



# Hammer Montessori Foundation

*Promoting Excellence in Public Montessori Education*

Dear Hammer Montessori Foundation Community,

As we reflect on the 2023-2024 fiscal year, we want to share an update on the Hammer Montessori Foundation (HMF)'s financial position and activities in supporting our students, teachers, and families at Hammer Montessori at Galarza Elementary.

**Financial Philosophy and Update:** Our guiding principle at HMF is to reinvest the generous donations from our community and corporate matching programs directly back into our school, while maintaining healthy operational reserves. This approach ensures that we can consistently support our programs and respond to unexpected needs.

Our financial reports linked above show a net income of \$24,146 for this fiscal year, compared to a loss of \$7,955 in the previous year. However, it's important to note that this apparent increase is largely due to timing issues with expense recognition, particularly related to the School District not yet cashing checks for a total of \$21,942 for programs like Starting Arts, Field Trips, and Assemblies.

Key points to consider:

1. While our income decreased slightly from \$85,976 to \$81,861, we managed to maintain strong fundraising efforts.
2. Our reported expenses appear lower (\$57,739 compared to \$93,948 last year), but this is primarily due to the uncashed checks mentioned above (which would have brought this year's expenses to \$79,681) we anticipate these expenses will be reflected in next year's financial statements once the checks are processed.
3. In line with our philosophy, we aim to allocate these funds to enrich our children's educational experience in the coming year.

Fundraising Highlights:

- Increased corporate donations by over \$6,000
- Walk-a-thon raising nearly \$20,000
- T-shirt sales generating over \$7,000, an increase from the previous year
- New events like Parents Night Out and Winter Bazaar, adding to our community-building efforts

**Investments in Education:** True to our mission of reinvesting in our school, we continued our commitment to supporting our teachers and students:

- \$8,417 for Montessori materials
- \$8,130 for supplies and materials
- \$2,550 for teacher appreciation initiatives
- Maintained funding for the Garden program (\$3,000) and Project Cornerstone (\$1,063)

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the parent volunteers, board members, faculty, and supporters who have contributed to HMF's efforts this year. Your generosity and dedication make it possible for us to enrich the educational experience at Hammer Montessori.

As we move forward, we remain committed to transparent financial management and to our mission of enhancing the Montessori experience at Hammer. We invite you to stay engaged, volunteer, and continue supporting our initiatives. Your contributions directly impact our children's education and our school community.

Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to excellence in education.

Warm regards,

Executive Members, Hammer Montessori Foundation

Alicia Vento, President

Kristen Vlietstra, Vice President

Elmer Garduno, Co-Treasurer

Lance Ehrman, Co-Treasurer

Carolyn Huyhn, Secretary