

Why do families choose the optional program?

- ▶ The large school environment is reduced to a **small, stable community**.
- ▶ Teachers, students and parents share a **common educational philosophy**.
- ▶ Parents are welcome in the **classrooms** and are expected to participate in the program.
- ▶ **Individual needs are met** within a group context.
- ▶ **Discipline problems are minimized** due to strong parental involvement.
- ▶ Active participation is required so that students are **active learners**.
- ▶ Multi-graded, **cross optional activities** give opportunities for children to experience a variety of social relationships and cooperative activities.
- ▶ **Two years with the same teacher** reduces “new class stress,” and allows for smoother transitions for both parents and children.
- ▶ **Long-term relationships** allow teachers to develop strategies for individual student needs.
- ▶ The youngling/elder relationship allows all children to experience **leadership roles**.
- ▶ **Multi-graded classrooms** allow for a greater range of skills and abilities.
- ▶ **The stable classroom community** is a foundation for long-term friendships among children and families.
- ▶ **“Grading” is avoided** so that each child’s progress is viewed individually.
- ▶ The **teachers** are excellent, constantly striving toward new growth and understanding.
- ▶ **Academic standards** are high.
- ▶ Teachers are willing to **problem-solve** with children and parents.