

# CAMELBACK MONTESSORI

## COLLEGE PREPARATORY

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **What type of student would be a good fit for Camelback Montessori College Preparatory?**

We are looking for students who desire to learn from a rigorous honors curriculum. Our students are highly independent, but can also work well collaboratively with others. Our students are able to manage their time and have a system for organization. Our students contribute to a strong sense of community.

#### **How much homework is there?**

If students are organized and use their time wisely throughout the day, there will be an average of 1.5 – 2.5 hours of homework each night for the Montessori courses.

#### **What are the class sizes?**

We will accept, at most, 25 students for each grade level.

#### **Is there an upfront cost for the program?**

We will have student dues at the beginning of the next school year (less than \$25), but some money will be needed throughout the year to support student activities such as gatherings and field experiences. There is no tuition fee itself as we are free and public Title One school.

#### **Where do your students come from?**

We have students hailing from all over the valley including Phoenix, Glendale, Laveen, Apache Junction and Anthem.

#### **How does your schedule work?**

We have two Montessori blocks each day for freshmen and sophomores. There is one 105 minute block in the morning and one 105 minute block in the afternoon. Our blocked courses are Honors English, Honors Math, Honors Science, and Honors Social Science. Students will take two electives with the main campus, which are each 50 minutes long. Our juniors and seniors will have one blocked Montessori course in the day only in order to allow flexibility to pursue electives and AP courses of choice.

### **Do the students have electives?**

The students will have at least two electives where they will be integrated with the Camelback High School students. For freshmen and sophomores, the first and last class of the day (1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> period) are dedicated to electives. For juniors and seniors, their electives can occur at any time outside of the afternoon Montessori block.

### **What technology do you have?**

Each student will be given an iPad for school and home use. Each of our four classrooms also has 3 iMac computers for students to use as well. Each class is also equipped with a Smart Board and an Apple TV. Students will also have access to the school computer labs and printers if needed.

### **Are your teachers Montessori Certified?**

Ms. Nguyen completed her Montessori Training from CMSTEP, a Secondary Montessori teacher training program in Cincinnati, Ohio, in January, 2014 and is credentialed by AMS. Ms. Sandoval, Mr. Truong, and Mr. Mora are set to finish their Montessori Certification in 2016-2017 school year. Mr. Aragon is set to finish his Montessori Certification in the 2017-2018 school year.

### **How do I set up a shadow experience?**

We allow for shadows to come on Thursdays and Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. or 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. You will need to go to [www.phoenixunion.org/cbhsmontessori](http://www.phoenixunion.org/cbhsmontessori) and fill out the request for shadowing form.

### **Do students participate in sports and clubs?**

Students are required to participate in a club or sport offered by Camelback. Students may also start a club.

### **Can students take AP classes?**

Yes, students do have the option of enrolling in AP courses junior and senior year. If you want your child to take all AP classes this probably is not the program for them as the nature of AP testing takes away from the diverse components of comprehensive Montessori education. All of our classes in Camelback Montessori are honors level courses.

### **How will Camelback Montessori College Preparatory prepare my child for college?**

Students will work collaboratively and independently in different environments. Students are given their work at least one week at a time, teaching them how to long-term plan and break up deadlines into smaller chunks. Students will learn to research and write papers in both MLA and APA formats. Students will work on long and short term projects. Students will give presentations to the class. Students partake in academic Socratic seminars on books and articles.

**Does your program offer test prep for SAT and ACT?**

Within our classes we do offer some opportunities to practice high level vocabulary and practice SAT and ACT type questions. Our students also read and write in all their classes, which further prepares students for the critical reading required in standardized testing. Nonetheless, we encourage all students to enroll in some type of ACT or SAT prep course.

**Where can I find the application for Camelback Montessori College Preparatory?**

The application is located at [www.phoenixunion.org/cbhsmontessori](http://www.phoenixunion.org/cbhsmontessori).