

Monocacy Valley Montessori Public Charter School



2022-2023 High School Profile

Principal: Amy Dorman

Assistant Principal: Brandon Sowers

Administrative Secretary: Regina Chadwick

Registrar: TBD

The High School

Monocacy Valley Montessori Public Charter School (MVMPCS) was founded in 2002 and is the oldest continuously operating charter school in Maryland. In 2021, a Charter amendment was approved by the Frederick County Board of Education granting Charter holder Monocacy Montessori Communities, Incorporated (MMCI) permission to open the first public charter Montessori high school in the State.

MVMPCS provides an educational program for children and adolescents in preschool through eighth grade. The high school program, beginning SY2023-2024, will have its first graduating class in May 2027.

Enrollment

School Year	Number of Students	
2023-2024	Whole School: 360	High School: 60
2024-2025	Whole School: 420	High School: 120
2025-2027	Whole School: 480	High School: 180
2023-2024	Whole School: 540	High School: 240

Faculty

All core teachers will have earned or agree to earn the American Montessori Society Secondary Credential and will meet Maryland State Department of Education certification requirements; many will hold advanced degrees.

Grading

Grades follow FCPS Regulation 400-13 and result in a grade point average (GPA) based on the number of course credits and whether they are weighted or unweighted. Unweighted cumulative GPA is the average of all final course grades and is based on a 4.0 scale. Weighted cumulative GPA are calculated on a 5.0 scale for certain courses (honors, upper level world language, advanced placement). Honors and Merit courses will run concurrently

Unweighted GPA		Weighted GPA	
Grade	Points Awarded	Grade	Points Awarded
A – (90% – 100%)	4	A – (90% – 100%)	5.00
B – (80% – 89%)	3	B – (80% – 89%)	3.75
C – (70% – 79%)	2	C – (70% – 79%)	2.50
D – (60% – 69%)	1	D – (60% – 69%)	1.25
F – (0% – 59%)	0	F – (0% – 59%)	0.00

Curriculum

The high school spiral curriculum spans a 2-year cycle with students divided into Lower (9th & 10th) and Upper (11th & 12th) cohorts. Teachers present instruction in an A/B sequence so all students have exposure to the complete course content over the duration of their two year enrollment at each level. The high school courses of study offer diversity of thought, rigor, vigor, and relevance. This curriculum design includes an integration of the current standards of educational requirements, state of the art in current learning theory, and predictions of the skills needed for a productive life in the twenty-first century. The school will mentor students who choose to prepare for AP examinations, but does not offer AP classes.

High School Courses of Study

Lower High School -- Grades 9 & 10			
Year A		Year B	
Subject Area/Courses	Credits	Subject Area/Courses	Credits
English	1	English	1
Social Studies: United States History	1	Social Studies: Government & Politics	1
Mathematics: Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry	1	Math: Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry	1
Science: Physics of Earth & Space	1	Science: Biology	1
World Languages: Spanish	1	World Languages: Spanish	1
Health (0.5)/Fitness (0.5)	1	Health (0.5)/Fitness (0.5)	1
Career & College Prep (FinLit)	0.5	Managing Your Personal Finances (FinLit)	0.5
Arts Elective	1	Foundations of Technology	1
TOTAL CREDITS	7.5	TOTAL CREDITS	7.5
Upper High School -- Grades 11 & 12			
Year A		Year B	
Subject Area/Courses	Credits	Subject Area/Courses	Credits
English	1	English	1
Social Studies: World History - Modern	1	Social Studies: Geography & Economics	1
Mathematics: Algebra II, Geometry, elective (Pre-Calculus, Statistics, Calculus)	1	Math: Algebra II, Geometry, elective (Pre-Calculus, Statistics, Calculus)	1
Science: Chemistry	1	Science: Environmental Science (elective)	1
World Languages: Spanish	1	World Languages: Spanish	1
Health (0.5)/Fitness (0.5)	1	Health(0.5)/Fitness (0.5)	1
Self-Construction/Senior Thesis	1	Self-Construction/Senior Thesis	1
TOTAL CREDITS	7	TOTAL CREDITS	7
9th-Year Accumulated Credits	7.5	10th-Year Accumulated Credits	15
11th-Year Accumulated Credits	22	12th-Year Accumulated Credits	29

State Assessments

Students take state assessments in Algebra 1, English 10, Government, and Biology upon completion of the course.

Student Service Learning

Students will exceed the state requirement of 75 hours of student service learning.

Additional Opportunities for Students

- Athletics, school based (cross country, golf, tennis, track and field) & community based (running club, ski club)
- Clubs, developed based upon student interest (debate, mock trial, Model UN)
- College Preparation Workshops
- Dual Enrollment
- FAFSA Parent Workshop
- Internship/Career Shadowing
- Naviance
- Outdoor Education
- Student Governing Council (SGC)
- Service Learning

Affiliations

American Montessori Society Member School; more anticipated as the program develops

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion

- As a community, and in accordance with the teachings of Dr. Maria Montessori, we strive to ensure all of our members feel valued and respected.
- We celebrate differences and welcome all voices to shape culture, policy, and outcomes. We advance our diversity, equity and inclusion goals through shared responsibility, accountability, transparency and continuous improvement.
- We commit to fostering an environment that supports learning and living in an ever changing world. We seek to ensure that all aspects of school life-including curriculum, admission, retention, hiring practices, and support for students, families, and employees reflect our commitment to these efforts. We plan to provide a safe space for all community members to grow and evolve.
- We embrace truths, optimism, and the belief that as a community we will make lasting changes to the lives of each member in hopes that our students will make a difference in the world.