

Friday, May 24, 2019

Geiger/Bryant Preschool Families,

As previously communicated, we have your child on the waitlist our preschool program for next school year. Due to the current financial shortfall of the district, we have had to rethink our tuition cost. The Tacoma Public Schools Board has approved an increase in our tuition from \$650 per month to \$850 per month for the 2019-2020 school year.

Rationale

The preschool tuition cost has remained stable for the past **10** years, even as staffing and other costs have risen. The \$650 per month can no longer cover staff costs and doesn't contribute to other Montessori schools' operations. Both schools no longer have the funding a Montessori school requires for unique staff training and learning materials, and the district is no longer able to supplement the programs as it has in the past. It is also important to note that at \$850 per month, both schools offer a preschool experience that is still below the cost of neighboring Montessori schools and offers an education that exceeds any comparably priced program.

What we need from you

Families, we recognize that this is a major change in your family's budget, and we understand if you are not able to commit to paying \$850 per month for the full school year. We ask you to consider your family finances and decide if your family can meet this new level of tuition. We ask that you notify your school's office staff by June 7 whether would like to keep your spot on the waitlist for next year. All families will be notified of openings as they are made available.

- If you are not able to pay \$850 each month next year, we will refund any tuition payment that you may have made. (Please note that the \$25 administrative cost will not be refunded.)
- If you wish to continue to hold a seat for your child for next school year, please call the school to arrange payment of the \$850 for last month tuition payment for June 2020.
- If you have already paid \$650 for June 2020, please call the school to arrange payment of the additional \$200.

Questions

Both schools will hold open meetings for questions and answers to help you understand our circumstances and to decide whether you can commit to our program for next year. You are welcome to attend the night for your school. Each school will hold an information night on Tuesday, June 4 starting at 6:30 p.m. at the respective school.

Families, we understand that this increase will come at substantial sacrifice for your family. We understand that some of you may not be able to continue with us, and we sincerely hope that all of you are able.

Sincerely,

