

Annual Education Results Report for 2007/08

Message from the Board Chair:

In Montessori environments, children are rarely exposed to formal testing situations. Learning is tracked and ensured with a broad array of assessment alternatives, which are integral to the program. The basic philosophy of setting the children up for success, the child's role in their own learning process, and enabling them to experience mastery before advancing to the next concept is closely observed, guided, and tracked by the teachers. Demonstration of skills through project work, determining relevance through integration of subject matter, and reinforcement through peer teaching, further ensures that concepts are thoroughly understood. Montessori also focuses on many personal development skills which are not assessed in standardized tests, to help ensure opportunities for the children to display their unique characteristics and enhance life skills.

Our parents understand that with this natural assessment and progression, formal marks are not a logical method of evaluation. Montessori philosophy relies on anecdotal remarks and checklists to communicate each child's progress. We understand the need to be accountable on a broader scale, however, and view the achievement tests as a means of determining strengths, areas for improvement, monitoring trends and capturing the global perspective of our programs.

As 2007/2008 was our inaugural year, we did not have any Grade 6 students, and few Grade 3 students, to write exams. The next few years will be a period of growth, with larger communities in each grade level, and a full elementary program. As we build statistically relevant data, and years of reference, we are confident that our results will reflect the quality and goals of our programs.

Accountability Statement:

The annual education results report for Maria Montessori Education Centre the 2007/08 school year was prepared under the direction of the Board of Directors in accordance with the responsibilities under the *School Act* and the *Government Accountability Act*. The Board is committed to using the results in this report, to the best of our abilities, to improve outcomes for our students. We will use the results to develop sound strategies for our three-year education plan to ensure that all our students can acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes they need to be self-reliant, responsible, caring and contributing members of society.



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Highlights for the Previous School Year of the Private School Authority's Accomplishments:

Founded in 2007, Maria Montessori Education Centre is currently beginning its second year of operations. We had a successful and exciting first year with a great deal of learning taking place. We began with two classrooms and children ranging in age from 3 years old to 10 years old. In our first year our ECS aged students received government funding which aided us in employing ECS teaching staff and purchasing high quality Montessori materials for exploration and learning.

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Goal One: High Quality Learning Opportunities for All

Outcome 1.1: Schools provide a safe and caring environment for students.

Performance Measure		Results (in percentages)					Target
		2003/04*	2004/05*	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2007/08
Percentages of teachers, parents and students who agree that students are safe at school, are learning the importance of caring for others, are learning respect for others and are treated fairly at school.	Overall						if set
	Teachers						if set
	Parents						if set
	Students						if set
Comment on Results	Graph of Overall Jurisdiction Results (optional)						
As a new school we have no trend data, but will be using the Alberta Education survey, as developed, towards the end of this school year. We have transitioned to the 70% funding accountability measures, including the provincially developed survey.							

* if available

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Outcome 1.2: *The education system meets the needs of all K – 12 students, society and the economy.*

Performance Measure		Results (in percentages)					Target
		2003/04*	2004/05*	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2007/08
Percentages of teachers, parents and students satisfied with the opportunity for students to receive a broad program of studies, including fine arts, career, technology, and health and physical education.	Overall						if set
	Teachers						if set
	Parents						if set
	Students						if set
Comment on Results	Graph of Overall Jurisdiction Results (optional)						
As a new school we have no trend data, but will be using the Alberta Education survey, as developed, towards the end of this school year. We have transitioned to the 70% funding accountability measures, including the provincially developed survey.							optional

* if available

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Outcome 1.2: *The education system meets the needs of all K – 12 students, society and the economy. (continued)*

Performance Measure		Results (in percentages)					Target	
		2003/04*	2004/05*	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2007/08	
Percentages of teachers, parents and students satisfied with the overall quality of basic education.	Overall						if set	
	Teachers						if set	
	Parents						if set	
	Students						if set	
Comment on Results	Graph of Overall Jurisdiction Results (optional)							
As a new school we have no trend data, but will be using the Alberta Education survey, as developed, towards the end of this school year. We have transitioned to the 70% funding accountability measures, including the provincially developed survey.								optional

* if available

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Performance Measure		Results (in percentages)					Target
		2003/04*	2004/05*	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2007/08
Percentages of teachers, parents and students satisfied with the accessibility, effectiveness and efficiency of programs and services for students in their community.	Overall						if set
	Teachers						if set
	Parents						if set
	Students						if set
Comment on Results	Graph of Overall Jurisdiction Results (optional)						
As a new school we have no trend data, but will be using the Alberta Education survey, as developed, towards the end of this school year. We have transitioned to the 70% funding accountability measures, including the provincially developed survey.							

* if available

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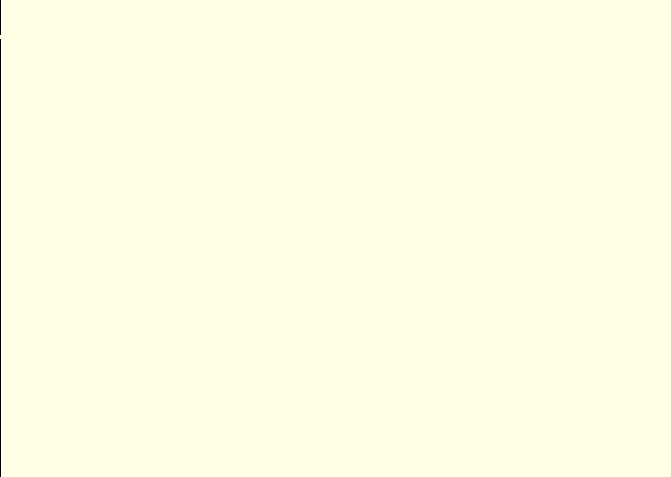
Outcome 1.3: *Children at risk have their needs addressed through effective programs and supports.*

Performance Measure	Results (in percentages)					Target
	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
Annual dropout rate of students aged 14 to 18 (for private schools with junior and senior high school programs)	Private School					if set
	Province	5.5	5.3	5.0	4.7	5.0

Comment on results

As a new school we have no trend data, but will be using the Alberta Education survey, as developed, towards the end of this school year. We have transitioned to the 70% funding accountability measures, including the provincially developed survey.

Graph of Overall Jurisdiction Results (optional)



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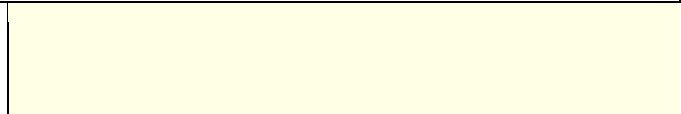
Performance Measure	Results (in percentages)					Target
	2003/04*	2004/05*	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2007/08
Percentages of teachers, parents and students who agree that programs for children at risk are easy to access and timely <i>(required for K-9 private schools and optional for high school programs.)</i>	Overall					if set
	Teachers					if set
	Parents					if set
	Students					if set
Comment on Results	Graph of Overall Jurisdiction Results (optional)					
As a new school we have no trend data, but will be using the Alberta Education survey, as developed, towards the end of this school year. We have transitioned to the 70% funding accountability measures, including the provincially developed survey.						

* if available

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Outcome 1.4: Students complete programs.

Performance Measure	Results (in percentages)					Target
	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
High school completion rates: percentages of students who completed high school within 3, 4 and 5 years of entering Grade 10. (high school programs).	Within 3 years:					if set
	Private School					
	Province	67.8	69.3	70.4	70.4	71.0%
	Within 4 years:					if set
	Private School					
	Province	72.3	73.4	75.1	76.2	76.3%
	Within 5 years:					if set
	Private School					
	Province	75.2	75.5	77.4	78.6	79.5%



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Comment on Results

As a new school we have no trend data, but will be using the Alberta Education survey, as developed, towards the end of this school year. We have transitioned to the 70% funding accountability measures, including the provincially developed survey.

Graph of Overall Jurisdiction Results (optional)

Also report results on all private school Goal One Measures from the School's Three-Year Education Plan 2007/08-2009/10 in relation to Goal 1 outcomes and targets for 2007/08. Minimum one year of results – private schools are encouraged to provide multi-year results for trend analysis.

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Goal Two: Excellence in Student Learning Outcomes

Outcome 2.1: Students demonstrate high standards.

Performance Measure		Results (in percentages)					Target
Percentages of students who achieve the acceptable standard, and the percentages who achieve the standard of excellence on Grades 3, 6 and 9 Provincial Achievement Tests (cohort results required, reporting results for writers is optional). – elementary/junior high school programs		A E*	A E*	A E*	A E*	A E*	A E*
		2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2007/08
Grade 3							
Language Arts	Private School						
	Province	81.7 15.1	82.2 16.2	81.3 14.1	80.3 17.7	80.1 16.1	
Mathematics	Private School						
	Province	81.8 27.4	80.3 26.1	82.0 26.9	79.9 23.5	78.7 23.9	
Grade 6							
Language Arts	Private School						
	Province	79.1 15.5	77.3 15.5	79.0 15.9	80.3 19.8	81.1 21.0	
Français	Private School						
	Province	92.8 18.1	92.0 22.8	94.5 19.7	93.0 18.0	94.3 17.1	

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French Language	Private School						
	Province	88.5 12.8	85.1 8.8	87.5 11.2	88.1 11.0	87.7 14.2	
Arts	Private School						
	Province						
Mathematics	Private School						
	Province	78.5 21.2	78.2 18.1	75.2 15.6	74.0 14.5	74.6 15.9	
Science	Private School						
	Province	80.6 26.3	79.8 26.0	78.1 27.7	75.2 26.6	74.8 24.1	
Social Studies	Private School						
	Province	78.6 19.7	78.4 21.5	78.6 22.9	77.4 22.3	77.9 23.8	
Grade 9							
Language Arts	Private School						
	Province	77.6 12.4	77.9 14.1	77.4 13.6	77.5 14.8	76.5 14.8	
Français	Private School						
	Province	85.6 15.4	87.2 17.4	86.1 14.7	81.6 12.6	84.8 11.7	
French Language	Private School						

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Arts	Province	83.4 11.7	85.9 13.6	83.3 10.9	81.3 12.9	84.5 12.4	
Mathematics	Private School						
	Province	66.1 18.9	68.0 19.7	67.4 17.4	66.3 18.3	65.7 18.5	
Science	Private School						
	Province	66.6 12.1	67.5 12.8	67.4 13.3	69.6 14.7	69.3 13.0	
Social Studies	Private School						
	Province	73.1 20.0	71.3 18.9	72.5 18.3	71.4 18.7	71.7 18.9	
Overall**	Private School						
	Province	77.6 19.5	77.2 19.4	77.1 19.2	75.9 19.4	75.8 19.6	

* "A" = Acceptable; "E" = Excellence — the percentages achieving the acceptable standard include the percentages achieving the standard of excellence.

** Overall results exclude Science 9.

In 2007-08 (our first year of operations) we had four grade 3 students write Provincial Achievement Tests. As our number of students writing is less than six, we are not able to report on the PAT results.

Graph of Overall School Results (optional)

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Outcome 2.1: Students demonstrate high standards. (continued)

Performance Measure		Results (in percentages)					
Percentages of students who achieve the acceptable standard and the percentages who achieve the standard of excellence on diploma examinations - high school programs		A E*	A E*	A E*	A E*	A E*	Target A E*
		2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2007/08
English 30-1	Private School						if set
	Province	92.0 18.8	89.1 17.8	88.0 19.3	87.7 19.0	87.1 15.5	
English 30-2	Private School						if set
	Province	85.2 7.1	89.4 10.1	86.1 8.1	88.7 9.7	88.9 8.8	
Français 30	Private School						if set
	Province	99.0 15.2	95.0 16.3	94.8 28.1	97.2 24.6	98.5 25.4	
French Language Arts 30	Private School						if set
	Province	95.4 16.7	95.1 19.1	95.0 21.8	95.6 23.1	94.9 24.5	
Social Studies 30	Private School						required
	Province	85.9 23.8	85.2 24.3	85.5 23.9	86.1 24.6	84.7 21.5	
Social Studies 33	Private School						required

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Pure Math 30	Province	82.9 15.0	85.0 17.6	83.5 19.0	84.8 19.6	85.3 18.9	
	Private School						required
Applied Math 30	Province	83.7 32.0	80.6 25.7	82.8 26.5	81.1 24.6	81.3 25.8	
	Private School						if set
Biology 30	Province	85.5 14.3	87.6 21.8	77.5 11.8	77.6 12.1	76.3 10.7	
	Private School						if set
Chemistry 30	Province	81.9 26.6	81.9 26.6	81.4 26.4	83.5 27.4	82.3 26.3	
	Private School						required
Physics 30	Province	85.7 27.9	88.2 33.4	88.4 37.1	89.3 37.9	89.2 39.2	
	Private School						required
Science 30	Province	86.6 29.8	84.2 27.8	84.4 30.0	86.1 29.3	85.7 32.0	
	Private School						if set
	Province	84.3 16.5	88.1 22.1	82.8 17.3	87.1 18.0	88.6 21.6	

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Overall	Private School						if set
	Province	85.8 22.2	85.7 23.0	84.7 23.0	85.4 23.3	85.0 22.3	

* "A" = Acceptable; "E" = Excellence — the percentages achieving the acceptable standard include the percentages achieving the standard of excellence.

<p>In 2007-08 (our first year of operations) we had four grade 3 students write Provincial Achievement Tests. As our number of students writing is less than six, we are not able to report on the PAT results.</p>	<p>Graph of Overall School Results (optional)</p>
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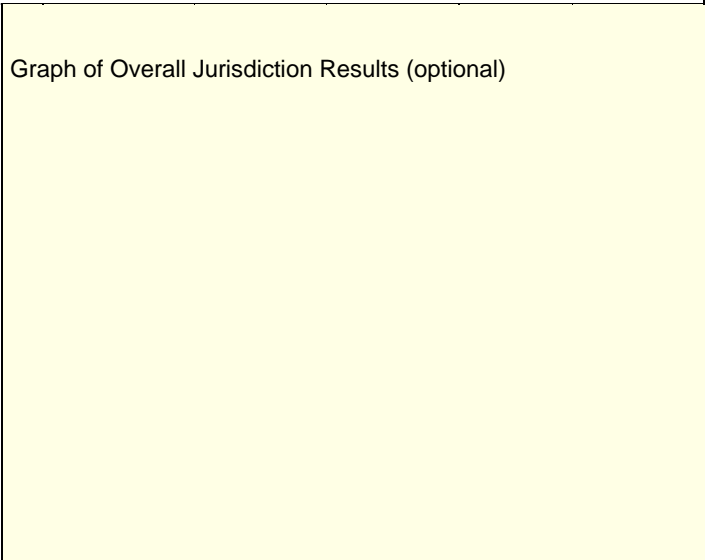
Outcome 2.1: Students demonstrate high standards. (continued)

Performance Measure		Results (in percentages)					Target
		2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
Diploma examination participation rate: percentages of students who have written four or more diploma exams by the end of their third year in high school (for high school programs).	Private School						if set
	Province	51.4	52.4	53.5	53.7	53.6	

Comment on results

In 2007-08 (our first year of operations) we had four grade 3 students write Provincial Achievement Tests. As our number of students writing is less than six, we are not able to report on the PAT results.

Graph of Overall Jurisdiction Results (optional)



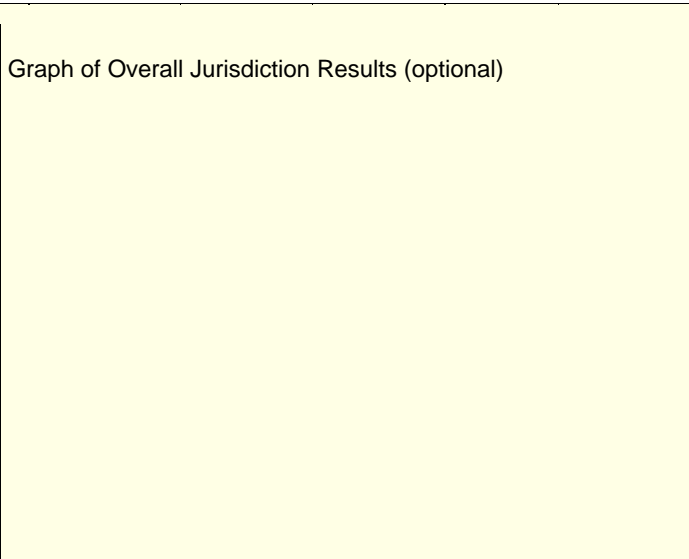
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Performance Measure	Results (in percentages)					Target
	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
Percentages of Grade 12 students who meet the Rutherford Scholarship eligibility criteria - high school programs.	Private School					if set
	Province	32.5	33.8	35.3	37.2	38.2

Comment on results

In 2007-08 (our first year of operations) we had four grade 3 students write Provincial Achievement Tests. As our number of students writing is less than six, we are not able to report on the PAT results.

Graph of Overall Jurisdiction Results (optional)



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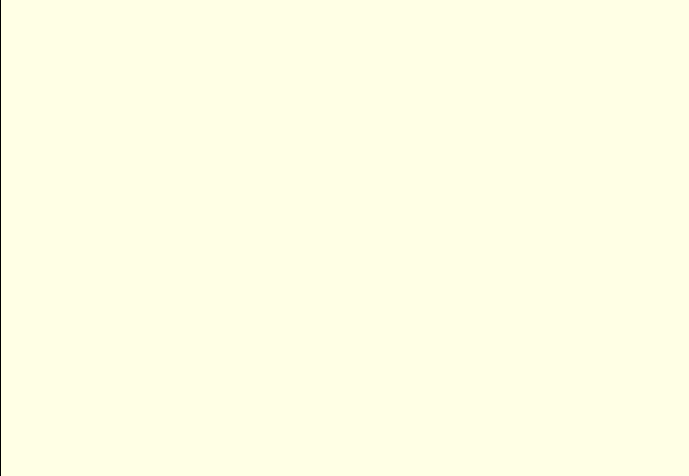
Outcome 2.2: Students are well prepared for lifelong learning.

Performance Measure	Results (in percentages)					Target
	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
High school to post-secondary transition rate within four and six years of entering Grade 10 (high school programs).	Within 4 years:					
	Private School					if set
	Province	32.8	34.0	37.0	39.5	40.7
	Within 6 years:					
	Private School					if set
	Province	51.5	54.4	57.5	59.5	60.3

Comment on results

As a new school we have no trend data, but will be using the Alberta Education survey, as developed, towards the end of this school year. We have transitioned to the 70% funding accountability measures, including the provincially developed survey.

Graph of Overall Jurisdiction Results (optional)



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Performance Measure		Results (in percentages)					Target
		2003/04*	2004/05*	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2007/08
Percentages of teachers and parents satisfied that high school graduates demonstrate the knowledge and skills for lifelong learning (required for K – 9 private schools and optional for high school programs).	Overall						if set
	Teachers						if set
	Parents						if set
	Students						if set
As a new school we have no trend data, but will be using the Alberta Education survey, as developed, towards the end of this school year. We have transitioned to the 70% funding accountability measures, including the provincially developed survey.		Graph of Overall Jurisdiction Results (optional)					optional

* if available

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Outcome 2.3: Students are well prepared for employment.

Performance Measure		Results (in percentages)					Target
		2003/04*	2004/05*	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2007/08
Percentages of teachers and parents who agree that students are taught attitudes and behaviours that will make them successful at work when they finish school.	Overall						if set
	Teachers						if set
	Parents						if set
	Students						if set
Comment on Results	Graph of Overall Jurisdiction Results (optional)						
As a new school we have no trend data, but will be using the Alberta Education survey, as developed, towards the end of this school year. We have transitioned to the 70% funding accountability measures, including the provincially developed survey.							

* if available

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Outcome 2.4: Students model the characteristics of active citizenship.

Performance Measure		Results (in percentages)					Target
		2003/04*	2004/05*	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2007/08
Percentages of teachers, parents and students who are satisfied that students model the characteristics of active citizenship.	Overall						if set
	Teachers						if set
	Parents						if set
	Students						if set
Comment on Results	Graph of Overall Jurisdiction Results (optional)						
As a new school we have no trend data, but will be using the Alberta Education survey, as developed, towards the end of this school year. We have transitioned to the 70% funding accountability measures, including the provincially developed survey.							

* if available Also report results on all private school Goal Two Measures from the school's Three-Year Education Plan 2007/08-2009/10 in relation to Goal 2 outcomes and targets for 2007/08. Minimum one year of results – private schools are encouraged to provide multi-year results for trend analysis.

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Goal Three: Highly Responsive and Responsible Private Schools

Outcome 3.1: *The private school demonstrates improved results through effective working relationships with partners and stakeholders.*

Performance Measure		Results (in percentages)					Target
		2003/04*	2004/05*	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2007/08
Teacher and parent satisfaction with parental involvement in decisions about their child's education.	Overall						if set
	Teachers						if set
	Parents						if set
							optional
Comment on Results	Graph of Overall Jurisdiction Results (optional)						
As a new school we have no trend data, but will be using the Alberta Education survey, as developed, towards the end of this school year. We have transitioned to the 70% funding accountability measures, including the provincially developed survey.							

* if available

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Outcome 3.2: The private school demonstrates leadership and continuous improvement.

Performance Measure		Results (in percentages)					Target
		2003/04*	2004/05*	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2007/08
Percentages of teachers and parents indicating that their school has improved or stayed the same in the last three years.	Overall						if set
	Teachers						if set
	Parents						if set
							optional
Comment on Results	Graph of Overall Jurisdiction Results (optional)						
As a new school we have no trend data, but will be using the Alberta Education survey, as developed, towards the end of this school year. We have transitioned to the 70% funding accountability measures, including the provincially developed survey.							

* if available

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Performance Measure	Results (in percentages)*					Target
	2003/04*	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2007/08
<p>Percentages of teachers reporting that in the past 3-5 years, the professional development and in-servicing received from the school authority has been focused, systematic and contributed significantly to their ongoing professional growth.</p> <p>Teachers</p>						if set
<p>Comment on Results</p> <p>As a new school we have no trend data, but will be using the Alberta Education survey, as developed, towards the end of this school year. We have transitioned to the 70% funding accountability measures, including the provincially developed survey.</p>	<p>Graph of Overall Jurisdiction Results (optional)</p>					

* if available

Also report results on all other school authority Goal Three Measures from the Three-Year Education Plan 2007/08-2009/10 in relation to Goal 3 outcomes and targets for 2007/08. Minimum one year of results – the school is encouraged to provide multi-year results for trend analysis.



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Future Challenges:

Facility – Within the next 1-2 years we are planning a transition from a shared facility to one of our own. This will have modest financial implications as the lease amount will increase slightly and there will be tenant improvements needed to the site. At the same time, we will have a higher degree of facility stability and the site will be renovated with the Montessori philosophy and the specific needs and ages of our students in mind.

Staffing – Finding dual certified Alberta and Montessori teaching staff is always a challenge. We have begun Montessori training with one B.Ed. staff member, and continue to advertise, hire, and train with the long term staffing needs of the school in mind.

Curriculum Connections – The work is ongoing at MMEC to ensure full integration of the Montessori Cosmic Curriculum and the Alberta Program of Studies. As the Program of studies is updated, our staff meet to discuss quality implementation to ensure all students are able to meet their fullest potential.

Summary of Financial Results:

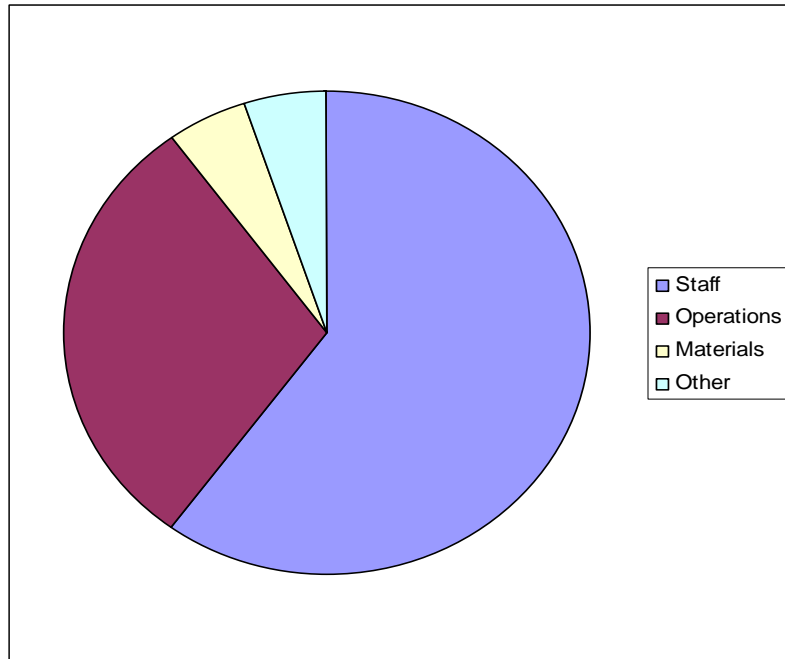
Maria Montessori Education Centre is a not-for-profit corporation. The school programs operate with standard government funding supplemented by shareholder loans from the corporation, and a low tuition charge. In 2008/09 we qualify to receive government grants for all school aged children to enable us to keep our tuition low. We will fundraise as a means of keeping tuition at a minimum.

Guiding principles used in financial planning include the following:

- To provide a quality Montessori program for Calgary's children and their families regardless of economic means. We therefore offer as low tuition as possible.
- It is fundamental to our program to have skilled teachers with accredited Montessori training. In order to recruit and maintain appropriate teachers and support staff, we must offer competitive salaries and benefit packages

2007/08 was our first year of operations. As such there are no financial changes over previous years. Our Audited Financial Statements show:

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Alberta Education	\$19,638
Other Government of Alberta	\$0
Federal Government and/or First Nations	\$0
Other Alberta school authorities	\$0
Instructional fees/Tuition fees	\$219,860
Non-instructional fees (O&M **, Transportation, Admin, etc.)	\$10,040
Other sales and services	\$22,286
Interest on investments	\$3
Gifts and donations	\$26,097
Net school generated funds	\$0
Amortization of capital allocations	\$0
Other (specify):	\$14,156
Total Revenues	\$312,80

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Salaries and Benefits	\$302,117
Services, contracts and supplies	\$199,737
Net school generated funds	\$14,156
Capital and debt services	
Amortization of capital assets	\$5,964
Interest on capital debt	\$0
Other interest charges	\$7,019
Losses (gains) on disposal of capital assets	\$0
Other (specify):	
Total Expenses	\$528,993

Further information regarding the 3 Year Educational Plan, Audited Financial Statements, and Budget Report are available at mmec.ca or by contacting the school at info@mmec.ca or (403) 668-8538.

The Maria Montessori Education Centre Annual Education Results Report is available at mmec.ca, or by contacting the school at info@mmec.ca or (403) 668-8538.

Parents are informed of the location of the Maria Montessori Education Centre Annual Education Results Report in the December and June newsletters, and at the December and June Parents' Community meetings and fall AGM.