

We became part of the CDS family back in 2007. Being physicians, my husband and I were initially drawn to CDS for its emphasis on health and wellness. However, it was clear from the beginning that this was so much more. CDS is a safe and nurturing learning environment with dedicated educators that is a magical combination for so many of the children. Thomas has thrived in this environment and our faith in this type of learning continues to grow.

I will certainly be the first to admit that I knew very little if anything about the differentiated classroom philosophy. However, seeing this in action has made me a believer. My son describes “regular days” of group projects, Spanish, art, music, writing, reading, math games and exercise. It is obvious that he and his classmates are excited about their “regular days” – it is often a chore to tear him away at the end of the day.

But where this magic really shines through is in the CDS special events. There are several assemblies throughout the year called “Whole School Circles” but these are nothing like I remember from my days in catholic school back in New York. These are showcases of song, dance, costumes and art all centered around a theme that the children have been working on for several weeks. The theme is carried through the entire school even down to the little cubbies. It is difficult to describe these events to give them any justice but it is safe to say that there is hardly a dry eye to be found by the end of each. Other events include Harvest Fest, the Thanksgiving Feast, numerous field trips, Enrichment talent shows and productions and the Family Fitness Fair to name a few. What a wonderful experience for a parent to see their child perform on a stage with their friends with such enthusiasm and energy.

This wonderful combination of the basic elements of learning and all the extras is brought together by such an outstanding group of educators. From Mrs. Moore to Mrs. Kelly, they each bring a flare to the classroom that is truly unique. Their love of learning is refreshing, contagious and never seems to end.

I am honored to serve on the board of this amazing school and most importantly, I am a proud Mama Bear!!

Renée Fischer