

# Bucknell Review of Montessori Program Feedback

# Staff Feedback Overview

- 50 Staff Members submitted feedback forms
- Significant number of staff members show support of the Montessori program - 64%
- Some staff expressed interest in being “thought partners” in the planning process (13 staff members)
- Some staff were interested in Montessori training (13 different staff members)

## Staff Survey Responses

Oppose Montessori

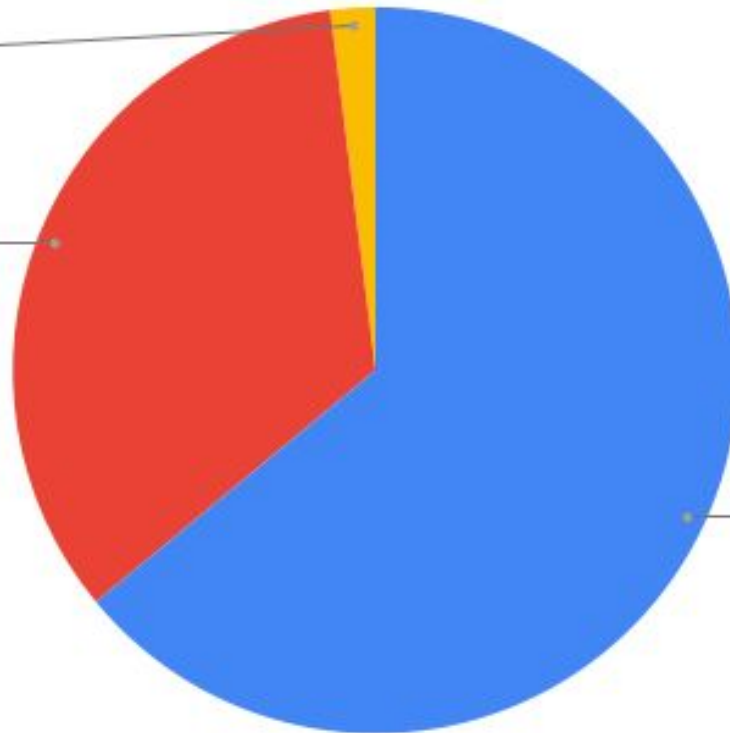
2.0%

Neutral

34.0%

Support Montessori

64.0%



# Community Feedback Overview

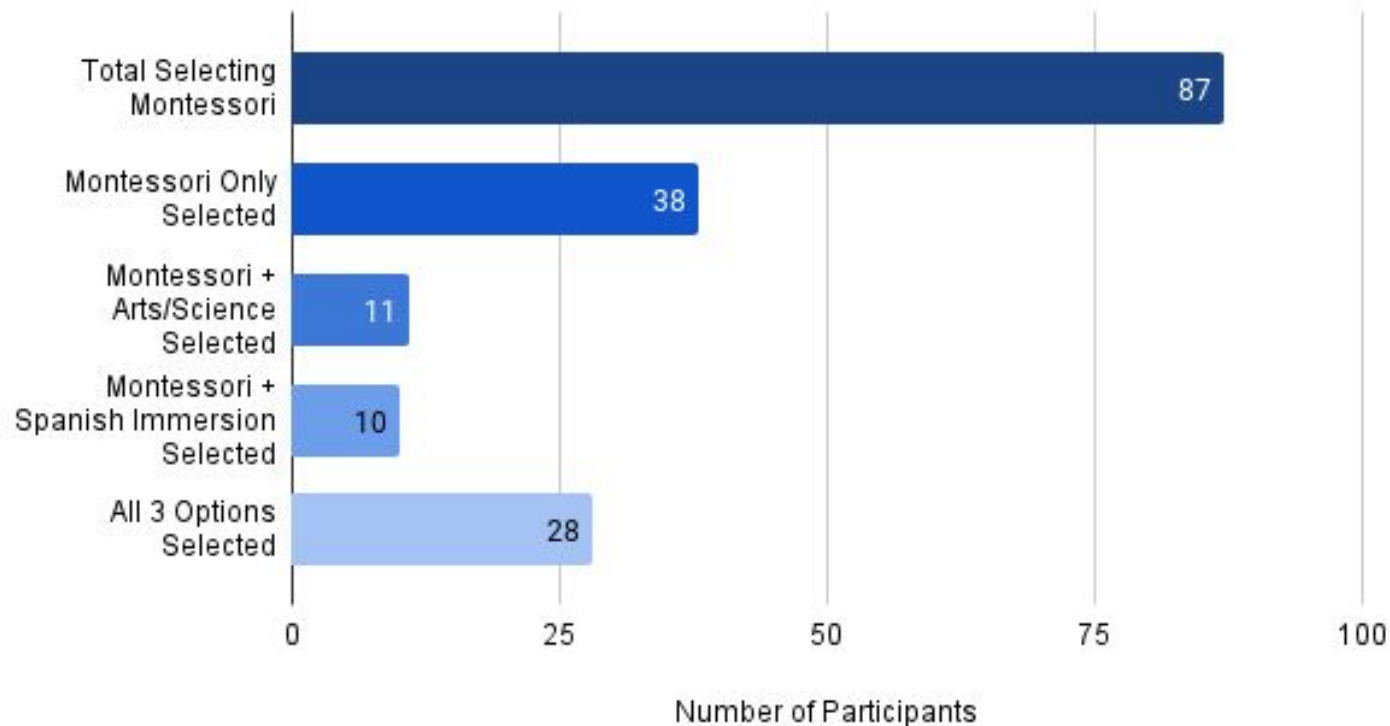
- 124 feedback forms were submitted
- Overwhelming majority of community members show support of the Montessori program - 70%
- 59 of 124 – 47% of respondents, attended the information session on Nov. 7th
- 100 of 124 – 80% of forms submitted, were family members, 21% community members, 10% staff
  - Some represent more than one category

# Interested in Implementing Montessori

**83 out of 124 forms indicated interest in implementing Montessori program = 70%**

- 36 support Montessori only
- 11 support Montessori and Arts & Science
- 10 support Montessori and Spanish Immersion
- 28 support all three options
  - ...of the 28, 2 prefer Montessori

## Participants Selecting Montessori - 70% Support

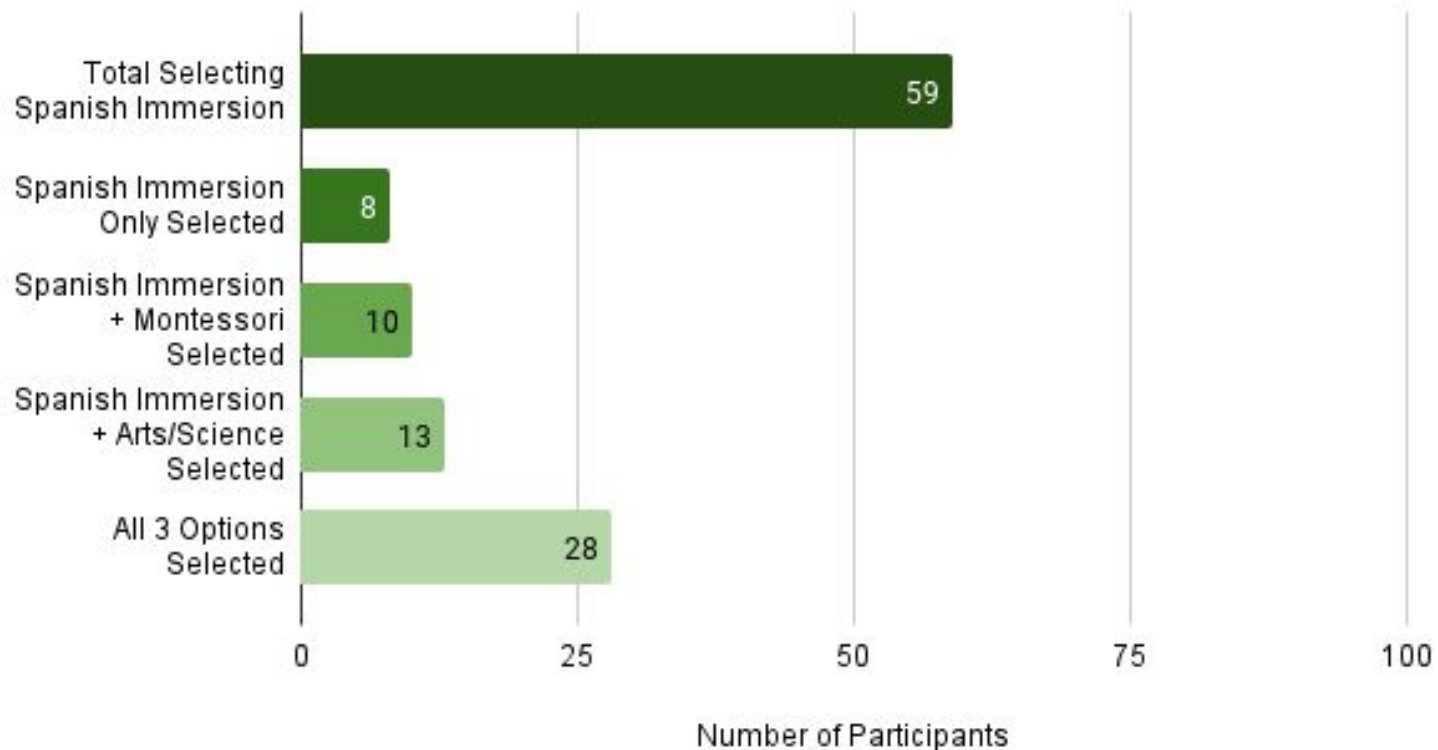


# Interested in Implementing Spanish Immersion

**59 out of 124 forms indicated interest in implementing Spanish Immersion = 47%**

- 8 support Spanish Immersion only
- 13 support Spanish Immersion and Arts & Science
- 10 support Montessori and Spanish Immersion
- 28 support all three options

## Participants Selecting Spanish Immersion - 47% Support



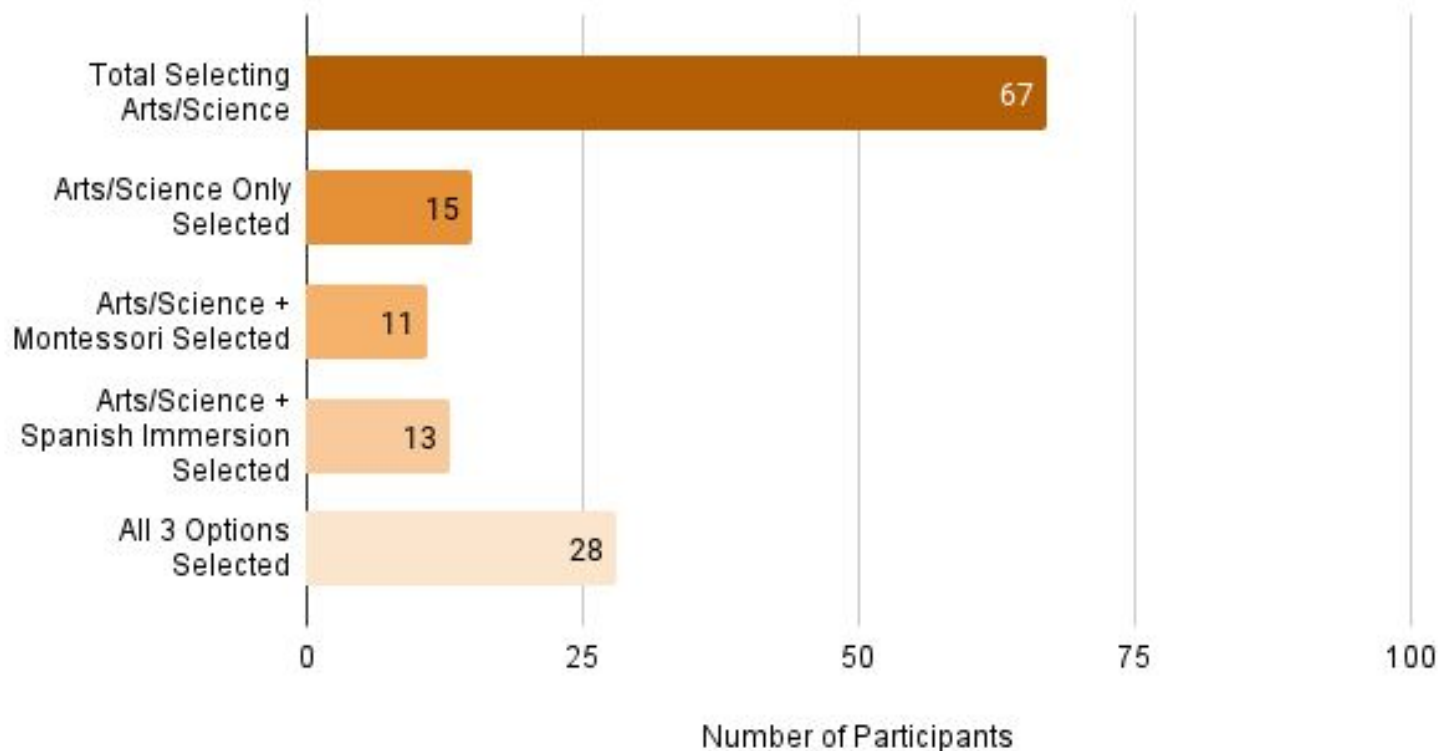


# Interested in Implementing Arts & Science Magnet

**67 out of 124 forms indicated interest in implementing Arts & Science Magnet = 54%**

- 15 support Arts & Science only
- 11 support Montessori and Arts & Science
- 13 support Arts & Science and Spanish Immersion
- 28 support all three options

## Participants Selecting Arts/Science - 54% Support



# Community and Staff Feedback Overview

- Strong support and high confidence in Principal Green
- Importance of clear, transparent, and accessible communication from the school administration
- Support of the program due to the substantial financial incentives, which would increase student enrollment & provide access to free PreK
- Desire to maintain a “one school philosophy” and prevent division among staff, students, and families
- Capacity to meet the needs of students with identified and not yet identified disabilities

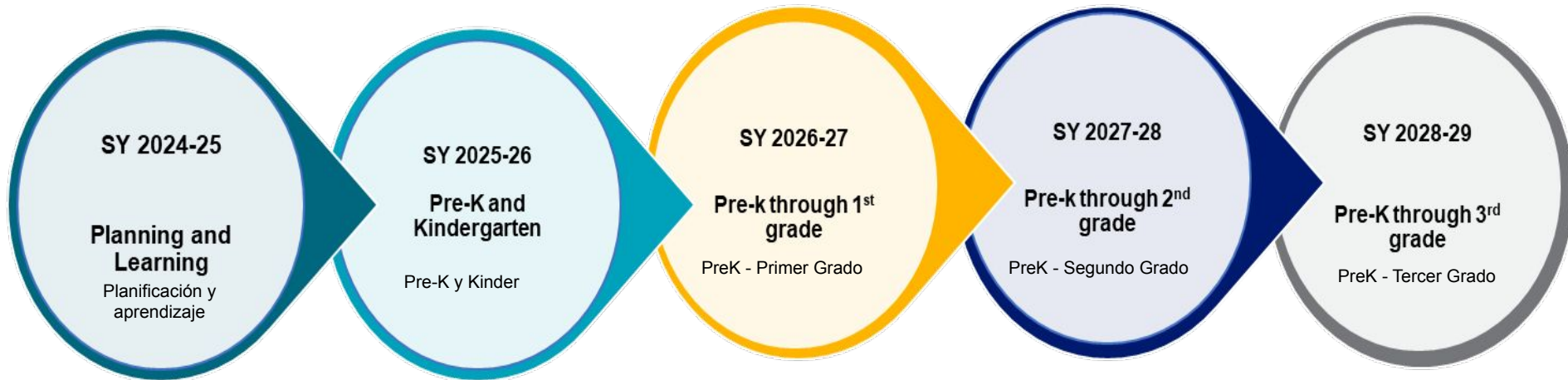
# Bucknell Montessori Program Next Steps

# Immediate Next Steps

Based on the feedback, Principal Green will make the recommendation to the FCPS Leadership Team and FCPS Superintendent Dr. Reid to **move forward with the implementation of the Montessori program** within Bucknell ES.



# Implementation Timeline / Calendario de implementación



# What would Montessori look like within Bucknell ES



- One school with two evidence-based approaches to teaching and learning
- Choice offered to families with Montessori and standard classrooms for PreK-3rd Grade (fully implemented by School Year 28-29)
- Capacity for an additional 270 students across West Potomac pyramid to be enrolled in 12 Montessori classrooms
- Students would be able to access standard classes with Pre-K, ECCB, PAC, and 2 classrooms per grade level in K-6 available.

# Montessori Program within Bucknell – Impact on Students and Families

- All Bucknell students get to remain at Bucknell
- Families choose if they want Montessori or non-Montessori instruction
- Cohort starts with incoming 3-year-old, 4-year-old, and Kinder students
- Lottery for 3-year-olds and 4-year-olds from West Potomac pyramid will offer 2/3rds lottery slots dedicated to families with socio-economic challenges, and a random lottery from West Potomac pyramid for kindergarten.
- Families will have access to a program often available through private centers for their preschool-aged children, which is often costly.



# Montessori Program within Bucknell – Impact on Staff

- All current staff stay
- Staff choose if they want to be trained in Montessori
- Additional staff will be hired to implement Montessori, including a Program Coordinator
- Eventually classroom spaces will change and there will be common shared spaces
- Work will need to be in place to ensure ONE Bucknell school community
- Staff have been largely supportive of this option



# Immediate Next Steps

FCPS Leadership will request an amendment to the grant. The US Department of Education will respond with approval.



*\*This has been discussed with the US Department of Education as a possibility and does not present a major concern.*

# Let's Celebrate!

With this plan, Bucknell will meet the guaranteed student capacity numbers, while also giving future families, students, and staff an opportunity to choose their programming.



# Thank You!

Your voice matters! Thank you for your advocacy, every thoughtful conversation/email, and each form submitted. We will continue to be better together.

#BucknellStrong



**Questions? Please Contact Principal Green**  
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