



The Campaign for Hershey Montessori School: *Inspiring global citizens from birth through 18 years*





Montessori education is a time-tested, scientifically validated, alternative education method. This child-centered approach is based upon human development and allows every child to learn at an individualized pace. Advanced academic concepts are introduced through hands-on materials in carefully prepared environments that create a community setting founded on respect. Through the Montessori environment, children develop a strong sense of confidence, self-motivation, creativity, perseverance, self-discipline,

integrity, and a love of learning. Children who complete many years of Montessori become leaders, entrepreneurs, creators, and pursue their passions. They care for their environment and their communities and are happy and good at what they do no matter what path they choose.

Sharing the fundamental concepts of this effective and pertinent education system with educators and professionals increases the opportunity for more students from all over the world to be better prepared for today's vastly changing global economic landscape.





AN ANSWER TO TODAY'S EDUCATION CRISIS

In response to the crisis in today's mainstream education system, there is global interest in redesigning the standard education model. The goal is to better prepare students for the challenges they face today and will face tomorrow: in college, in the workplace and in life. Trends in education today, such as project based learning, individualized learning plans and developing soft skills, are now highly desired formats that foster creativity and personal skills with greater career-readiness outcomes. These

instructional approaches have been successfully integrated world-wide in the Montessori approach to education for over 100 years.

Employing this proven and effective system, Hershey Montessori School offers a solution to the education challenges that face our world today. Hershey Montessori School is positioned to expand its unique, world-class program to include older adolescents from ages 15–18 years. All programmatic aspects are replicable and are eagerly

sought after globally. Hershey Montessori School will continue to share information, host intensive programs for educators, and with the success of this campaign, will offer one of the world's first fully realized Montessori schools from birth through 18 years with a land-based residential option for students 12–18 years of age. The vast potential benefits of this endeavor will impact education for students locally, nationally and globally.

- » **Hershey Montessori School** is a pioneer in adolescent education, opening one of the world's first fully realized adolescent programs that most closely replicates Dr. Maria Montessori's vision of a residential component on a working farm
- » A world destination school; Almost half of the middle school students come from other states or foreign countries
- » Educators from all over the world have replicated programs or modeled their schools after Hershey Montessori School
- » In addition to ad hoc visits from educators to both campuses, for the past 12 years Hershey Montessori School hosts the annual AMI (Association Montessori Internationale) Montessori Orientation to Adolescent Studies. Waiting lists are common for the 60 seats. In 2015, 24 states and 10 countries were represented
- » 100% of students completing the program have gone on to pursue life careers. 92% attend college or professional programs. The other 8% excel in their chosen careers such as: chefs, race car engineers, and professions in the arts
- » **Parent-Infant Program:** Hershey Montessori School developed a very effective and popular outreach to parents of newborns which fosters and supports healthy attachments
- » High quality Montessori programs for infants, toddlers, preschool and elementary-aged children at the Concord Campus, and for adolescents at the Huntsburg Campus, provide a seamless response to the developmental continuum of a student's needs as they grow

HERSHEY MONTESSORI SCHOOL'S STORY

Hershey Montessori School opened in 1978 as Western Reserve Montessori School. The school has continued a strategic and deliberate path of growth. In 1989, the school opened the building that anchors what is now the Concord Campus for children from birth to 12 years. In 1996 the 7th and 8th grade were added. By 1999 Hershey Montessori was serving students from birth through age 14 and included an innovative *Parent-Infant Program* which provides indispensable support for parents and infants during an important formative period of life. This extremely popular and beneficial program is being considered for expansion to be accessible to more families in the future.

In 2000, Hershey Montessori School **opened one of the world's first Montessori adolescent programs that includes a residential component on a farm**, and remains the closest replication of Dr. Maria Montessori's vision. The 97-acre campus in Huntsburg, Ohio serves both day students who live locally and boarding students, 50% of which hail from throughout the United States and other countries, such as Mexico, Germany and Australia. Hershey Montessori School's Adolescent Community is now a world destination school due to its excellent reputation and unique developmental approach.

As a global-model school, in 2003 Hershey Montessori School's staff began providing leadership and guidance as the programming site for AMI (Association Montessori Internationale) Montessori Orientation to Adolescent Studies. In 2008, the Huntsburg campus was expanded to include a new community center to accommodate the growing needs of students and staff. In 2014, in response to local, global, educator and student demand, the school's board approved the addition of the high school, which will complete the continuum from birth through 18 years.





COMPLETING THE CONTINUUM

Building the world's first fully realized Montessori school from birth to 18 years of age that includes a land-based residential option for adolescents

At this time, spurred by great demand from students, families and educators from all over the world, Hershey Montessori School will add a high school. The newly created state-approved curriculum offers rigorous academic study. The older students will benefit from adult-like work of production and exchange that fully prepares them for

real world experience. They will also engage in challenges faced by the local community such as land preservation and development, sustainable use of natural resources, examining population shifts, supporting the local economy, entrepreneurship, and managing sustainable food sources. These elements are all applicable to critical global issues we face today.

Investing in Hershey Montessori School will allow us to continue to foster excellent academic programming and holistic personal development by adhering to the vision set forth by Dr. Maria Montessori beginning with the Parent-Infant Program and completing the Adolescent Program.

THE IMPACT

Upon completion of the capital campaign, Hershey Montessori School will represent one of the world's first fully realized Montessori schools to serve a complete continuum for infants through 18 years of age with a land-based residential option for students age 12 -18 years. **The potential gains students will realize from this endeavor are unprecedented.**

Presently, over 500 schools have modeled their programs from Hershey Montessori School's program. The information to be garnered from the new high school will also be shared with educators and replicated to benefit children all over the world. This is an accolade not only for the region but for our educational system in the United States and abroad.





CHIARA HILSON
Current Tenth Grade Student

“ I was raised in a Montessori family on the Gold Coast and Cairns, Australia. From when I was very young I always wanted to attend Hershey. I knew about it even in Australia. When I go home I appreciate how well prepared I am for my life in the future and how ready I will be to start a life in the great big world. I hope there can be more Montessori middle schools and high schools in the world so that more young people can learn in their own way, follow their own path. Hershey is helping to make that happen. ”



ANDREW YARGER
*Hershey Montessori School Alumnus, Board Member,
Partner at Thrasher, Dinsmore, Dolan Law*

“ College and law school were easy for me because I love learning, and I love learning because I went to Hershey Montessori school. Not only does Hershey Montessori give students the tools they need to be self-motivated learners, it also invests them with a curiosity and a passion for exploration which will propel them throughout their lives. ”

WHY WE LOVE



GEORGIA HULL

Current Sixth Grade Student

“ I love when working on math problems that I can make my own discovery and find the tricks that solve them myself without having to be told what they are. I feel like I am doing the work and figuring it out for myself. Finding these myself makes math very exciting and it is a good feeling to have. ”



MEG SONDEY

Parent of two Hershey Montessori School Alumni

“ With two adult children now in their mid-twenties, it is clear that their Montessori education has supported their development as thoughtful, empathetic adults, aware of their place within our diverse world, able to articulate—and live out—their beliefs and values. They have been assisted in developing their gifts and talents and have chosen vocations related to their passions. I can think of no other educational opportunity that so ably assists each child to develop into the compassionate, thoughtful adult we desire him or her to become. ”

HERSHEY MONTESSORI SCHOOL

THE CAMPAIGN

In order to accomplish this pioneering endeavor and to proactively ensure continued successful growth of the entire school, \$3.7 million dollars will be raised. The campaign is designed to cover the costs for the addition of a new classroom building, which will be designed using high performance, state-of-the-art building standards (PHIUS + 2015 Passive Building Criteria) for optimal energy efficiency and sustainability practices. Construction will begin in spring of 2016 with a 12 to 18 month plan to completion. The campaign funds will also position Hershey Montessori School's Concord Campus to strategically respond to increasing enrollment growth with long-term facility planning and campus enhancements. The budget also includes raising additional funds for the endowment to increase sustainability for the whole school and to expand student financial aid.



The Capital Campaign Will Raise Funds for:



New Upper School Classroom
Building at the
Huntsburg Campus

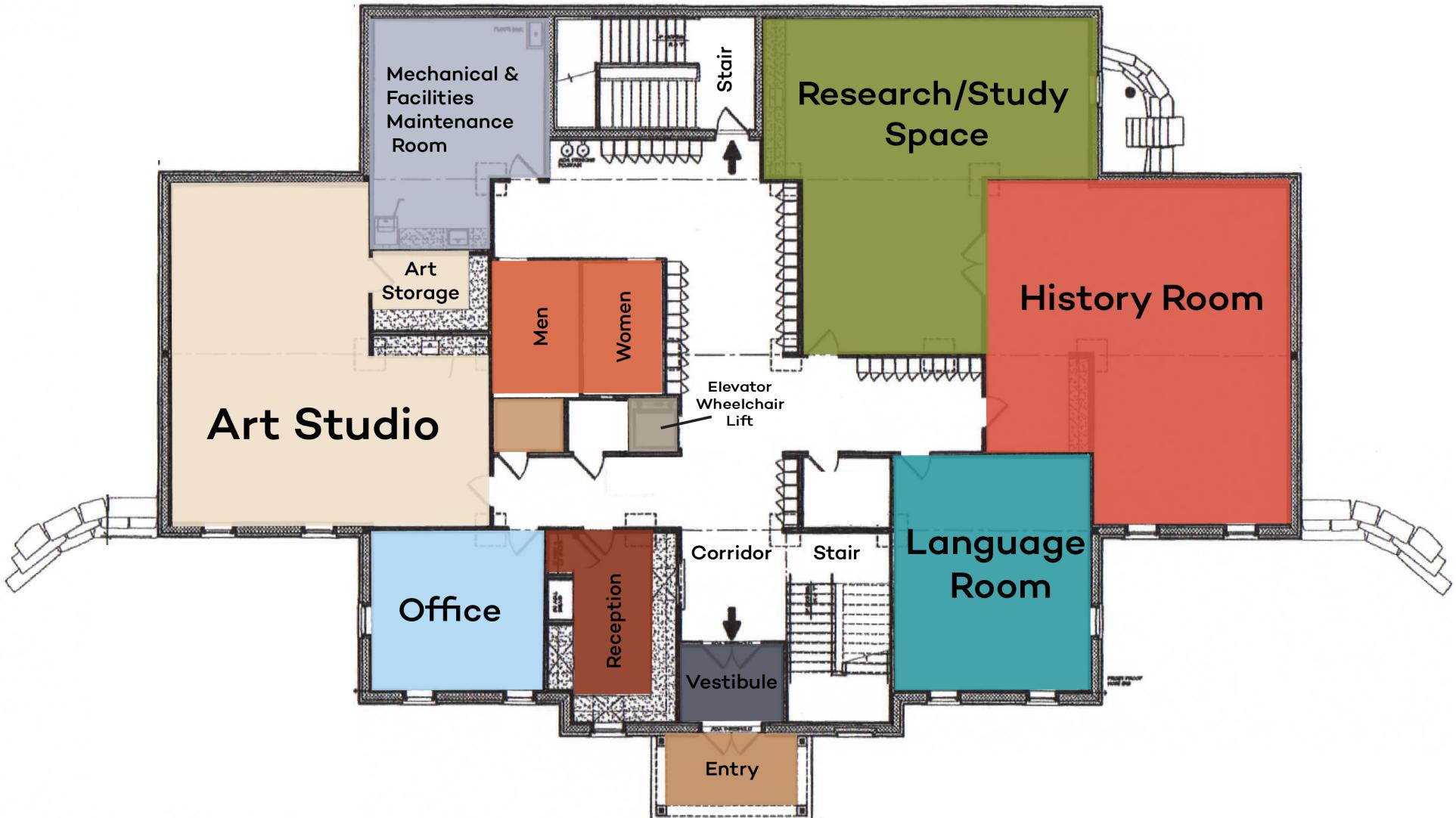
Program and Capital
Improvements at the
Concord Campus

Endowment Fund Support
Including Financial Aid



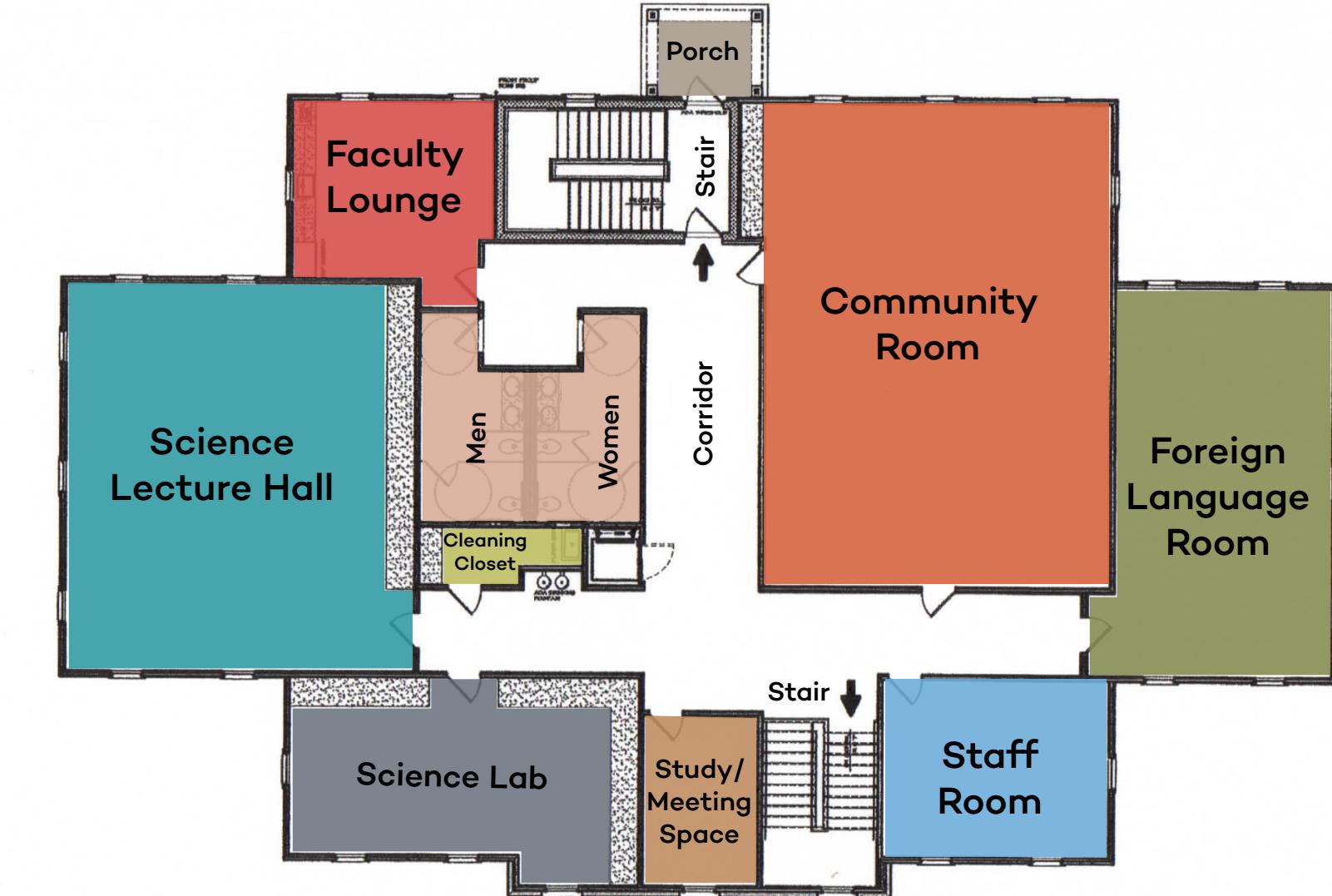
Care of the environment is a pillar of Hershey Montessori School's core philosophy and includes implementing the highest respect possible for nature, the environment and sustainability. These values are reflected in the vision and building goals of the new upper school classroom building.

The Passive House Institute of the United States, or PHIUS, employs strict design principles committed to reducing energy consumption in building practices. Utilizing cutting edge design and strict construction standards, PHIUS + 2015 Passive Building Criteria will create significant savings in operation costs and reduced energy consumption. Hershey Montessori School's upper school **will be the first school in the Midwest** designed with PHIUS criteria.



GROUND LEVEL

The new Hershey Montessori classroom building will allow us to continue to foster excellent academic programming adhering to the vision set forth by Dr. Maria Montessori for high school age students. Students will engage in entrepreneurial opportunities, community and government, environmental and social issues as well as principles of sustainability in a wider, more sophisticated way than that of their middle school experience. All aspects of programs at Hershey Montessori School are replicable and will be shared with educators from near and far.



UPPER LEVEL

The new spaces are designed with Dr. Montessori's theories in mind and will be sustainably built with careful attention to all aspects of the environmental impact.



OUR MISSION

Grounded in the tradition of Dr Maria Montessori, Hershey Montessori School fosters personal and academic growth, independence, confidence, responsibility, and joyful, lifelong learning in carefully prepared learning environments for children from birth to 18 years.

“Free the child's potential, and you will transform him into the world.”

Dr. Maria Montessori

Concord Campus

Infants through 12 years
10229 Prouty Road
Concord Twp., OH 44077
440-357-0918

Huntsburg Campus

12 years through 18 years
11530 Madison Road
Huntsburg, OH 44046
440-636-6290

Donate online at www.hershey-montessori.org

For more information please contact: Anne Marie Kollander, Capital Campaign Director