

RAM NEWSLETTER

Richmond Association for Montessori – September 2021

If you are in the Montessori classrooms at Garden City, McKinney and Steves..

THEN YOU ARE A PART OF RAM!



Message from the Chair

Hi RAM Families,

Welcome back to a fresh new year, and welcome to our new parents joining us from our Kindergarten classes!

For those who are unfamiliar with who we are, we are made up of parents like you! If your child is in the Montessori program at Garden City, McKinney or Steves, YOU are a part of the RAM family!

As many of you understand, the Montessori program depends heavily on our unique materials in our classrooms. RAM is committed to assist the school district and continue to raise the needed funds to purchase materials and equipment for our lovely classrooms; we also support teacher bursaries, collaborations and training!

How do we do it? Well, we rely solely on the memberships and donations from our Montessori families to help with our annual budgeting. Along with this newsletter, you will see a Membership Form to support our funding this year. Last year was a success in moving our payment to process electronically, and we hope to continue our membership drive this way! You can now pay your dues and donations with [Credit Card](#) or [Email Transfer](#). That said, if you still prefer to write us a cheque, know that no cheques will be refused! ☺

Your RAM Executive team has been working on new ways to FUN-draise for our children, and with your continued support, we tested some successful events last year! Already, we are looking to repeat our campaigns with **Beard Papa** (this one should be happening very soon – get ready for some cream puffs and more!!), and we have booked **Damien's Waffles** for this coming Spring. We did some virtual paint classes that were lots of fun, and we hope to repeat similar events this year. Please stay tuned for emails, check our Facebook page or reach out to us! And of course, if you have any ideas or contacts for FUN-draising, please let us know!

Speaking of fundraising, did you know you can help support RAM through your regular online shopping? Perfectly timed for the start of school, **Mabel's Labels** provides personalized labels for all your gear (we get 20% of your label orders – free shipping!). With **FlipGive**, RAM benefits a % of your online shopping. There are lots of merchants, and you can even buy e-gift cards too! More details in our "**Current / Upcoming Fundraisers**" section on the next page. Consider sharing these opportunities with friends and family!

Lastly, we are nothing without our volunteers! This year we have chosen to remain on Zoom for our meetings, we hope you can join us online!

Stay well and Stay safe,

Jacqueline Ip, Chair (McKinney)

In the RAM Community

Upcoming RAM Meetings
(All held at 7pm on Zoom)

Meeting details will be circulated via School emails and we will post on our Facebook page a few days prior

Sept 28, 2021 7pm

(Attending Admin: Steves)

Nov 16, 2021 7pm

(Attending Admin: McKinney)

Jan 18, 2022 7pm

(Attending Admin: Steves)

Mar 8, 2022 7pm

(Attending Admin: Garden City)

April 19, 2022 7pm

(Attending Admin: McKinney)

June 14, 2022 7pm *AGM

(Attending Admin: Garden City)

*(If there's one meeting to attend, help us form our quorum at the **Annual General Meeting!!**)*

PARENTS, what can YOU do to help?

1. Help us raise funds for our classrooms.

Since our primary fundraising source is donations from our families, we need your help! Funds go directly into the Montessori classrooms and program. We are required to maintain annual memberships (\$75) to facilitate voting on our budget and activities. While there are no minimum required amounts, every donation of \$200 or more will include your annual membership and a tax receipt for the full amount!

Now you can pay 3 ways!

1. **EMAIL TRANSFER:** fill out our google form and send E-transfer via your bank;
2. **CREDIT CARD PAYMENT:** send in your details via Eventbrite; or
3. **CHEQUE:** print our form, and send with your cheque to your School Office.

2. Join us at our meetings and stay engaged.

Our meetings are generally held every other month, rotating between the three schools (hosted by the school's administrator). This year's meetings will take place Tuesday evenings at 7pm via Zoom. Visit our website and Facebook events for more updates!

3. Questions, comments, suggestions, or ideas?

We welcome your ideas, suggestions and feedback. Consider helping us with idea implementation! Email us at info@richmondmontessori.ca or contact us on our Facebook page. We'd love to hear from you!

Current / Upcoming Fundraisers

If you have other Fundraising ideas that may benefit RAM, please let us know! Here are our active / scheduled campaigns:

Active Campaigns:

FlipGive – Our campaign runs all year long, click through to get to your shopping needs, you can also get e-Gift cards!

<https://scotiabankhockeyclub.flipgive.com/f/1172093> Download the app, and join our team with code: **YQDJ7F**

Mabel's Labels – Select "Support a Fundraiser". Type in "Richmond Association for Montessori". Shipping is always free!

https://mabelslabels.ca/en_CA/fundraising/support/

Scheduled Campaigns:

Beard Papa Fundraiser – Back by popular demand, we will launch this one soon this Fall. Keep your eyes on our Facebook Page, and look out for an email from the school when dates are available!!

Damien's Waffle Fundraiser – Another one back by popular demand, we have pre-booked this fundraiser for Spring 2022. Stay tuned for March!!



2021-2022 RAM Execs

Chair: Jacqueline Ip (M)

Treasurer: Daphne Yen (S)

Secretary: Aliaa Elkhashab (S)

Social Media / Webmaster:
Sonja Starke (GC), Lydia Liu (S)

Fundraising: Lydia Liu (S),
Winnie Ng (S)

Steves RAM/PAC Liase:
Justine Ross (S)

McKinney RAM/PAC Liase:
open position

Garden City RAM/PAC Liase:
Sonja Starke (GC)

Members at Large: Rika
Motohashi (S), Doris Lin (S),
Fiona Yuen (S), Ivy Ho (M)

ALL MEMBERSHIP
AND CASH DRIVE
FORMS RECEIVED BY
FRIDAY, NOV 12 2021
WILL BE ENTERED
INTO A PRIZE DRAW
FOR A
**\$50 GIFT
CERTIFICATE!!**





RAM MEMBERSHIP AND CASH DRIVE 2021-2022

Who is RAM? If your child is in the Montessori Program, YOU are!

The Richmond Association for Montessori (RAM) is made up of families of Montessori students at *Manoah Steves, Garden City and James McKinney Elementary* schools, who work together with the school district and school administration to support the Montessori program in Richmond. We are uniquely structured to help our children's education!

Why become a RAM Member and stay involved?

- As a registered organization, we maintain annual paid memberships to stay active
- RAM is 100% funded by parents, our memberships and donations benefit our classrooms
- Our funding goes to support additional classroom materials and resources; bursaries for teacher development; and Montessori conferences and workshops

How can you help?

- **Renew / Become a Member of RAM:** \$75/family Membership Fee (no tax receipt on fees)
- **Donate *additional* amount any time:** tax receipts for additional donations of \$10 or more
- **Donate \$200+** and your Membership Fee is **included** (tax receipt for the **full amount**)
- **Attend** RAM meetings or volunteer with us!

*To receive a tax receipt for the 2021 tax year, payment must be made no later than December 31st 2021.
Otherwise, tax receipts will be issued for the 2022 tax year.*

We encourage membership fees and donations to be processed electronically.

For credit card payments, please [click here](#).

For email transfer, please [click here](#).

Similar to last year, we have reduced our income expectations and our budgeted spending.

If you're able, please consider donating with your membership this year.

If you're unable to donate at this time, there are other ways you can support RAM!

Please let us know if you have any additional fundraising ideas!

EARLY BIRD DRAW!

Get your RAM Membership Fees in by **November 12th 2021** and be eligible to win a \$50 Gift Card!



GET INVOLVED THIS YEAR! STAY ENGAGED WITH US!

Support RAM and the Montessori program in Richmond

Become a member and attend a meeting,

visit our **website** www.richmondmontessori.ca,

email us at info@richmondmontessori.ca, or

visit our **Facebook** (RichmondMontessori) page

We have a **WeChat** group (email us for the latest QR code)



RAM Annual Family Membership and Cash Drive 2020-2021

*Print this form ONLY if you are paying by cheque. Send form + cheque back to School.
For **ELECTRONIC PAYMENT**, please click: [Email Transfer](#) or [Credit Card](#)*

Please print clearly: Circle your school; Garden City, Manoh Steves, McKinney

Father's Name (or guardian) _____ Family Name _____

Mother's Name (or guardian) _____ Family Name _____

Home Address _____

Email Address _____

I give permission to be contacted via email by RAM for volunteer opportunities.

My area of interest for volunteer opportunities include: _____

	Grade	Division
Name of Child (1) _____		
Name of Child (2) _____		
Name of Child (3) _____		

for our **RAM Annual Family Membership**, in the amount of \$75, per family.
(Tax receipts cannot be provided for memberships.)

for additional **donation** of \$ _____. (Tax receipts issued for amounts over \$10)

for a **total donation of \$200** or more \$ _____. My Annual Family Membership will be included, and tax receipt will be issued for the **full amount**.

Signature: _____

Your completed form, with cheque payable to **Richmond Association for Montessori**, can be returned to your school.

We have also made electronic payment options available to minimize contact. For email transfers, please fill out [this form](#) and email proceeds to info@richmondmontessori.ca. For credit card payment, please [click here](#). We thank you for your continued support!

Please ensure donations are made no later than December 31st 2021 to be eligible for a 2021 tax receipt. Otherwise, your eligible tax receipt will be issued for 2022.

If you have any questions or clarification, please email us at info@richmondmontessori.ca.