

THE PRINCIPAL'S PAGE

Michael A. Picone | Principal | CMCS

PRINCIPAL

As principal, my primary goal is to collaborate with teachers, parents, and students to foster ongoing growth and learning throughout our school community. Together we can guide students in the valuable development of character, independence, intellectual curiosity, and self-motivation.

EDUCATOR

Over the past 19 years, I have served as a high-impact educator. I began teaching in a bamboo classroom as a United States Peace Corps volunteer in the South Pacific. Since then, I have taught in Florida and Tennessee both in traditional classrooms as well as in online platforms. I have also served as an administrator in a virtual school, where I trained and managed a staff of educators.

FATHER

I am also a fellow CMCS parent. My two oldest children Isabella (13) and Jonah (12) are students here at CMCS, and my youngest, Fiametta (3), looks forward to joining our community in several years.



Dear Parents and Friends:

It is with great honor and excitement that I introduce myself to you as the new Principal of Countryside Montessori Charter School. My three years here as a 7th and 8th grade math and science teacher, and as an Associate Principal, have been enriching ones. I became more involved in this amazing school community of students, staff, and families, and more focused on the student-centered Montessori philosophy.

During my time here at CMCS and in collaborating with Montessori leaders from around the country through my courses, I have developed a deep appreciation for the Montessori philosophy that is the foundation for our school.





FUNDRAISING

As the leader of a charter school, I understand the importance of advocating for funding from both the State and County.

I also understand that we cannot solely depend upon those funding sources from year to year.

Therefore, I will continue to seek outside support from local businesses, community organizations, and individuals.

I will also ask you to continue to support your child's education both in word and action and both as a volunteer and as a donor.

I must, in good conscience, continue our fundraising work, so that we can continue to provide a safe, supportive, and enriching environment for each child.

I ask that you, too, take an active role in promoting and sustaining our fundraising initiatives.

As Maria Montessori suggests, classrooms should be areas of collaboration and cooperation, not competition. So although we are proud to promote our high test scores, our most important work lies in preparing our students for a full life even at a young age.

Once again, I am so thankful to have the opportunity to bring all that I have experienced and learned as an educator and administrator to my new position. I look forward to getting to know you and your children. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions, concerns, and ideas that you would like to discuss.

With gratitude,

Michael Picone

Michael A. Picone, Principal

