

How to Raise Extra Money for the School (*without* really trying!)

As an independent not-for-profit school, Villa Montessori School does not receive funding from outside sources such as federal or state governments or religious organizations. Several businesses and organizations have programs in place to provide extra funds to schools, including Villa Montessori School. They are an easy way to help the school, with little effort required on your part. Following is a summary of those programs and how you can participate.

Box Tops 4 Education – The school receives 10 cents for each “Box Tops for Education” coupon. These can be found on hundreds of common products, including: General Mills cereals, Nature Valley products, Pop Secret popcorn, Yoplait Yogurt Multipacks, Betty Crocker mixes, Hamburger/Chicken/Tuna Helpers, Bisquick, Old El Paso products, Progresso soups, Ziploc products, Pillsbury products, Kleenex products, Huggies, and much more. See www.boxtops4education for a complete list and more information. There is a special receptacle in the mailbox area for the box top coupons.



Swiss Valley Cash for Caps – The school receives 5 cents for every Swiss Valley milk bottle cap turned in. They must come from gallon or half gallon jugs of Swiss Valley Farms white milk. Please rinse the bottle caps before bringing them to school! There is a special receptacle in the mailbox area for the bottle caps.



Target – By participating in Target’s “Take Charge of Education” program, 1% of your Target Credit Card purchases will go to Villa Montessori School. VMS has received approximately \$5,000 from this program to date. If you’d like to sign up or if you’d like more information, go to www.target.com/tcoe or call 1-800-316-6142. Be sure to designate Villa Montessori School as your recipient.



Printer Cartridges – Villa Montessori School participates in an ink jet printer cartridge recycling program. We receive a rebate for each cartridge turned in. A special receptacle is in the mailbox area.

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Other fundraising activities utilized by the school include:

Annual Giving - Like most other private or independent schools, Villa Montessori depends upon contributions from families, staff members, alumni, board members, and other friends of the school, since tuition does not cover the total costs of operating the school. When you enrolled, you were asked to complete and return an annual giving pledge card. Gifts may be paid in several ways: a lump sum payment; smaller equal payments added to your monthly tuition bill; credit card payment; or via designations made to Villa Montessori School through your workplace giving campaign (e.g., United Way or Combined Federal Campaign (CFC).

The Nutcracker – This annual event allows VMS students of all ages the opportunity to perform on stage in front of a live audience! The school welcomes business and personal ads in the event’s program to help subsidize the cost of rental, lights/sound, costumes, etc. Families, friends, and others are welcome to serve as “backstage elves” by contributing toward the cost of the event. There is no admission charge, but we accept free will donations at the door. Any profits from this event are directed toward fine arts at the school.

Carnival – The spring carnival is a major fundraiser for the school, providing funds for staff development. Many opportunities are available for family support:

- Underwriting the cost of carnival activities (e.g., Moonwalk)
- Donating items for silent auction baskets
- Donating prizes for the children’s games
- Attending the carnival itself!

This year, Villa Montessori School will **not** be participating in any activities for the sole purpose of fundraising (i.e, candy bar sales, gift item sales, etc.). If VMS parents actively support the above programs, it is hoped that such fundraisers will be unnecessary in the future as well. Thank you in advance for your support!

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