

SIC REPORT TO PARENTS

James Simons Montessori School (JSMS) is a Title I school located in downtown Charleston in our beautiful state-of-the-art school. With the celebration of our 100th year during the 2019-2020 School Year, our school was officially named a Montessori school. We have six primary classes, five lower elementary classes, five upper elementary classes, and two 7th and 8th grade middle school classes. It is easy to see that our highly qualified staff is passionate about serving children when you experience our positive, nurturing school environment. Initiatives in place for continued improvement include 21st Century technology enhancements and a rigorous Montessori curriculum designed to meet children at their learning levels and accelerate achievement.

In addition to ensuring our students grow academically, socially and emotionally, our staff is continuously growing professionally as they learn more about the teachings, instructional best practices and philosophy of Dr. Maria Montessori. Our staff's journey to develop personally and professionally is rewarding and enlightening.

Events held this year for our school community were mostly presented virtually due to the pandemic; however, our staff is dedicated to maintaining the same exceptional level of communication and care as we always have. Parent Education Nights, Events included Parent Education Nights, and several Parent Literacy events. Additionally, our staff and students benefited greatly from the many programs sponsored by our community partners such as Rotary Family Member and Student of the Month, Backpack Buddies, and Kids Well Clinic. We greatly appreciate the support of our PTO, School Improvement Council (SIC), Rotary of Charleston, Communities in Schools, Charleston Promise Neighborhood, Friends of James Simons (FOJS) and The Citadel, and many more local businesses. We look forward to our continued collaboration and success.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

*Jennifer Albert
Carmen Hughey
Clifford Brown
Mary Ann Dieter
Beth Dillenkoffer
Aurea Flesher
Kimberly Gleason
Angie Greene
Pamela Kinloch-Heyward, Chair
Carmen Hughey
Chris Ryan
Milissa Stooks
Aaron Whitney*

James Simons Elementary School *A Montessori Focus*



2021 Annual Report To Parents and the Community

Charleston excellence is our standard
County SCHOOL DISTRICT

Fall to Winter 2020-2021 Reading MAP Results: Average Percentiles and W'20 Comparison

	W '20	Fall '20	Winter'21	W '20	Fall '20	Winter'21	
2	-	61	62	6	+	39	40
3	+	58	61	7	/	29	30
4	+	53	54	8	-	27	25
5	+	41	43				

Measures of Academic Progress® (MAP®) creates a personalized assessment experience by adapting to each student's learning level—precisely measuring student progress and growth for each individual. You'll have essential information about what each student knows and is ready to learn within 24 hours. As evidenced by the data, students in grades three through seven have performed better in the area of reading or the data is the same as the previous school year. Providing best practice, engaging opportunities for students to improve their reading skills include the rich Montessori curriculum, guided reading, Open Court curriculum, Million Page Marathon, Accelerated Reader, and a host of events to encourage more reading

