

SMCS CLIMATE

THE 13 STATEMENTS THAT BEST REPRESENT STUDENT REFLECTIONS ABOUT SOLDOTNA MONTESSORI CHARTER SCHOOL

CRITERIA: 80-100% of students either “strongly agreed” with, or had 100% “agreement” with, these statements about SMCS.

Statements about Community

- I care about my school.
- The school is a welcoming place for families like mine.
- I care about my community.
- I think it is important to participate in community service.

SMCS SUPPORT

Instruction at SMCS includes allowing students to work with students from other classes across grade levels, participation in community service efforts with the Food Pantry, Food Bank, Heritage Place and more, and many family events and parent involvement opportunities in learning.

Statements about Teachers

- Adults at my school treat students with respect.
- My teachers care about my health and well-being.
- My teachers are fair.

SMCS SUPPORT

Students interact with various teachers throughout the day. Soldotna Montessori teachers and aides share responsibility in making connections with students. We meet students’ social-emotional needs using Conscious Discipline and Kagan Cooperative Learning approaches. Above all, Montessori teachers instruct the whole child, and respect each student as an individual with unique strengths.

Statements about Themselves

- I can get along with students that are different from me.
- Students are encouraged to do their very best.
- I know what I am good at.
- I can make ethical and constructive choices.
- I can learn how to solve tough problems.
- I have goals for my future.

SMCS SUPPORT

Students have a stake in their own learning. Montessori students use work plans throughout their education, at SMCS, to establish learning goals, prioritize their work, and reflect on learning and effort. The result of this self-directed work allows students to have a good understanding of themselves as learners. Additionally, students work in multi-grade classrooms with a three-year range. This enables them to see the individuality of others as they lend support and encouragement to fellow students, or observe capabilities that are possessed by students who lend a hand.