



CARBONDALE · COLORADO

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

September 23, 2015



Left to right, back row:
Allan Ingram, Carbondale & Rural Fire Protection District
Sonya Hemmen, Head of School, Ross Montessori School
Jake Spaulding, Carbondale & Rural Fire Protection District
Left to right, front row: Kindergarten students at Ross Montessori School

AED at Ross Montessori School

Carbondale, CO – Pitkin County EMTAC chose Ross Montessori School (RMS) as a site for a new Automated External Defibrillator (AED) device in Carbondale. The Carbondale Rural & Fire Protection District helped RMS apply for the grant and successfully acquire an AED to be located at the school's

facility at 407 Merrill Ave., Carbondale. RMS has seven staff members trained to use the AED in the event of a cardiac emergency.

According to the Red Cross, everyone should be within four minutes of an AED and someone who is trained to use it. Sudden cardiac arrest is one of the leading causes of death in the U.S. Over 350,000 people will suffer from sudden cardiac arrest this year. It can happen to anyone, anytime, anywhere and at any age. An AED is the only effective treatment for restoring a regular heart rhythm during sudden cardiac arrest and is an easy to operate tool for someone with no medical background.

The AED at RMS will be accessible to the public during school hours. “Ross is glad to be part of the network of emergency responders in the Roaring Fork Valley,” stated Sonya Hemmen, Head of School. “We take our role seriously and will maintain the AED and continue to train staff to use it.”

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Ross Montessori Charter School, established in 2005, follows the philosophy of Dr. Maria Montessori, which emphasizes self-directed, purposeful activities in a prepared environment. Dr. Montessori’s work found that meaningful hands-on projects, along with the time to do those projects at his or her own pace, create learning in personal and powerful ways. Ross Montessori School is chartered through the Colorado Charter School institute and open to all students in the Roaring Fork Valley.

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