



Diablo Valley Montessori School

May 26, 2022

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Message from Jayne

As we wrap up the 2021-2022 school year, I am filled with gratitude and awe. DVMS is quite simply a beautiful place to be. Your children are respected and cared for by dedicated team of educators who work tirelessly to instill a love of learning. They are present in the children's lives, always observing and guiding their development.

To the children and families who are moving on to their next adventure, we wish you all the very best. Each one has brought something very special to our community. Thank you for being part of DVMS!

To everyone who is returning, in summer or in August, we are excited to see the children continue to grow and thrive. We are also looking forward to more opportunities to build our community through social events and more involvement on campus.

Speaking of parent involvement, last week's newsletter omitted an important piece of information about our Board of Directors. Jennifer Ziman, Marketing and Communications, has completed her service to the DVMS Board. We appreciate the expertise and care Jennifer brought to the Board this year. Thank you!

This week we were reminded yet again of how precious and fragile life is. As a parent and educator my heart breaks when such senseless tragedies occur. Quite honestly, finding the words to accurately express my thoughts is a challenge. Below is a statement

from AMS that touches on some key points that are important to focus on.

I find comfort in being at DVMS. Here we see the best of what humanity has to offer. Maria Montessori was much more than a scientist and educator. A fierce advocate for justice, she firmly believed that through education, people can make the world a better place. Your children learn how to create a more peaceful world every day.

"The child is both a hope and a promise for mankind" - M. Montessori.



With Gratitude,
Jayne

A Statement from the American Montessori Society



May 25, 2022

Dear Montessori community,

I grieve with you.

Yesterday, on May 24, 2022, I sat horrified as news reports came in of another mass shooting in the United States, this time at an elementary school in Uvalde, TX. This comes just 10 days after a mass shooting targeting and killing 10 Black Americans at a grocery store in Buffalo, NY.

I grieve not just as a former classroom teacher or uncle of elementary-aged boys, but as an American citizen who has seen this story play out dozens of times in our country's recent history.

This year will mark the ten year anniversary of Sandy Hook in Newtown, CT, where a gunman murdered 20 children and 7 adults. It's been four years since 14 children and 3 adults were similarly murdered at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, FL. According to a report from NPR, there have been 27 school shootings in 2022. Twenty-seven school shootings. In five months.

The impact of these tragedies extend beyond numbers and statistics. It is our responsibility to not become numb to these stories. It is our responsibility to honor and remember not just the victims, but also the survivors who will hold invisible wounds for the rest of their lives. It is on all of us to fight for legislation that makes this less likely to happen again.

We need to push legislators to stop the scourge of gun violence that allows our students to be murdered in their classrooms, two days before summer vacation is to begin. How many more children must lose their lives in this way? How many more communities must be left to grieve an unspeakable loss? How many more generations of children are we forcing to deal with collective trauma? How many more educators must spend their days worrying about who is walking into the school building and into the classroom?

Enough.

Our hearts are with the Robb Elementary School and Uvalde community. We stand in solidarity with them and with all victims and survivors of gun violence.

Respectfully,

Munir Shivji
AMS Executive Director

To read more about supporting children when the news is scary
[click here](#)

Yearbooks

The 2021-2022 Yearbooks will be available for pick-up this summer. If your child is not attending DVMS during the summer, you will receive an email with details on when to pick your yearbook up.

Thank you to Chelsea McClure and the Yearbook committee for creating a keepsake to treasure!

Important Dates!



May 27-June 1: Teacher Work Days, **no classes**

June 2: IT House, (Sunflower, Poppy and Wildflower), classes back in session

June 6: First day of Buttercup and Preschool summer camps

June 20: Juneteenth (observed) DVMS Closed

July 4: Independence Day DVMS Closed

July 29: Last day of summer sessions and Infant Toddler program

August 9: First day of class 2022-2023 school year

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