



School Talk

WEEKLY UPDATE!

May 21, 2021

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While children are still allowed to check out books at this time, [we are asking for all library books to be returned to school by June 4th](#). This is to allow us time to inventory our collection and make decisions about any new/replacement purchases that may need to be made. We are still missing many books from this year and last Spring 2020. Please check your home for any library books and return them. **We do not charge fines or late fees for overdue books.** Thank you in advance!

[An SOL Change for Monday's VIRTUAL Testers](#)

Our first week of SOL testing went very well! And, as with any new process, we have figured out where we could tweak the process. The change that affects families is our new pick-up time. **Please be ready to pick your child up at 11:30AM.** Most of our testers finished way in advance of 12:30PM so we are adjusting the time, so they do not have to wait so long to go home.

If your child needs to ride the bus home, they will need to remain at school for the whole day and will be released at 2:20PM. Please be at the bus stop assigned to your child in ParentVue **at least 10 minutes early** because the bus will likely arrive ahead of schedule since we do not have many bus riders.

Also PLEASE remember to send your child to school with a [water bottle](#) and a [snack](#). If your child needs to remain at school the whole day, please pack a lunch for them. The water fountains are not functional currently for safety reasons, so a water bottle is important to have.

 **Reminder – Sign the No Place for Hate® Pledge**

No Place for Hate® (NPFH) is a school climate improvement framework for preK-12 schools looking to build inclusive and safe communities where all students can feel comfortable and thrive. MPSA is working on our certification as a part of that program and to achieve that goal, we will need to have all our students and staff sign a pledge as a part of this program. The Pledge reads as follows:

“I promise to do my best to treat everyone fairly. I promise to do my best to be kind to everyone – even if they are not like me. If I see someone being hurt or bullied, I will tell a teacher. Everyone should be able to feel safe and happy in school. I want our school to be No Place for Hate®.”

We ask that you encourage your children to sign this pledge. It is not a legally binding document, but rather a way to give your child the power to take ownership of their promise to abide by the words of the pledge. We also encourage staff and welcome parents to sign the pledge as well.

View and sign the electronic pledge by clicking [here](#).

As part of the work to support diversity, equity, and inclusion in our school community as we are working toward becoming a certified **No Place for Hate®** school, the NPFH committee, along with the MPSA **Deep Equity & Inclusion (DEI)** committee has developed a school wide read aloud activity. The committee chose two books, one for the primary classrooms and one for lower elementary and upper elementary classrooms, that teachers will read along with their students and engage in conversations surrounding the topics of the books afterwards.

The books are [All Are Welcome](#) by, to be read by the Primary Montessori students, and [Intersection Allies](#), to be read by both Lower and Upper Elementary Montessori.

 **Congratulations Are in Order**

Please join us as we congratulate the following staff members who are receiving service awards for their time with APS:

- LEM Montessori Assistant **Reina Martinez** for 10 years of service;
- LEM Teacher, **Jaspreet Choudhary** for 15 years of service;
- Primary Montessori Assistant, **Lidia Ordonez** for 20 years of service; and
- Special Education Teachers, **Vicki Taylor**, for 35 years of service.

We look forward to working with you all for many more years to come!

 **Sign Your 3rd/4th Grader Up for Band or Orchestra by June 11th!**

The deadline to sign up your **current 3rd/4th grader** for MPSA Band or Orchestra is **June 11th!** Learn more about the 4th and 5th grade band and strings programs <https://youtu.be/MuGeN3xrSR8>

To sign up for **MPSA Band** with Mr. Glasner click here: <https://forms.gle/8qUHTEhqsAaZuT3JA>

To sign up for **MPSA Strings** with Mr. Kamenski click here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdpCu-6W0uXU_HEf2EQVN4JTy1bV8F_8e_20e6Nfe4owh6GA/viewform

**Band and orchestra is only for students who will be in Upper Elementary Montessori (4th and 5th grade) this fall.*

Qualtrics Surveys Must Be Current

Your child(ren)'s Qualtrics **green check** must be from a survey taken **the day of** arrival. Any survey presented without the child's name and current date on it will be rejected.

Reminder: If you need to pick up your child from school early, or you need to change your child's dismissal protocol, **please call the main office** at **703-228-8871**. This way you ensure that all parties will be notified. If you are requesting that your child go home with someone other than yourself, please be sure to list that person in ParentVue as an emergency contact and give permission to have your child released to them.

Upcoming Dates

- Monday, May 24 - **Virtual Students Only** 3rd, 4th, 5th Grade **Math**
- Tuesday, May 25 - **Hybrid T/W Students Only** 4th Grade **Reading**
- Wednesday, May 26 - **Hybrid T/W Students Only** 5th Grade **Reading**
- Monday, May 31 – **SCHOOL CLOSED** (Memorial Day)
- Tuesday, June 1 - **Hybrid T/W Students Only** 4th Grade **Math**
- Wednesday, June 2 - **Hybrid T/W Students Only** 5th Grade **Math**
- Monday, June 7 - **Virtual 5th Graders Only** **Science** (3rd and 4th graders DO NOT take a Science SOL)
- Tuesday, June 8 - **Hybrid T/W Students Only** 5th Grade **Science**

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
- Principal Genove on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/CSGenove>
- Arlington Montessori PTA: <http://acmpta.com/>
- Arlington Montessori Action Committee (AMAC): <http://www.arlingtonmontessori.org/>