

I want to express my gratitude for this event. Since (*my daughter*) began attending Rock Prairie, I've been hungry for an event exactly like (*this*). Montessori is fantastic, but it can leave us as parents a bit mystified because we can't see what our children are doing all the time, and because even if we are lucky enough to hear from them about what work they're doing, it can be difficult to know what they're talking about unless we have familiarity with some of the materials.

I think the night was invaluable for me. Being able to visit the different classrooms gave me a sense of the school as a whole, what might come next, and a feeling of excitement that our community offers this option for families. Each of the teachers who spoke was eloquent and had interesting and important things to say. Working with the materials themselves made me feel closer to my child and to experience for myself what this multi-sensorial approach really is all about. I took Miss Tracy's advice and thought about what the materials looked like and how they felt in my hands. It was definitely like being a kid again, not distracted by all the things going on in our lives, but focusing just on one experience in that moment. It's kinda Zen, really.

I also really enjoyed hearing the children and parents talk, and address issues that many of us think about, like the Montessori to public transition. That was a powerful part of the night.

Thank you all for doing what you do! I always come away from these nights with a renewed sense of purpose; that I can strive to be a little bit better as a parent: be more patient, do a few more special projects or activities with my children, remember to stop and see things from their perspective.

I give Journey of Discovery two thumbs up!

Dana Murphy