



School Talk

WEEKLY UPDATE!

September 17, 2021

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[MPSA Celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month](#)



Each year, Americans observe **National Hispanic Heritage Month** from September 15 to October 15, by celebrating the histories, cultures, and contributions of Americans whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America. The observation started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period. It was enacted into law on August 17, 1988.

Each classroom is honoring the month through various activities. There are stories being read, influential people being discussed, and research projects being assigned with Hispanic culture at the root. Our

MPSA librarian has curated a selection of books with Hispanic culture or members of society as their theme and they are available to be checked out by students and staff.



Read more about how APS is celebrating Hispanic Heritage month [here](#). The page updates weekly.

[Please Call the Office When Changing Your Child's Dismissal](#)

If you need to change how your child goes home, **please call the office!** We know many of you are in touch with your child's teacher through e-mail and text but since they are teaching during the day, some teachers may miss your last minute request for a change. Calling the office will ensure that the right information is disseminated and your child will get where they need to go.

Likewise, if your child is going to be absent, **please let the office know!** E-mail montessori.attendance@apsva.us or call **703-228-2037**.

[Covid-19 Updates](#)

[Parent Quick Guide for Covid-19](#)

If you are required to have your child take a Covid-19 test to return to school, APS will now take test results from **any provider-attended** PCR test. (No self-test kit results will be accepted.) APS offers free testing for our students and staff at Kenmore Middle School by ResourcePath. Make an appointment [here](#) or use their walk-in service available from 3:30PM to 7PM M-F.

Send your child's negative results to our school's Public Health nurse at ssoliman@arlingtonva.us and our school's clinic aide at jbooth-mericle@arlingtonva.us. They will have to read the results and clear your child before they can return to school.

Read more about: [Health Screening](#), [Contact Tracing \(Quarantine & Isolation\)](#)

If you would like to opt in your child for **weekly asymptomatic Covid-19 testing** with ResourcePath, done at MPSA on Fridays, you may still do so. The opt in form is available in [English](#), [Spanish](#), [Mongolian](#), [Arabic](#), [Amharic](#). Instructions on how to fill out the application is available in all 5 languages [here](#). The application and consent form must be filled out online. Please do not send it to the school as this testing is performed by ResourcePath and not APS. *Results will only be shared if your child test positive for Covid-19.*

The list updates weekly so if you sign up this week, your child will have their first test on October 1. Confirmation of sign up will be sent by Kia Haynes prior to your child's test. If you have signed your child

up but wish to opt them out, please e-mail info@resourcepath.net and please CC kia.stevensonhaynes@apsva.us as well to ensure we don't take your child to be tested.

Picture Day Volunteers Needed!

MPSA's Picture Day is Wednesday, **October 6** with Lifetouch photo studios. You can preorder your photos now at mylifetouch.com. Our picture day ID is **EVTM8CDD7**. Order forms will be sent home in next week's backpack mail. Make up day will be November 17.

We have gotten permission to open 6 slots for volunteers to come help that day. Volunteers must have been fully vaccinated* and will be required to have completed the volunteer application process by Sunday, October 4. Sign up by clicking [here](#).

Fill out the volunteer application [here](#) (available in English and in Spanish).

Upcoming Dates

- Wednesday, September 29 – **Early Release, 1:26PM**
- Wednesday, October 6 – **School Picture Day** (Individual Portraits)
- Thursday, October 7 – **3rd Graders to Outdoor Lab**
- Friday, October 8 – **5th Graders to Outdoor Lab**
- Monday, October 11 – **NO SCHOOL for students** (Office open)
- Thursday, October 21 – **Early Release/Parent Teacher Conferences** (Virtual)
- Friday, October 22 – **NO SCHOOL for students/Parent Teacher Conferences** (Virtual)

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/>