



This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) sets forth the terms and understanding between Acelero Learning - Monmouth/Middlesex (Acelero) and Montessori Public Works (MPW) to provide training and support for the Montessori implementation of (#) Montessori preschool classrooms.

Background

Montessori Public Works (MPW) is a 501c3 nonprofit organization that provides curriculum implementation packages, training and professional development to New Jersey public schools and programs who wish to implement authentic Montessori classrooms.

Acelero Learning - Monmouth/Middlesex (Acelero) is an organization that wishes to implement (#) Montessori preschool classrooms starting in the fall of 2022.

Purpose

This MOU will allow both Partners to collaborate in the implementation of (#) Montessori classrooms at Acelero. The goal of this agreement is to provide clarity around the commitments that both entities make to one another.

MPW believes that effective Montessori classroom implementations require a rigorous Montessori training program and continuing professional support for teachers. Ideal execution also provides learning opportunities for both administrators and parents.

Roles and Responsibilities

1. Teacher Training

1. MPW, in partnership with Rising Tide Montessori Training Center, will provide a two summer (2022-2023), mostly online, self-paced, AMI-accredited training for each lead teacher (140 training hours of which 30 are in October and could be done during in-service days if that is an option available). There will be two weeks of in-person time required per summer (80 hours per summer, 160 total hours). Observation and student teaching requirements will be able to be done in the teacher's own classroom during the school year. Homework/projects also will be given.
2. Acelero will make sure teachers are able to commit to the two year, two summer training course.
3. Acelero will vet teachers to make sure interest and ability are a fit for this training course. Applicants must possess a bachelor's degree, though exceptions will be made by the Rising Tide Director of Training on a case-by-case basis.

2. Classroom Set-Up

1. MPW will provide a complete Montessori materials buying guide.
2. Acelero teachers will have knowledge from the first year of Montessori training to set up their own classrooms.



3. Acelero will work with teachers leading Montessori classrooms on all materials purchasing decisions.
 4. Optional classroom set-up consultations available by MPW free for the first 4 hours and \$45/hour thereafter.
- 3. Parent Orientation**
1. MPW will provide a 2-hour Montessori parent education orientation at a location (or virtual) and time of Acelero's choosing held by an MPW facilitator. This orientation will be free for the first year. After that time, a facilitators' toolkit will be provided for use by the Acelero's master teacher or another administrator. We've found yearly parent orientations to be helpful to the success of Montessori programs. Additional facilitation can be provided by MPW on a fee-for-service basis.
- 4. Teacher Coaching**
1. MPW will provide a Montessori coach once weekly with the new classrooms. Structure and cost of coaching to be determined and need-based subsidies are available.
 2. Acelero agrees after a year of coaching to cover the cost of any mutually agreed upon coaching. Additional coaching can be provided by MPW for \$75/hour.
- 5. Evaluation**
1. Acelero can continue to use it's own assessment tools, but may choose to purchase the DERS, a classroom observation tool that measures environmental and behavioral qualities proven to support outcomes like inhibitory control, working memory, linguistic and cultural fluency social-emotional flexibility (\$195/month purchased directly from the National Center for Montessori in the Public Sector).
 2. Acelero can purchase Transparent Classroom, a popular observation tool used by almost 2000 Montessori schools to help teachers observe and record children's progress over time, see gaps and opportunities in lesson areas, and see patterns of learning across all children.
 3. Acelero will work collaboratively with MPW to receive parental consent to share data with University researchers who, working with MPW, seek to evaluate the effectiveness of the new Montessori classrooms. (More details forthcoming).

Expenses

The costs of the implementation over two years will be shared by Acelero and subsidized through private donations given to Montessori Public Works, a 501c3 nonprofit corporation. After 2023, Acelero assumes responsibilities for costs associated with the curriculum, which are in line with other comprehensive curriculums.

Set-Up Expenses 2022-2023 Per Montessori Classroom



Montessori Public Works

	True Cost	MPW Subsidy	Cost to Acelero	Notes
AMI Training Year 1: 2022: Training Costs	\$5,000	TBD	TBD	Per teacher.
AMI Training Cost Year 2: 2023: Training Costs	\$5,000	TBD	TBD	Per teacher
New Classroom All Materials: 2022	\$25,000.00	\$8,500	TBD	Cost intended to be equivalent to other curriculum set-up (\$16,500).
Administrator Orientation	TBD	TBD	TBD	
Parent Orientation	TBD	TBD	TBD	
Weekly Coaching	TBD	TBD	TBD	
TOTALS				

Duration

This MOU is at-will and may be modified by mutual consent of authorized officials from MPW and Acelero at any time. This MOU shall become effective upon signature by the authorized officials from MPW and Acelero and will remain in effect until modified or terminated by any one of the partners by mutual consent.

Commitment to Partnership

Montessori Public Works and Acelero have read and agree with this MOU. Further, both partners have reviewed the information in this MOU and approved it.

Contact Information

MPW name: _____ Position: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Organization name: _____ Position: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Partner Authorized Signatures



Montessori Public Works

MPW Signature: _____ MPW Name: _____

Title: _____ Date: _____

Organization Signature: _____ Organization Name:

Title: _____ Date: _____