



Dear Montessori Schools in Tennessee,

The Montessori Alliance of TN, your state organization for the support of Montessori education, is proud to share the **Validation Program** with our school community.

This voluntary program is the way for you to show your parents and the public that your school offers children a quality Montessori program they can trust. This validation of your early childhood classrooms lets the TN Department of Education know that your school meets the standards set by our Montessori community in TN.

MAT is sponsoring this program for all Montessori early childhood classrooms (with additional levels to be added soon) in both public and independent schools in TN.

This program is valuable for schools, families, and state agencies.

Benefits for Montessori Schools~

- Assures that the use of the name “Montessori” has meaning
- Assures families of a “true” Montessori program
- The TN Department of Education can recognize Montessori as a quality educational program

Benefits for Families~

- Provides assurance that when a school says it is Montessori, it really is
- Provides the confidence that their child is receiving a Montessori education that includes essential Montessori components

Benefits for TN DOE~

- Gives a standard “definition” of what it means to be a Montessori program
- Builds trust in the system of Montessori education
- Provides assurance of quality that can lead to full implementation of Montessori education

The MAT Montessori Components~

- A fully Montessori credentialed lead Montessori teacher (AMI or MACTE accredited program)
- A classroom design and instructional methods consistent with the Montessori system of education
- Curriculum implementation and full complement of Montessori materials consistent with the Montessori system of education
- A developmentally appropriate mixed age group of students based on developmentally appropriate practice (Montessori Planes of Development)

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- An extended, uninterrupted work period of 2-3 hours
- A class size which is consistent with the Montessori system of education and which is recommended by AMI, AMS, and IMC*

*dependent on TN DOE regulations

To learn more, you can read a program description at www.matenn.org

To participate, please complete the application on the MAT website www.matenn.org.

If you have questions about the project, please be in touch at info@matenn.org . This is your project and your state organization and we look forward to your input and questions.

Thank you.