



Parent Contract of Commitment 2023-2024

I have made a personal decision to enroll my child in St. Augustine Public Montessori School (SAPMS), a public charter school. In consideration of that, I agree to honor the Parent Contract of Commitment. By doing so I acknowledge that I am an important part of my child's whole life education working in partnership with the faculty and staff at SAPMS.

This is an agreement between the school and the family stating the terms of the family's commitment to be fully involved in their child's education at the school. Such involvement will include, but not be limited to parent education, volunteer hours, and responsibility for knowing and following school policies. SAPMS families must be willing to make an extraordinary commitment to their child's education. Commitment to St. Augustine Public Montessori School's mission and educational philosophy manifests itself in the signing of this Contract of Commitment.

It is necessary for parents and educators to unite together to create a healthy, enriching and stimulating environment for children. Without this drive to foster the child's development and to encourage her to reach her full potential, alternative public schools such as St. Augustine Public Montessori School would not exist; nor would the genius of the work of Dr. Montessori herself. Montessori education takes true dedication on the part of the school as well as the family. The school aims to make our expectations and promises clear and understood. Upon enrollment, the school asks the families of our children to read and accept the terms of this Contract of Commitment.

Documentation of Service Hours

Service hours may not be converted to monetary donations. It is understood that all families must perform the required number of volunteer hours, and must provide a record of their service to the school. Sign-in sheets will be available at each event.

Enforceability

Consistent with F.S. 1002.33(10)(e)5, the Contract of Commitment is enforceable under Florida law, and failure of a parent or legal guardian to uphold or fulfill their responsibilities under said contract would be sufficient grounds for denial of admission to the school the following year. As a public school of choice, St. Augustine Public Montessori School relies on a strong home-to-school connection for the success of its program. Failure on the part of the family to uphold the Contract of Commitment jeopardizes not only the school's overall performance, but may affect the child's educational potential as well. Families will be notified in writing of the consequence for nonfulfillment of the Contract of Commitment, which is to return to the student's zoned school or placement on the waitlist to determine enrollment for the coming school year. A parent or legal guardian may request benevolence from the Charter Board of Directors, who will address cases of hardship on a case-by-case basis.

As a parent/guardian I agree to the following:

- I will attend the Montessori Parent Orientation.
- I will attend at least 2 of 3 Community Meetings and make the time to attend school events.
- I will attend at least 4 of 10 Parent Education events.
- I will give 20 hours of volunteer time to the school, 5 of which are served in supporting the school fundraising.
- I am aware of the attendance policy and ensure my child arrives at school on time.
- I will support my child's participation in service learning and school outings.
- I will communicate with my child's teacher in a timely fashion.
- I will support my child's learning by fulfilling all of our responsibilities, including reading all school communications.
- I have read and acknowledge the Community Handbook policies.
- I will abide by the guidelines set by the board of trustees which are designed for smooth operation including the SJCSD Code of Conduct and SAPMS Community Handbook.

Family Code of Conduct

At SAPMS it is our primary objective to offer a high quality Montessori program in a collaborative, nurturing setting where everyone is treated with respect. Administration, staff, and families agree to the following:

- Listen to one another;
- Avoid interrupting classes during instructional hours;
- Schedule parent conferences/phone calls to avoid discussions at pick-up and drop-off;
- Be respectful when giving input;
- Focus on positive action and conflict resolution; and
- Show appreciation for one another by treating everyone with courtesy.

Student Information Release

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age certain rights with respect to a student's education records. Parents who object to the release of Directory Information must notify the school annually in writing within 30 days following registration. SAPMS will not release photos, video, or directory information to third parties except where required by law.

As Parent(s)/guardian(s) of the above named student, I/we understand and agree to the above Contract of St. Augustine Public Montessori School. I/we understand that failure to comply with the Contract of Commitment may lead to my child's dismissal from SAPMS.