



ANNUAL REPORT 2025-2026

A Message from the PCG

DEAR MAL FAMILIES,

As we wrap up another fantastic school year, we want to extend our heartfelt thanks to every parent, teacher, student, and staff member. Your involvement—whether through working, volunteering, attending events, or donating—made a meaningful impact on our school community.

Sincerely,
The 25-26 PCG



Highlights

THIS YEAR, WE ARE PROUD TO HAVE:

- Hosted memorable events such as Community Day, Grandparents Day, and Pastries with Parents
- Introduced new events and fundraisers
- Raised \$15,395
- Grown our PCG membership



Who We Are

The Montessori Academy of Lancaster's Parent Community Group (MAL PCG) is a group of parents with children currently enrolled at the school. We are volunteers dedicated to supporting the school and teachers, and fostering a sense of community among the parents. We meet approximately monthly at dates and times that accommodate active members. We strive to provide opportunities that span a range of commitment, from occasional participation to lead roles year-round. If you are interested in joining or learning more, please contact parent.community@montlanc.com. We can't wait to meet you!



Leadership

Group Lead: Gabi Harvey

Hospitality Leads: Megan Kelly and Jessica Conjar Taylor

Head Room Parents: Erin McMonagle and Gabi Harvey

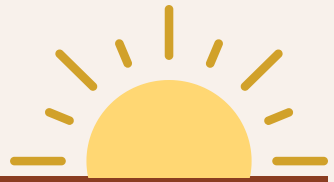
Gardening Lead: Joanna Jan

Fundraising Lead: Emily Griffin and Danielle Tarka

Members

Annie Kerekgyarto, Jamie Novick, Allie Shoffner, Ying Zheng, Kim Henry, Frank Kern, Michelle Thompson, Samia Franco, Jon Juffe, Sharilyn Lorenz, Caryn Puritz, Liana Fan, Gaetan Spurgin, Kaehla Hershey-Silva, Michael Jan, Jamie Baird, Sarah Hill, Shea Erb, Leore Miller, Liliana Tovar, Sara Marian Lucking, Alexis Sterling, Kate Fabritiis, Kaylena Hallett West, Neha Safi, Mark Horodowicz

EVENTS RECAP



Fall 2025

COMMUNITY DAY

Thank you to everyone who joined us for Community Day in September! Under Megan's leadership, a team of PCG volunteers worked throughout the summer to organize sponsors, volunteers, performances, vendors, food trucks, and an incredible variety of activities. With a few hundred attendees and beautiful weather, it was a truly joyful day that allowed us to come together, meet new families and staff, and celebrate our MAL community.

BONFIRE

Our inaugural school bonfire was a wonderfully laid-back evening that captured the warmth of our community in early November. The relaxed outdoor setting felt like spending time in a friend's backyard where parents, children, teachers, and staff were able to meet, connect, and enjoy one another's company. The event offered many opportunities for meaningful conversations and new friendships through roasting marshmallows around the fire, playing games, creating art, sipping hot cider and cocoa, and watching the children explore and play together.

GRANDPARENTS DAY

In November, we invited grandparents and special friends to the school so that students could share their classrooms, show off the work they've been doing, and enjoy a snack together. This event was a great success – thank you to our volunteers and grandparent attendees!



Spring 2026

PASTRIES WITH PARENTS

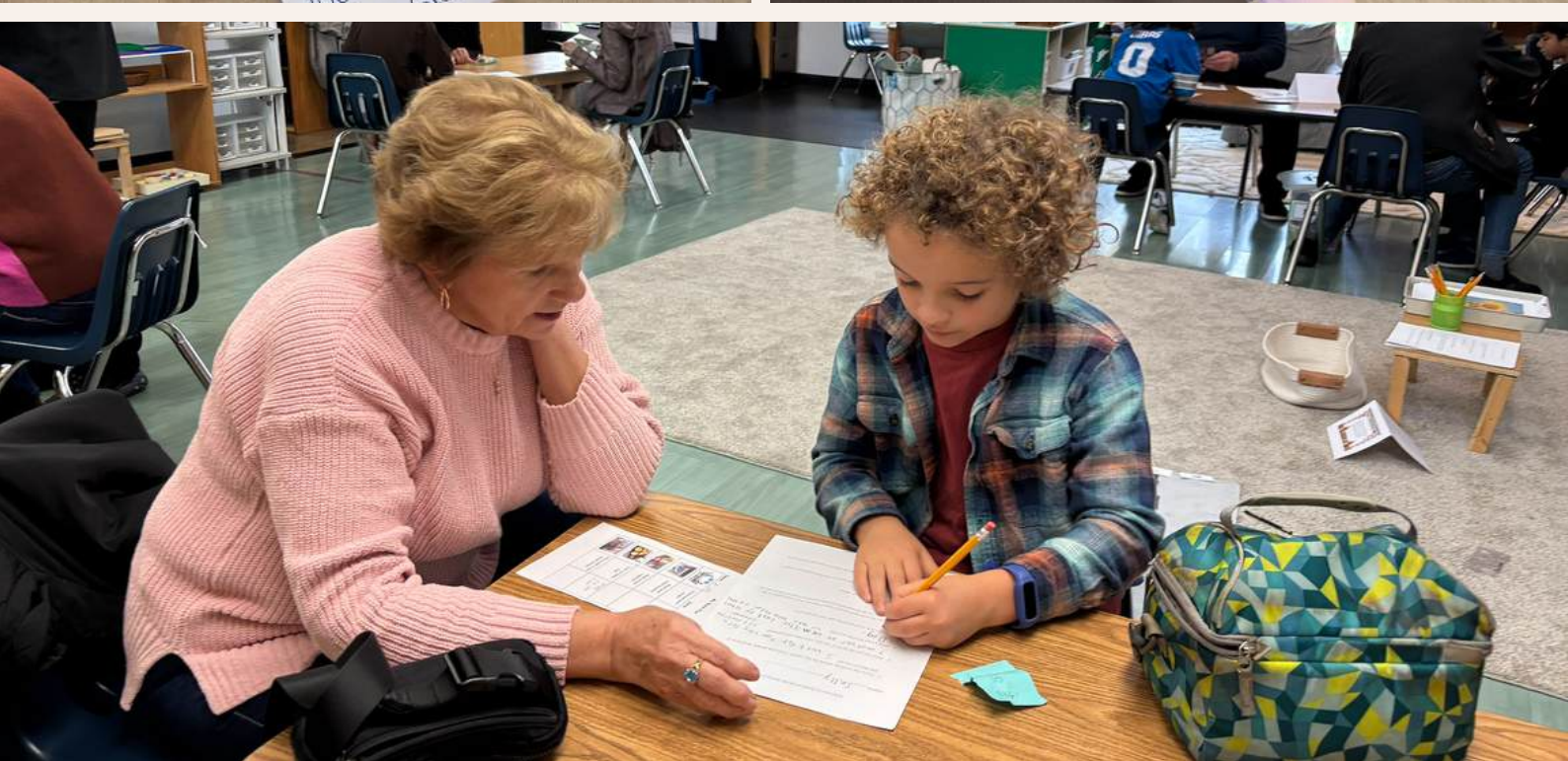
In March and May, the PCG hosted Pastries with Parents events for parents and caregivers to enjoy one-on-one time with their children in the classroom. These events were well-attended and the students loved showing their parents around!

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

In May, we celebrated Teacher Appreciation Week through a series of thoughtful activities to express our endless gratitude to MAL teachers and administrators. The PCG and room parents coordinated gifts, messages of appreciation, and a luncheon to show teachers how much they are valued and appreciated.

ART SHOW

Our 2nd Annual Art Show celebrated creativity, community, and our school's passion for art education. This year was especially meaningful because the show expanded to include our whole school community, not just Elementary families. Each elementary friend had 3-5 works on display, including both 2D and 3D pieces, while our Primary friends collaborated to create a fun archway of boxes designed with different types of lines. Families also enjoyed hands-on process art stations, including drawing flowers from life, embroidery, rock painting, collaborative painting, a chalk wall mural, and outdoor weaving. The afternoon also included a silent art auction featuring the collaborative Jackson Pollock-inspired painting created at last year's Art Show, which raised \$350. Thank you to the parent volunteers and teachers who helped make this celebration of the kids' creativity and love for art possible!



FUNDRAISING

Summary

One of the PCG's goals is to coordinate fundraising to support the school's MAL Children's Fund and gardening efforts. The current goals of the fund are improvements and additions to the outdoor spaces and playgrounds, the renovation and enlargement of the toddler play area, additional art materials and specialty supplies for the art program, and security enhancements. **This year we raised a total of \$15,395.**

Breakdown

EVENTS

- Community Day: \$1,600
- Bonfire: \$278
- Pottery Works: \$810
- Square1 Art: \$2,451
- Snapology: \$216
- Riptide: \$1,001
- 50/50 Raffle: \$7,889

RESTAURANTS

- Silantra: \$342
- BierHall Brewing: \$500
- Isaac's: \$62
- Rachel's: \$222
- Caruso's: \$25

50/50 Raffle

This year the PCG ran a 50/50 raffle/fundraiser for the first time this May. The total amount donated was \$13,197- \$7,889 of which went to MAL! The fundraiser provided the opportunity to contribute to the 50/50 raffle or donate directly to the school. The cash prize amount was \$5,308. In a dramatic finish, the raffle drawing took place at the Morning of the Arts, and the prize went to MAL's own Ms. Karie! Congratulations, and thank you to everyone who participated!

OTHER ACTIVITIES



Volunteer Impact

ROOM PARENTS

Thank you to all our amazing room parents! Room parents play a vital role supporting the teachers and students in each classroom throughout the school year. The PCG facilitates the room parent system and helps ensure that there is consistency among classrooms.

VOLUNTEERS

In addition to our PCG members, dozens of parents and volunteers contributed their time, talents, and funds to help our school this year. From attending fundraisers to helping out in classrooms and at events, your support is invaluable. Thank you for being a part of this community!

Gardening

The school gardens provided picturesque blooms and bountiful harvests this year—a testament to the time and effort contributed by students, teachers, volunteers, and the outgoing former PCG Gardening Lead, Cori White. At the beginning of this school year, Cori generously took time to orient the incoming Gardening Lead, Joanna Jan, to her new role. Joanna coordinated a garden bed cleanout with parent volunteers in early spring. Annual flowers and vegetable seedlings were subsequently planted in the garden beds during Teacher Appreciation Week in May.

With proper tending over the summer, we hope to see tomatoes, peppers, watermelons, pumpkins, squash, and herbs ready for students to harvest this fall.



LOOKING AHEAD



Summer Happenings

SURVEY

The PCG conducts annual surveys in order to gather feedback to improve our events and activities. Please keep an eye out for the 2026 survey coming soon!

COMMUNITY DAY 2026 PLANNING

We need your help to make this event a success! Over the summer we have just one short meeting each month, with most of the work happening in August and September. Many of the tasks for volunteers only require a few hours of work spread out over the next few months. Whether you're great at organizing, decorating, coordinating, or just want to lend a hand—we'd love to have you! Reach out to parent.community@montlanc.com.

GARDENS - SUMMER MAINTENANCE

Please consider signing up to assist with weeding and watering the gardens this summer to help keep them in good shape!

