

## HILLTOP MONTESSORI SCHOOL: 2009

### STRATEGIC PLAN

**Desired Results:** Continued Active Involvement in the community of Birmingham and Mt Laurel

**Goal Statement:** Hilltop Montessori will broaden community focus and expand their involvement in the community.

ACTION STEPS	TIMELINE	EST. RESOURCES	TASK LEADER
1. In conjunction with reopening of the Mt Laurel Organic Farm, students will participate in the farming of an "Edible School Yard" program, working with the local restaurant in Mt Laurel.	Summer 2009-2012	ED will work on grant money and donations to help fund schoolyard.	Preschool/Toddler Coordinator, Summer school staff and ED.
2. Students and the local restaurant will continue with current program to grow & harvest heirloom tomatoes and other garden produce, Students will visit the restaurant and prepare their own meals as a culmination of the unit study.	Current-2012	Secure parent donations; work with restaurant to offset costs.	ED, Coordinators
3. Gardening areas at school will continue to provide food for local restaurant. Possible farmer's market participation with middle school students selling produce over the summer.	Summer 2009-2012	Upper Elementary Science and classroom teachers; middle school students and staff; donations for gardening seeds and supplies.	Elementary/Middle School Coordinator; ED
4. HMS to host Mt Laurel community night(s) to encourage participation and community awareness for Mt Laurel residents.	2009-2012	None: organize guest speakers. School could consider providing refreshments and world offer facility.	ED; Mt Laurel Sales Office to send communication.
5. HMS will approach Mt Laurel regarding the possibility of future expansion within the community and also determine need for future expansion by developing an updated business plan.	2009-2012	Expense of the development of a business plan.	Executive Director; Board of Directors.
6. Approach growing church regarding the use of gym on rainy days to offset school costs of construction of a gym.	2009-2012	None.	Executive Director
7. ED will volunteer to help with fundraising with North Shelby County library. Once library is constructed, HMS will work closely with library to develop programming to serve the community and school.	2009-2010	PTO-consult with parent volunteers to help stock library and bring community resources to the library.	Executive Director, PTO
8. Continue to honor local community with the "Elton B. Stephens Environmental Award", bringing focus to the environmental issues relevant to this area; work with media to spotlight environmental issues.	Ongoing	None-working with media for free publicity.	Executive Director; Board of Directors
9. Continue to invite Mt Laurel community and local businesses to annual fundraiser, "Hilltop on the Green" at the Standard Bistro and other nights as appropriate.	Ongoing	Hilltop on the Green funds offset costs of event.	Executive Director; Board of Directors; PTO

### STRATEGIC PLAN

**Desired Results:** Continued integration of technology into curriculum

**Goal Statement:** Hilltop Montessori will broaden technology while maintaining Montessori instruction.

ACTION STEPS	TIMELINE	EST. RESOURCES	TASK LEADER
1. School to seek grants and donations for two smart boards (one for middle school, one for upper elementary and music program).	2009-2011	Investigate possibility for funding from outside resources.	Elementary/Middle School Coordinator; Technology Instructor and ED
2. Continuous updating of laptops, desktops and other hardware within the school community.	Ongoing	Hardware & Software budget; parent donations; sponsorships or donations from businesses.	Executive Director
3. Continue with Accelerated Reader program and fundraise for the utilization of other computer assessment skills as appropriate.	2009-2012	Software budget; investigate funding from PTO and grants; expand software and hardware budget within the school.	Executive Director; Elementary/Middle School Coordinator; Elementary and Middle School Staff; Technology Instructor.
4. Investigate other options for incorporating technology into the classroom to prepare students.	Ongoing	Expansion of software budget.	Technology Instructor.

### STRATEGIC PLAN

**Desired Results:** Continued reporting to stakeholders in the school and community.

**Goal Statement:** Hilltop Montessori will develop a more comprehensive annual report to the stakeholders and utilize for fundraising purposes.

ACTION STEPS	TIMELINE	EST. RESOURCES	TASK LEADER
1. Provide a more comprehensive annual report to the school's stakeholders and the community.	2009-Ongoing	Costs of publication; consider sending electronically to offset costs and keep with "green" philosophy.	Board of Directors; ED
2. Utilize information to fundraise and begin development of Phase Two, taking into account the current economy.	2009-Ongoing	Unknown-investigate options	Executive Director

### STRATEGIC PLAN

**Desired Results:** Enhance Educational Curriculum Programming

**Goal Statement:** Hilltop Montessori will continue to expand curriculum planning and visit Action Plan annually to determine effectiveness, make revisions and additions based on school needs.

ACTION STEPS	TIMELINE	EST. RESOURCES	TASK LEADER
1. Students will expand knowledge and staff will work more cohesively to integrate subjects across the curriculum.	2009-Ongoing	Utilize Friday afternoon early dismissals more effectively for staff meetings; involve specialty teachers.	Executive Director, Coordinators.
2. Students will demonstrate effective problem solving skills, critical thinking.	Ongoing	Professional development within Montessori community	All Staff
3. Students will exhibit behavioral control; express feelings through community projects and vision; staff will facilitate the development of intrinsic motivation within the students.	Ongoing	Professional Development on behavioral issues with students; strengthen access and referral process for outside counseling.	All Staff
4. Continue analysis of assessments for students, portfolios, testing and other indicators of performance and annual compare more traditional models with current standards for HMS.	Annual focus	Fund professional days for staff to visit alternative schools, both traditional models and Montessori. Workshops, etc.	All Staff

### STRATEGIC PLAN

**Desired Results:** Enhance Environment through Fundraising and Development.

**Goal Statement:** Hilltop Montessori will continue with development and fundraising, emphasizing green building.

ACTION STEPS	TIMELINE	EST. RESOURCES	TASK LEADER
1. Continue fundraising for school's facility (Phase Two) and Eco-Education Outreach Program.	2009-Ongoing	Investigate Phase Two funding with banks locally to determine starting costs and amount to fundraise; incorporate the development of business plan.	Board of Directors; ED
2. Chart a comparison of absences in old facility vs. green building to investigate worthiness of claim that green schools are healthier. Submit data for national recognition.	2010-2013	None requires; no costs; small fees required for publication.	Executive Director
3. Document standardized testing scores and provides comparison between old building and new, healthier facility. Submit data for national recognition.	2010-2013	None required; no costs; small fees required for publication.	Executive Director

At this time, we are pleased with our focus for the next five years, although the Board is concerned about the current economic situation in our country. To date, our enrollment for 2009-2010 school year is on target, although we are seeing a slight decrease in enrollment in our upper grades as it appears parents are making the decision to leave Montessori slightly earlier than originally planned. Even with a slight decrease in our middle school and upper elementary, our future at Hilltop Montessori School looks bright and we are proud of our accomplishments to date