute to their communities, and continually strive to achieve their full potential."

## News from Ms Bonnie

### GREAT NEWS!

I'm sure you are all aware that like all charter schools, we are to be in a public facility by the year 2010. Currently we lease this facility from the founders of the charter school, Leon and Marie Fuemmeler. This requires that we spend a significant amount of money, just for the building. The Public Education Department supports the school's facility needs by providing \$700/ student. This does not meet the entire lease amount so we must use almost \$72K from our school budget to cover the cost of the lease.

The good news is ... Chris Kenny, Council President, and Lawrence Rael, Council Member, have been negotiating with Albuquerque Public Schools to help purchase this facility from the Fuemmelers. When this happens, we will then be in a public facility and can begin renovations and/or begin the capital campaign for raising funds for the building of the new facility.



4/5 artist work

The great news is ....

Albuquerque Public School Board voted on Dec. 17th to approve the purchase of our facility. This truly is great news for all of us and will now allow us to proceed with creating a school which truly supports an exemplary Montessori facility.

On behalf of all the students, faculty, and families of MRGC, a huge thank you to Chris and Lawrence for their perseverance and patience while brokering a deal with APS!!!!



4/5 artist work

### VISION OF MRGC IN THE NEAR FUTURE

If you haven't stopped by the office lately, I strongly suggest that you do. The renderings of the new school have been placed for all to see. Although the new school may not look exactly as pictured, these renderings are the first step in creating possibilities and will support the efforts to begin a capital campaign to raise enough money to start the project. So take a look and get inspired!

### Holly Daze Follies

One parent said "It was worth the wait" and I agree. For the first time in five years, we finally presented to our family community a most amazing student performance. With the help from Ms. Viviana, Ms. Alma, Ms. Debbie and Ms. Bonnie, fourth and fifth graders sang, danced, joked, and played musical instruments in celebration of our winter season. Ms. Lauren and Mr. Rob's students shared a bit of Shakespeare actually twelve days of Shakespeare.

In addition to the performance, Ms. Jin and students presented an art display and families brought desserts to share after the program. A great time was had by all. In the spring we will present another performance

by the K-3 students.



Ms. Jin our dedicated art coordinator

Look on the web for a short movie of the performance, thanks to Rudy Herrera.

## Community Service Happens Daily at MRGC

Let's count the ways students at MRGC contribute to their community:

1. Food donations to Joy Junction and Road Runner Food Bank
2. Helpful items and organic baked goods for The Barrett House
3. Performance at Old Town for the winter holidays
4. Recycling at MRGC
5. Composting for the garden and organic gardening
6. Visits with the senior citizens at lunch time at Los Duranes Community Center
7. Reading and special project of older students to younger students at MRGC.

### *Way to go Dragonflies—We appreciate your service!*

If you would like to send us ways your child contributes to their community outside of the school please drop Ms. Bonnie a note or email at [msbonnie@mrgcharter.org](mailto:msbonnie@mrgcharter.org).

Before and After Care News from Ms. Viviana:



Students had fun working with gingerbread with students from the Job Mentor Program. Thanks to Antoinette Pacheco.



Students had a great time singing in Old Town.

#### IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

- **NO Dogs on campus.**
- **Please drive the 25 mph in our local neighborhood out of respect for our community.**
- **No parking in the fire lane use the parking lot.**
- **Drop off Gate Street is only 15 mph**
- **No electronic or other games, cell phones, ipods, etc.**
- **Put names on lunch boxes, outer wear, etc.**
- **Sign-in the office if you are visiting during the school day.**
- **As volunteers there is a new book to sign in so we can keep track of all the work that is taking place at MRGC.**

#### Friends of Montessori

##### Foundation Update:

Thank you to everyone who made Bollywood a great success. Total profits exceeded \$10K from the event. This is just the beginning of the journey to creating a new school. Check out the pictures on our web page. If interested in getting involved or making donations to the foundation contact Maggie Siebert at



[developmentdirector@mrgcharter.org](mailto:developmentdirector@mrgcharter.org).