



Welcome to AIA

2026–2027 Parent Welcome Meeting

**Celebrating 45 Years of
AIA**

**Honoring Founder Dixie Oliver
in Her 90th Year**

**Rooted in Montessori. Ready
for the World.**

aiamontessori.com



THE PEOPLE HERE TO SUPPORT YOUR FAMILY

Meet Our Administrative Team

Sarah Prosser

Head of School

Lori Murphy

Admissions Director /
School Administrator

Shweta Parkash

Finance Director

Maegen Flynn

Elementary Office
Administrator

With thanks to the faculty and staff joining us this evening.



OUR TIME TOGETHER

Tonight, We Will...

- Make introductions
- Celebrate AIA's history and look ahead
- Share what is new this year
- Review important back-to-school information
- Highlight key Family Handbook policies
- Preview events and ways to participate and volunteer
- Answer your questions

Warm welcome.
Shared purpose.
Clear information.



INTRODUCTIONS

A Little About Me

- Sarah Prosser, Head of School
- Montessori parent, educator, and school leader
- More than 15 years in Montessori education
- Committed to authentic Montessori practice
- Guided by relationships, communication, and listening
- Honored to begin this new chapter with AIA

Listening first.
Leading with
partnership.



OUR SHARED FOUNDATION

Rooted in Montessori - Shared Foundation

- Every child is known and valued
- Independence grows with responsibility
- Learning follows developmental readiness
- Kindness and respect guide our community
- Families and educators work in partnership

Known. Valued.
Ready to grow.



A MILESTONE YEAR

45 Years of AIA

45

Years of AIA

- A Montessori community since 1981
- Celebrating AIA's history
- Honoring Dixie Oliver's vision
- Celebrating Dixie's 90th birthday
- Carrying AIA's legacy forward



PREPARING FOR THE YEAR AHEAD

A Fresh Start

- Campus cleaning and organization
- Repairs, painting, and landscaping
- Classroom and common-area improvements
- Continued campus care throughout the year
- Redesigned AIA website
- Renaming: Teachers = Guides
- 4772 Campus = Lower School Campus
- 4773 Campus = Upper School Campus

Care for the
environment
reflects care for
children.



GROWING OUR COMMUNITY

What Is New This Year

- New Parent Partnership Committee
- New Family Quick Reference Guide
- Expanded opportunities for connection
- 45th anniversary celebrations
- Possible spring Gala and fundraiser
- After-school activities beginning in late August

More ways to
connect,
contribute, and
celebrate.



Strong Partnerships Begin with Communication

- Begin with your child's Lead Guide
- Contact the School Office for schedules, attendance, and record requests
- Use Finance for tuition and billing questions
- Use Admissions for enrollment matters and administrative questions or concerns
- Contact the Head of School for school-wide concerns or added support
- Communicate directly, respectfully, and through school channels

Clear. Respectful.
Direct.



Arrival, Attendance and Dismissal

Arrival

- Arrive during your program's designated window
- Elementary & Middle School: 8:15–8:30 a.m.
- Pre-Primary & Primary: 8:30–8:45 a.m.
- Notify the Lead Guide and School Office promptly about absences
- Sign in through the office when arriving late

Dismissal

- Send dismissal changes as early as possible
- Pick up within your designated dismissal window
- Pre-Primary & Primary Half Day: 12:00–12:15 p.m.
- Primary Full Day: 2:55–3:10 p.m.
- Elementary & Middle School: 3:05–3:20 p.m.
- Extended Day closes promptly at 5:30 p.m.
- How to sign up for Extended Day: Shweta



Safe Arrival and Pick-Up

- Follow traffic patterns and staff directions
- Drive slowly and remain alert
- Do not use phones while driving on campus
- Remain in the designated carpool line
- Pull forward before fastening seat belts
- Keep authorized pick-up information current

Safety depends on
every driver, every
day.



Keeping Our Community Healthy and Safe

- Keep children home with fever of 100.4°F or higher
- Keep children home after vomiting or diarrhea within 24 hours
- Watch for symptoms of contagious illness
- Keep children home with unexplained rash or contagious eye infection
- Keep children home when illness prevents comfortable participation in school activities
- Text emergency alert system - will send a test message
- Please provide two non-parent emergency contacts

Preparedness is
partnership.



READY FOR THE SCHOOL DAY

Everyday Essentials

- Uniform must be worn Monday–Thursday
- Spirit Wear Fridays only
- Closed-toe, practical shoes
- Clearly labeled belongings
- Nutritious lunch and labeled water bottle
- Classroom-specific snack guidance
- Digital devices remain at home or stored as directed

Prepared children
begin the day with
confidence.



KINDNESS, RESPECT AND RESPONSIBILITY

How We Guide Children

- Grace and Courtesy are explicitly taught
- Guidance is intended to teach
- Children are supported in resolving conflict
- Families are included when concerns arise
- Bullying and harassment are not tolerated
- Protect the dignity and privacy of all children

Dignity guides
discipline.



STRENGTHENING AIA TOGETHER

There Is a Place for Every Family

- Join the Parent Partnership Committee
- Attend events and parent learning opportunities
- Volunteer in a way that fits your family
- Share your culture, talents, or expertise
- Help welcome new families
- Complete eight volunteer hours during the year

Belonging grows
through
participation.



HELP US SHARE AIA

AIA Family Referral Program

- Recommend AIA to a new family and receive a \$100 referral thank-you as a tuition credit
- No limit on the number of referrals
- Applies when the referred family completes enrollment
- Does not apply to siblings of current students
- Personal recommendations make a difference

Your story helps
families discover
AIA.



SHARE YOUR AIA STORY

Help Others Discover AIA

- Write a short testimonial
- Share an honest online review
- Provide a quote for the new website
- Tell others about your AIA experience
- Interested? Please contact Sarah Prosser at sprosser@aiamontessori.com

Authentic parent
voices matter.



COMING THIS FALL

Fall Semester Highlights

- Aug. 11 — Substitute Information Meeting
- Aug. 19 — Coffee & Chat with Mrs. Prosser
- Sept. 11 — AIA Family Picnic @ Webb Bridge Park
- Sept. 18 — International Day of Peace
- Oct. 30 — Fall Festival
- Nov. 4 & 14 — Open Houses
- Nov. 19 — Thanksgiving Feast
- Dec. 3 — Book Fair begins
- Dec. 8–16 — Classroom holiday celebrations

Refer to AIA calendar for full details

Dates and details are subject to change.



OUR SHARED COMMITMENT

Children Thrive When School and Home Work Together

- Trust
- Communication
- Consistency
- Respect
- Partnership

We are honored to
partner with your
family.



QUESTIONS

Questions and Conversation

- Thank you for joining us.
- Sarah Prosser, Head of School
- sprosser@aiamontessori.com
- aiamontessori.com

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