

MCS ACCREDITATION INFO

Welcome to the MCS Accreditation page! Here you'll find important information and updates about the accreditation process at MCS. The accrediting agency is the American Montessori Society (AMS). The accreditation team would like to keep the MCS community informed about the steps we've taken in our accreditation journey, where we are in the accreditation process, and what to expect in the coming months leading up to the AMS team site visit, **November 17-20, 2024**. Accreditations are valid for 7 years, after which time a new Self-Study must be submitted.

THE SELF-STUDY

The Self-Study is an intensive effort that involves our school's entire community: staff, faculty, administration, parents, board members, and sometimes, even students.

During the self-study, MCS examines and documents every aspect of its program and processes: governance, curriculum, fiscal and personnel policies, facilities, health and safety practices, teacher preparation, and learner outcomes.

MCS self-identifies areas of strength and opportunities for improvement. MCS then collects its findings in a written report and submits it to AMS. It is a period of thoughtful examination, discovery, and, oftentimes, enlightening mindset shifts. It also helps strengthen the MCS community as one whose stakeholders are united by shared values, aspirations, and commitments.

THE ONSITE VISIT

At the end of the self-study period, MCS hosts a team of peers from other AMS-accredited schools for an onsite visit. Our site visit is scheduled for **November 17-20, 2024**.

A major objective of the visit is to determine whether MCS is in compliance with AMS Standards & Criteria. The visit includes document review, observations, and interviews. The culmination of the onsite visit is a report, prepared by the visiting team, in which they summarize their findings for review by the AMS School Accreditation Commission and AMS Board of Directors.

The onsite visit offers an invaluable opportunity to gain insight from other well-regarded leaders in the community. Typically, it is seen as a joyous affirmation of the many wonderful things MCS is doing well and a helpful guide for future improvements.

MCS ACCREDITATION TIMELINE

The Accreditation process at MCS began in 2019 but was paused in 2020 and 2021 due to the Pandemic. Efforts began again in earnest in 2022 when the Co-chairs of the Accreditation committee began to assemble teams to complete a Self-Study of our School.

