

SHREWSBURY MONTESSORI SCHOOL

Excellence in Montessori Education for Children Age Three Through Grade Six

ONE SCHOOL - TWO CAMPUSES

ANNUAL FUND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

[Why doesn't Shrewsbury Montessori School have several different fundraisers throughout the year?](#)

[What is the Annual Fund?](#)

[What does the Annual Fund support?](#)

[Why does Shrewsbury Montessori School need gifts?](#)

[How does Shrewsbury Montessori School solicit for the Annual Fund?](#)

[Does my gift make a difference?](#)

[What is Shrewsbury Montessori School's annual fund goal for this year?](#)

[Are donations tax-deductible and what is the Tax ID number for Shrewsbury Montessori School?](#)

Why doesn't Shrewsbury Montessori School have several different fundraisers throughout the year?

At Shrewsbury Montessori School, we believe in offering one simple way to financially give back to our school so that, rather than focusing on fundraising:

- our staff can focus on teaching and learning
- our Board of Trustees can focus on strategic planning
- our PTO can focus on enriching our students academic experience
- our parents can easily make a single tax-deductible donation

No school can provide all it wants to its students without more funding. Shrewsbury Montessori School is no exception. We count on an average one-time donation of \$375 per student each year instead of multiple donations which are more difficult to manage and, historically, take valuable time and effort away from student-focused activities.

What is the Annual Fund?

The Shrewsbury Montessori School Annual Fund is vital to the operation of both Shrewsbury and Auburn campuses. These critical dollars cover the gap between revenue from tuition and the real cost of offering a Montessori Education. The Annual Fund also provides a tax-deductible means for our school community to contribute to our school.

The Annual Fund is raised each year as a vital source of expendable dollars that goes beyond our school operating budget. This includes necessities like building and grounds maintenance such as new windows for Shrewsbury and better walkway lighting for Auburn, new classroom materials and enrichment programs that are traditional experiences our children have come to expect each year. The Shrewsbury Montessori School Annual Fund offers alumni, parents, and friends the opportunity to strengthen our School through their annual unrestricted gift.

What does the Annual Fund support?

The Annual Fund provides dollars that can be used now to give Shrewsbury Montessori School and Montessori Children's House of Auburn the discretionary ability to meet institutional needs, act on new initiatives throughout the year, and ensure the excellence of every aspect of SMS.

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Why does Shrewsbury Montessori School need gifts?

The Annual Fund covers the gap between revenue from tuition and the real cost of offering a Montessori education. Our tuition covers normal operating and academic expenses. The cost of enrichment programs and facility improvements outside of normal maintenance exceed tuition revenue. Each year, we reach out to all members of the school community and ask you to support our students by giving to the Annual Fund. Grant-making foundations prefer to support an organization that is broadly supported by its members and we are more successful winning these grants with a strong Annual Fund. Finally, the Fund's flexibility enables the Head of School to tailor support as circumstances change.

How does Shrewsbury Montessori School solicit for the Annual Fund?

Our school fiscal year is July 1st through June 30th. Currently the Annual Fund mails solicitations to parents and friends who have not yet made an Annual Fund gift within the current fiscal year. These letters will be followed by telephone calls from parent or Board volunteers. Please consider making your gift early in the year to help reduce postage and telephone costs.

Does my gift make a difference?

Each and every gift, regardless of size, has a positive impact. Your gift, combined with the others, provides crucial support for SMS/Auburn students and faculty. Your employer may also participate in a Matching Gift program. Gifts may be made in the form of securities, "In-kind" support (contributions of equipment, supplies, or other property) and professional services. Although unrestricted gifts are preferred, you may specify where you would like your gift to be used. Ask your Human Relations department for a matching gift form. Our tax ID number is: 202035495.

What is Shrewsbury Montessori School's annual fund goal for this year?

Our goal this year is to raise \$75,000 in unrestricted Annual Fund support. As always, we are looking for 100% family and teacher participation.

Are donations tax-deductible and what is the Tax ID number for Shrewsbury Montessori School?

Yes! Your donations are tax-deductible. Our tax ID Number is: 202035495.

Thank you for your continued support of Shrewsbury Montessori School as we work to make a difference in the lives of our students.