

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Himmelman Construction Completes First Montessori School of its Kind in Lakewood

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LAKEWOOD, Colorado -- Himmelman Construction, Inc. (Himmelman), a privately held commercial General Contractor headquartered in Lakewood, Colorado, announced today the completion of Great Work Montessori Learning Community (Great Work) located at 6001 West 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Lakewood, Colorado. The private pre-school held a soft opening June 6 with a grand opening scheduled for August 14, which will include tours for the public, registration for incoming families, and fundraising events. The school offers a Montessori education to a diverse range of students.

As the first school of its kind in the 80214 zip code, Great Work has drawn regional interest from a variety of stakeholders, including parents and local residents. The school is located in the 80214 zip code area, encompassing most of Edgewater, a small area of Wheat Ridge and two Lakewood neighborhoods along West Colfax Avenue. The school, located in an area that has seen neighborhood schools struggle with overcrowding and low performance scores, will provide an opportunity to bring a diverse educational experience to one of the lowest income areas in Jefferson County. To include all families, the school has a sliding scale tuition allowing each family to pay what is right for their financial situation.

Amy Malik, Great Work Executive Director, began her Montessori career as an intern then quickly acquired a Montessori Masters degree. Holding a variety of positions, including teacher, Director, and Assistant Principal, Amy ultimately became a consultant for start-up programs.

"The mission behind Great Work has always been to provide Montessori to an under-served neighborhood, with a socio-economically diverse population. All my previous experience has been serving middle to upper-class families, which is a common Montessori trend," said Malik. "It was critical to our mission to identify the lowest income zip code in Jefferson County. As soon as local families started showing an interest, there was an immediate demand for a similar program beyond pre-school. A steering committee came together to prepare to apply for a Jefferson County charter to get things moving in that direction," Malik concluded.

Founded more than 100 years ago by Italian physician and teacher Maria Montessori, this renowned educational method is known for encouraging creative thinking, personalized learning and embracing individuality. It includes mixed-age classrooms and student choice on educational activities.

"As a general contracting firm that focuses on community-based projects, including school facilities of all types, our relationship with Great Work Montessori is a particular source of pride," said Barry Himmelman, Principal and President. "As a third-generation, family owned professional services firm, my Grandfather would have been very proud to be associated with such an innovative and timely educational program," Himmelman concluded.

Founded in 1955, Himmelman is a full-service construction management and contracting firm, providing a wide range of preconstruction and construction services to owners and developers across the State of Colorado. For over 23 years, Himmelman has been establishing a reputation of distinction in building PK-12 education, religious, municipal, and office properties.

To view Himmelman Construction's entire service offerings and award winning project portfolio, please visit [himmelmanconstruction.com](http://himmelmanconstruction.com)

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