

DC MONTESSORI MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL

*Designed for the
developmental needs
of adolescents*



Ward: TBD



New start
Projected start date:
Fall 2019



Charter



Grades served:
6-12

Designed expressly to **meet the developmental needs of adolescents**, D.C. Montessori Middle/High School will provide a **secondary school destination for D.C.'s growing number of Montessori elementary schools**. Students will learn in structured, student-centered environments with real-world applications and will **master academic competencies through classes that resemble apprenticeships**. Classes at the Land Lab, an offsite farm, will also help students develop leadership and teamwork skills while gaining independence. An **integrated social justice curriculum** will address race, ethnicity, and social class and will teach students to advocate for themselves and their communities.

TEAM LEADER: CHRIS PENCIKOWSKI

Chris Pencikowski has spent his career focused on enhancing services critical to improved quality of life in American cities, with a specific focus on closing achievement and opportunity gaps in public schools through improved management and leadership. In his current role as the Head of School for Lee Montessori Public Charter School, Chris is responsible for ensuring that the school achieves its mission of closing the opportunity gap while fostering a lifetime love of learning and cultivating independence among D.C. school children. Chris leads the day-to-day operations of the

school, ensuring high-quality teaching and learning and effective operations to support students, teachers, and families.

Chris's most recent previous experience was as the Chief Operating Officer for AppleTree, overseeing the shared administrative services of a high-performing public charter school and research institute. Prior to joining AppleTree, Chris served as Special Assistant to the Deputy Secretary at the U.S. Department of Education, and from 2006-10, Chris was a Senior Managing Consultant at Public Financial Management, Inc., Chris holds a Master's of Education Leadership from the Broad Center for the Management of School Systems, a Masters of Public Administration from the University of Pennsylvania, and a bachelor's degree from Tulane University, where he focused on early childhood education.