



INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL  
OF MONTEREY  
FOUNDATION

# Fall 2010 Newsletter

## Your Contributions Are Important!

As a public charter school, ISM receives funding to pay for rudimentary program costs. Public schools state-wide have been forced to reduce and eliminate most elective classes and classroom support because the Average Daily Attendance (ADA) funding received does not cover the additional costs for offering these classes. One of the many features that sets ISM apart from other schools is the fact that it continues to offer:

- Classroom teaching assistants and specialists
- Drama, fine arts and music for each student
- Spanish language daily
- Physical education

In order to continue offering these programs, the ISM Foundation is challenged with bridging the gap between what the State provides in ADA and what it costs to offer its programs. After ISM receives its State funding, the ISMF still needs to raise approximately \$1800 per student through parental contributions to the Family Share.

As the name - Family Share - implies, we ask that all families share in the responsibility of bridging the funding gap. All families are asked to contribute financially to the maximum extent possible for their budget. Our goal is for each family to participate and make contributing to their child's education a priority in their annual giving.

## Congratulations on the start of another fantastic year at ISM!

A GREAT start to the school year!

### Chapman Foundation Grant Matched by Generous & Early Donations

ISM was recently awarded a \$30,000 grant from the William McCaskey Chapman & Adaline Dinsmore Chapman Foundation to support the Spanish and math programs. The terms of this generous matching grant required that the ISM Foundation raise \$30,000 in donations from ISM families in order to receive the grant amount of \$30,000.

We set a goal of doing this by September 30, asking all of you to support the school early and generously. As a result, we met the challenge well ahead of the target date.

Thank you to all who helped by contributing their Family Share dollars, and a very special thanks to the Chapman Foundation for providing this grant that helps cover the Family Share for those who cannot afford to give the full \$1,800 per student themselves. \$1800 per student is the funding gap between what the State provides through ADA money and the actual cost of an ISM education.

The combination of your generosity and the philanthropy of the Chapmans ensures that ISM can continue to teach Spanish to every student every day from kindergarten to eighth grade, and to deliver an augmented math program that develops skills students can count on.

**Thank you for your continued support,  
The ISM Foundation**



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## FALL DONOR PROFILE

Every newsletter we will feature comments from a family who has made contributing to the ISM Foundation a priority.



### Scott Faust and Lee Richmond "Funding the Extras"

*Scott Faust, Lee Richmond, and their sons 5th grader Cal and 7th grader Theo - despite being brand-new to the ISM family - are ardent supporters of the ISM Foundation (ISMF) and the Family Share program. They understand that after ISM receives its State funding, the ISMF still needs to raise approximately \$1800 per student through parental contributions to the Family Share. Bridging that funding gap allows ISM to continue providing classroom teaching assistants and specialists; Drama, fine arts and music instruction for each student; Spanish language daily; and physical education classes.*

My wife, Lee Richmond, and I are very excited to have our sons, Cal and Theo, attending ISM for the first time this year. As is the case for many families, this didn't happen overnight, and we felt extremely fortunate when Theo's name was chosen in the lottery for the 2010-11 year. Just weeks into the school year, we already are seeing our sons benefit from the school's well-rounded programs and academic rigor.

Our awareness of ISM dates to my own change of employment in the spring of 2008, when I went from being general manager and executive editor of The Salinas Californian newspaper to the position of executive director for strategic communications at Cal State Monterey Bay. At CSUMB, I met many colleagues who were very high on the ISM experience for their children.

We began to pursue ISM for our sons, while they continued to attend Mission Park Elementary School in Salinas, where we continued to live until fall 2009. Theo's graduation from sixth grade last spring meant that we would need to find a new school for him one way or another, and this proved to be a good time for Cal to make a change as well as he headed into fifth grade.

We have found ISM to be a very welcoming place, both for our sons and for us as parents. This is the result of many things, I think, including the active outreach to parents through orientation and a very thorough Back to School program, the expectation that we provide volunteer support, and involvement by our sons, such as Theo's decision to join the ISM soccer team.

I am happy to be serving as the Fifth Grade Champion for Family Share funding on behalf of the ISM Foundation because I see the clear benefit of parents' united financial support for all the "extras" the school offers. Spanish is one great example. Neither of our sons had ever taken Spanish before, and in another setting, they might not have had that opportunity until high school. Though each is finding it a challenge, we are thrilled for them to be developing this new skill.

Lee and I are looking to four rewarding years as ISM parents, as we help our sons prepare for the next step in their education. We are confident they will leave ISM with both an outstanding education and increased self-confidence, thanks to ISM's high standards and dedicated school community.

~ Scott Faust and Lee Richmond~