

Corpus Christi Montessori School
 Credentialed Staff Profiles
 2009 – 2010

<p>Sylvia D. Gaertner Director/Superintendent</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Montessori Certification – South Western Montessori Training Center, Denton, TX, 1985 • Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education – Corpus Christi State University, Corpus Christi, TX, 1990 • Masters in Educational Leadership – Texas A&M University Corpus Christi, TX, 2000 • Doctoral Studies, Educational Leadership – Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi, TX, Current • Nine years Montessori teaching and School Director experience • Ten years elementary teaching experience, Corpus Christi Independent School District (CCISD) • Eight years administrative experience, CCISD: Elementary Curriculum Reading Specialist (Central Office), and Assistant Elementary Principal • Director/Superintendent of CCMS since May 2008.
<p>Paula Pilgrim Middle School Teacher</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B.A. in Spanish – Mary Baldwin College • TEA certification 4-8th, Spanish 6th – 12th • Montessori Training in progress: Secondary I • Masters of Education in Montessori Integrated Learning in progress • American Red Cross CPR/First Aid Instructor, Babysitter Instructor
<p>Cerise Weeks Curriculum Coordinator Upper Elementary Teacher Lead Teacher</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B.S. in K-8 Education – TAMU-CC • Masters in Educational Admin. – TAMU-CC • 17 years Teaching Experience • 4 years Administrative Experience • Montessori Certificate: 3-6 & 6-9 • Montessori Certificate: 9-12 • Continuing Montessori education • CPR/First Aid Certification
<p>Ashley Blentlinger Upper Elementary Teacher</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B.S. in Early Childhood Education • TEA Certification: Pre-K thru 8th – TAMU-CC • M.S. Counseling in Progress – TAMU-CC • Montessori Certificate: 5-8 • Montessori Training in progress: 6-12 • CPR/First Aid Certification
<p>Esther Flores Upper Elementary Teacher</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B.A. – Applied Linguistics, U.A.N.L. 1984 • Masters in Education Lesley College Mass. • 25 years Teaching Experience • AMS Montessori Certificates: 3-6; 6-9, 9-12 and Middle School • AMS Teacher Trainer in Mexico (Centro Entienamiento Montessori, Monterrey, N.L.) • Texas Certification Region 1 EC-4, Region 2: (4-8 in progress) • CPR/First Aid Certification

<p>Angeles Martinez Dual Language, Lower Elementary Lead Teacher Spanish Co-Teacher</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BA – Major: History, Minor: Literature Spanish TAMU-CC • M.S. in Elementary Education 18 hours TAMU-CC • A Career in Teaching ACP Bilingual EC-4h • TAKS Training ESC Region 2 • Spanish Certificate 6-12 • AP Spanish training at Texas A&M CC • Montessori Certificate EC-3rd. • Master of Arts in Teaching in progress Grand Canyon University • CPR/First Aid Certification
<p>Maria Medina Dual Language, Lower Elementary Teacher Spanish Co-Teacher</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B.S. – Language Arts; Minor: English as a Second Language – Eastern New Mexico University of Portales • A.A. – Early Childhood Education Eastern New Mexico University of Roswell • TEA certified EC-4 • CPR/First Aid Certification
<p>Trudi Torralva Lower Elementary Teacher English Co-Teacher</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B.A. Major – History Tennessee Temple University • M.R.E. • TEA Certified EC-4 • Montessori Certified – Lower Elementary • CPR/First Aid Certification
<p>Jennifer Smith Lower Elementary Teacher English Co-Teacher</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B.S. in Early Childhood Education - TAMUCC • Certification Pre-K – 4th - TAMUCC • Montessori certified 6-9 year olds • CPR/First Aid Certification
<p>Shawn Alvarez P.E./Coach</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 year CCMS P.E. Coach • B.S. in Kinesiology in progress – TAMU-CC • Certified Personal Trainer • CPR/First Aid Certification
<p>Orfie Barboza Special Education Teacher</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B.A. – Sociology • Masters of Education – TAMU • 8 years experience working with children with Autism • Special Ed Certification • Montessori Training in progress • CPR/First Aid Certification
<p>Deborah Russell Diagnostician</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B.A. - Communications • M.S. – Curriculum & Instruction • Certified Educational Diagnostician • Certified Teacher – Special Education & Theatre Arts • Attended: Texas Tech University ('71-'74), University of Houston ('74-'79), Corpus Christi State University ('91-'93), Texas A&M –CC ('94-'95) • 14 years as an Educational Diagnostician • Dyslexia Assessment Specialist • Behavior Specialist

<p>Melissa Hall Art Teacher</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B.A. Psychology – Minor-Criminal Justice, Texas A&M CC • 1 year Pre-K Teaching experience • 3-1/2 years experience teaching Art • CPR/First Aid Certification
<p>Russell Alaniz Music Teacher</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B.A. in Music Violin Performance, College of Charleston • Studied with Lee Chin-Siow, Andre Grabiec, the Ceronos, and Lori Fay • Performed with the Corpus Christi Chorale, Performed in the University of Houston Moores School of Music Symphony Orchestra, College of Charleston Symphony Orchestra, Charleston Symphony Orchestra, Eastern Music Festival Symphony Orchestra • Founded the "CCMS Fiddlers" after-school group violin program • 2 years experience teaching music classes (1st-6th grades) as well as the CCMS group violin program • 5 years experience teaching individual piano and violin lessons to students of all ages (4 yrs-adults) • 9 years experience performing as a contract violinist for private functions and public events
<p>Chriselle R. Garza Speech Language Pathologist</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BA in Communication Sciences & Disorders – UT Austin • MA in Communication Sciences & Disorders – UT Pan American • Member of Am. Speech & Hearing Association with Certificate of Clinical Competence • 10 years experience • CPR Trained • Hanen Certified – It Takes Two to Talk (Autism)