



School Talk

WEEKLY UPDATE!

September 28, 2025

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NO SCHOOL on Thursday, October 2nd in observation of Yom Kippur.

Two Great In-house Afterschool Enrichment Programs

MPSA is sponsoring 2 in-house afterschool enrichment opportunities for our students!

Little Friends for Peace (LFFP) Afterschool Peace Program: LFFP offers After-School Programming that gives students a fun and meaningful way to continue learning peace skills beyond the classroom. Through games, art, cooperative activities, and group reflection, youth explore how to care for themselves, build friendships, and resolve conflicts peacefully.

Our after-school programs help students:

- Strengthen social and emotional skills
- Develop confidence and self-awareness
- Build positive peer relationships
- Practice cooperation, respect, and empathy in a supportive setting

This program has been tailored to the needs of our MPSA community and provides a safe, engaging environment where students can grow, play, and learn together.

For grades 3-5. Cost: \$200 – meets for 6 weeks every full day of school on Wednesdays beginning October 8 from 4PM to 5PM. E-mail Suzanne Stork if interested: suzanne.stork@apsva.us.

MPSA Afterschool Coding Club for Girls: Grow your coding skills with the Coding Club! Students can practice coding and building with a microbit. This club will be led by Ms. Shaw, Instructional Technology Coach at Montessori Public School of Arlington.

For girls*, grades 3-5. Cost \$100 – meets every full day of school on **Mondays** beginning October 20 through Dec 15th from 4PM to 5PM. [Register here.](#) Have questions? E-mail Renee Shaw: renee.shaw@apsva.us.

Message for Upper Elementary Musicians

☹️ Sadly, APS no longer offers Honors Strings or Band for Elementary students.

😊 Happily, Honors Chorus is still available to 5th grade chorus students. If your student is interested in auditioning for this county group, please view [this slide deck](#) for registration links, audition information, and practice tracks. Auditions will be held at Kenmore during the last week of October.

☹️ If you have questions after viewing the slides, please contact amie.shakespeare@apsva.us

Picture Day is the 8th! Can You Help?

We need volunteers to help with picture day! Your help will keep the day running organized and smooth! In exchange we will give you a voucher for 50% off a Lifetouch package! [Sign up here!](#)

We will be taking fall individual photos* on **Wednesday, October 8**. Order forms will go home this 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.*

Reminder: Advanced Academics Info Session

[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”*

Upcoming Dates

- 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, November 6: **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/>

**SCROLL DOWN FOR PTA
NEWSLETTER!**

ACMPTA WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



September 28, 2025

What's Inside:

- Got Snacks?
- Sign Up for a PTA Membership
- MPSA Hoodies & Tees – Don't Miss Out!
- What Does "I Belong!" Mean to Your Child?
- Ways to Support the PTA
- Keep In Touch

Only **19** more days until the **MPSA Fall Festival** on **October 17th**!
Click [here](#) to purchase festival wristbands! (Needed to play games.)

Early Bird Pricing Ends THIS Friday!

Have an item to donate to our raffle? E-mail VPprograms@acmpta.com

Thank You for the Snacks!

We want to thank the following families for helping to make the staff meeting more pleasurable by providing yummy snacks for the teachers!

- Darrah Family
- David/Tombras Family
- Gregariou/Rathod Family
- Kumar/Maripuri Family
- Lilja Family
- Monterrey/Martinez Family

If you'd like to contribute, please [sign up here!](#) 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!](#)

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**. [Fill out the application here!](#) Any questions? E-mail reflections@acmpta.com.

We look forward to seeing the art you create!

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](#).

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>