



School Talk

WEEKLY UPDATE!

September 20, 2025

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NO SCHOOL on Tuesday, September 23rd in observation of Rosh Hashanah.

Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month

From September 15 to October 15, we have the privilege of celebrating **Hispanic Heritage Month**. **Hispanic Heritage Month** is a time to honor the diverse cultures, rich histories, and invaluable contributions of Hispanic and Latino communities across Arlington, the United States and beyond.

This month is more than a tribute to the past; it is a celebration of the present achievements and a commitment to building a more inclusive future. At APS, we proudly recognize the power of diversity and the importance of uplifting the voices that shape our schools, our communities and our world.

Hispanic and Latino individuals have made lasting impacts through art, literature, music, science, politics, cuisine, and many other fields. Their stories are filled with resilience, creativity and leadership. It is our responsibility to ensure that those stories are seen, heard and valued.

By celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month, we reaffirm our dedication to:

- Fostering cultural appreciation and mutual respect
- Creating and sustaining spaces where every student and family feels a sense of belonging
- Educating our students and the greater community about the richness of Hispanic and Latino identity and history

Thank you for being a part of this meaningful journey of recognition, education and community.

Read more [here](#).

Advanced Academics Info Session: September 30th

[Click here for the 9:15am to 10:15am session](#)

[Click here for the 12:00pm to 1:00pm session](#)

(On Microsoft Teams)

Please join our Advanced Academics coach, Joanna Yamashita, for virtual sessions to learn about upcoming ability testing, the Advanced Academics screening process and how Advanced Academic services are delivered at MPSA. After a short presentation there will be time for questions and answers.

Please reach out with any questions: joanna.yamashita@apsva.us

**Advanced Academics was formerly known as “Gifted Services”*

A Huge Thank You to Our PTA

We are so grateful to our PTA for sponsoring the visit from author **Marc Tyler Nobleman**! Our 3rd–5th graders were captivated by his stories, especially about uncovering the truth behind the creator of Batman and the importance of never giving up when seeking truth. His book *Thirty Minutes Over Oregon* was a Monarch Award finalist last year, and our students loved hearing directly from him. Thank you, PTA, for making this inspiring and memorable event possible!





MPSA Picture Day

We will be taking fall individual photos* on **Wednesday, October 8**. Order forms will go home next week but you can also order pics online. Go to mylifetouch.com and enter picture day ID **EVTD6ZMC4**.

Make up day will be November 19th. There will be no other make up days for fall photos.

**These photos will be included in the yearbook.*

Upcoming Dates

- Tuesday, September 23: **Rosh Hashanah (NO SCHOOL)**
- Thursday, October 2: **Yom Kippur (NO SCHOOL)**
- Wednesday, October 8: **Picture Day**
- Friday, October 10: **Early Release (Parent-Teacher Conferences)**
- Monday, October 13: **NO SCHOOL** for Students
- Friday, October 17: **MPSA Fall Festival 2025**
- Monday, October 20: **NO SCHOOL (Diwali)**
- Thursday, October 23: **Multicultural Night**

Keep in Touch

- MPSA on APS: <https://montessori.apsva.us/>
- MPSA on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/MPSArlington>
- MPSA Library on Twitter: https://twitter.com/MPSA_Library
- MPSA Science on Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/MPSA_Science
- Principal Genove on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/CSGenove>
- Ms. Barbour's Art Class on Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/heather.barbour2018/>
- Arlington Montessori PTA: <http://acmpta.com/>
- Arlington Montessori Action Committee (AMAC): <http://www.arlingtonmontessori.org/>

ACMPTA WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



September 20, 2025

What's Inside:

- Baroody Enrichment Registration is OPEN!
- Got Snacks?
- Sign Up for a PTA Membership
- MPSA Hoodies & Tees – Don't Miss Out!
- What Does "I Belong!" Mean to Your Child?
- We Are 32% Towards Our No Stuff Goal!
- Ways to Support the PTA
- Community Interest Share
- Keep In Touch

Only **27** more days until the **MPSA Fall Festival** on October 17th!
Click [here](#) to purchase festival wristbands! (Needed to play games.)
Have an item to donate to our raffle? E-mail VPprograms@acmpta.com

Baroody Enrichment Registration is OPEN!

We are happy to have **Baroody Enrichment** back to provide quality afterschool activities for your children. This year we even have some PreK offerings! Registration **closes** Sunday, September 28th! You can read about the classes being offered and sign up by [clicking here](#).

Enrichment will begin Monday, October 6th.

Got Snacks?

MPSA instructional staff must meet at least once a month for after schoolwork & collaboration meetings. The ACMPTA would like to revive the tradition where our families would provide snacks for the teachers to have during these meetings. We are looking for at least 4 families to donate snacks to the cause. *Examples of snacks: Granola bars, fruit snacks, nuts, cheese & crackers, cookies, etc. We will also be asking for fresh fruit/vegetables as well.*

Snacks can be dropped off as early as the day before to the Kia in the main office. The PTA will provide paper products.

[Sign up here!](#)

Sign Up for a PTA Membership

Getting a PTA membership is some of the easiest fundraising you can do! [Click here to sign up.](#)

Want to gift a membership to a teacher? List who the membership is for, and we will notify them of your gift. In the chance that someone has already purchased a membership for your teacher, we will pass it along to one of the teachers that is in need of membership. A sponsored membership is \$15.

individual membership is **\$15**, and a family membership (2 adults in the same household) is **\$25**.

MPSA Hoodies & Tees - Don't Miss Out!

We are taking orders for our lush pullover hoodie! **Sizes Youth XS to Adult 4X!** These are popular and so comfy in the cooler months! Don't miss out!

Hoodie sales will continue until October 3rd and then the order will be placed. We do have some hoodies in stock so you may get yours earlier.

We have other swag available, too!

[Order swag here!](#)

What Does "I Belong!" Mean to Your Child?



The annual **PTA Reflections Art Competition** is now open! This year's theme is **"I Belong!"**. Information about the different categories can be found [here](#). There you will also find video tutorials by local artists on how to create your best art via mixed media, photography, art (clay), movie making and more!

Deadline to turn in entries is **Monday, November 3rd**. Application form is forthcoming! Any questions? E-mail reflections@acmpta.com.

We look forward to seeing the art you create!

We Are 32% Towards Our No Stuff Goal!



Thank you to all who have donated! We've raised \$1600 so far! Our goal is \$5000 – can you help us get there?

Click to donate to our **NO STUFF Fundraiser!** The PTA promises to **NOT** ask your children to sell a thing if we can make our fundraising goal of **\$5000** from this fundraiser! We are asking each family to consider a donation of **\$75** this year – but we will be grateful for whatever amount you decide to donate! We are 501c3, so your donation is **tax deductible!** [Click here!](#)

Ways to Support the PTA

Please fill out this interest survey and see if there is a role for you in our PTA! Own or work for a business that would like to donate charitable funds, goods or services? Fill it out, too!

The **Advisory Council on Teaching & Learning (ACTL)** is made up of representatives from each school and certain community organizations to assist in reviewing the system-wide curriculum and instructional program, and in developing recommendations for improvement.

The ACMPTA is seeking MPSA parents to be our representative on this committee. We are looking for a primary and an alternate. If you are interested, please send an e-mail to president@acmpta.com. To read more about ACTL, [click here](#).

Community Interest Share

You're invited to attend the **Children and Youth Well-being Plan Network** virtual meeting. The Children and Youth Well-Being Network are working to create the vision and roadmap for the community wide plan. This will include writing a vision, mapping out an engagement strategy and identifying what's working (or not). All Arlington youth and adults, service providers and community organizations are welcome.

This meeting will be conducted via Zoom using both audio and visual displays. If you require any accommodations to fully participate in the meeting—such as interpretation services--please email YouthWellBeing@arlingtonva.us. **Register** to receive the Zoom link and an event reminder.

For more information about the plan, [click here](#).

Keep In Touch

- PTA Website: <https://www.acmpta.com/>
- PTA Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ACMPTA>
- Private PTA Forum on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1614926128674543>
- PTA Twitter: <https://x.com/ArlCoMontessori>
- PTA Listserv: ACMPTA+subscribe@groups.io
- Montessori Caregivers Group (Parent-lead Private Forum):
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1419402838207257>