



Middle School Admissions

Criteria for Student Success

Student candidates must be in good academic standing and demonstrate developmentally appropriate social and behavior expectations. Also, the following two key qualities are essential to qualify a student for enrollment in our elementary/middle school programs:

- A willingness and ability to work independently
- An ability to follow through and complete tasks with sustained focus.

These additional qualities would most likely contribute to the success of a student in this Montessori learning environment:

- Passion for learning
- Self-motivation
- Willingness to investigate and take risks
- Enjoyment in choosing among several options
- A self-directed learner
- Respect for self, the environment, and others
- An awareness of personal responsibility
- Ability to work with others

*****For Upper Elementary and Middle School applicants;*** If a student is more than 2 years behind grade level expectations in any one curricular area, The applicant will not be considered an eligible candidate for enrollment at RPMS.

Application Process for New Families Lower and Upper Elementary and Middle School—

Applications are accepted at any time within the current school year. In February (after re-enrollment of current students) applicants can apply for the upcoming school year. To apply, please follow the process below.

- **Request an Appointment with Head of School.** Please call the school at 608-868-4844 to set up an appointment. This meeting typically lasts up to one hour and includes a tour of the school. Appointments are generally scheduled Monday – Friday during the morning work cycle between 9:00 – 11:00 am. Other arrangements can be made if needed.

- **Application Submissions.** Provide a release to obtain current school records. Release forms can be requested and filled out in our school office, which will forward the request to your child's current school. Create an account using TADS services at <http://mytads.com/a/rockprairiemontessori>. Once an account is created fill out application per instructions.
 - **Middle School Application:** In addition to the above stated process for application submission, when applying for middle school all applicants (both new and current elementary) students must complete the following:
 - Student writes one-page essay on "Why I want to go to a Montessori Middle School".
 - Parent/Guardian and Student read and sign RPMS Middle School Contract.
 - Parent/Guardian and Student read and sign RPMS Middle School Digital Device agreement by first day of school. The rental fee of \$100.00 per school year for Chromebook usage as outlined in the MS Chromebook Agreement is due by August 1st .
 - Each school year a minimum of two extended overnight trips are taken as part of the Middle School curriculum. Students are expected to attend and participate in these trips. Trips will have an additional cost above tuition. Cost range \$1,500 - \$2,000.

- **Teacher Observation Visit.** Once your application has been confirmed a student guest visit is scheduled. This three-day visit is designed to give the student, faculty, and parents/guardians more information regarding the student's capabilities and the potential match to the Montessori environment. These visits are scheduled prior to May 15 of the current school year. Shorter observation visits may be scheduled as needed at the discretion of the Head of School, which would then include a teacher interview.

- **Application review.** The educational team of the Head of School, Director of Education, Middle school/Elementary Coordinators and the Elementary teacher will review the student's potential for success in the environment, considering the students capabilities within a Montessori classroom and its ability to meet that student's capabilities and needs.

- ***If accepted into the Elementary or Middle school program, the student is enrolled on a provisional basis for six weeks.*** At any time, after the initial six weeks, the RPMS educational team may determine, at its sole discretion, to reassess a student enrollment due to academic or behavioral concerns. Working with the family it may be determined that enrollment at RPMS would then cease.

- **If application is not accepted.** Written notification will be given in a timely manner.
- **Tuition Agreement.** Upon enrollment acceptance, parents will need to log back in to their TADS account to complete their contract , allowing families to pick a payment plan as well as any needed wrap-around childcare options. **Enrollment will not be considered complete until this contract is completed and submitted along with the \$150 annual enrollment fee.**