



School Talk

WEEKLY UPDATE!

December 3, 2021

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NEW OFFICE HOURS!

Beginning on **Monday**, the main office will now begin closing at **4:30PM** instead of 5PM.

This **Wednesday, December 8th**, is an **EARLY RELEASE**. Students will be dismissed at **1:26PM** and the office will close at **2:30PM**. Extended Day will remain open until 6PM.

Parents & Texting

We understand that parents feel comforted by having ways to communicate with their children during the school day, however, **we respectfully ask that parents do not text their children during the school day**. It is distracting and, often disruptive. If you have an emergency and need to contact your child, please call the main office and we'll deliver the information.

In addition, **please stop texting your children from the car rider line**. We are trying our best to have an orderly dismissal but children who received a text message of "I'm here in line" or "come out" tend to run out the door, without waiting for a teacher's permission. It has proven to be unsafe many times as some parents text from the back of the line and the children, who are eager to get to the parent

attempt to cross the driveway where the buses are exiting. We understand that you may be in a rush, however, safety first, please.

MPSA Gift Card Drive

In our community of plenty, it is sometimes hard to imagine that anyone can suffering from food insecurity. But there are. We have about 30 families in MPSA who will be suffering from food insecurity during the two-week winter break without the daily hot meals served at school twice a day. We are asking families who are willing to help to please take part in our MPSA Gift Card Drive. Please send in **small denomination gift cards** (\$5-\$25) to grocery stores or stores that have groceries available (such as Target and Walmart). We are asking for small denominations so that we can evenly split the gift cards among families. Our hope is to give each family at least \$50.

Please send in your gift cards with your children and have them either give to their teachers or to **Ms. Kia** in the main office. We will be giving out the gift card the last week of school, so we'd like to have them all in hand by **Monday, December 13th**. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Naglieri Testing for 1st Grade to Begin Next Week

The **Naglieri NonVerbal Ability Test** is a test that measures nonverbal reasoning as well as problem solving abilities. This test will be administered to all first graders starting **December 9th through the 14th**. Please send your child to school with their iPads fully charged one those days. If you have any questions about the Naglieri, you may e-mail [Ms. Joanna Yamashita](#), our Resource Teacher for the Gifted.

Report Cards Glitch Fixed/How to Read Growth Assessment Reports


The report card glitch has been fixed and should be visible in ParentVue now. A reminder that our preK students do not get report cards, and our Ks get them every semester, not quarter.

For guidance on how to interpret the **Student Detail by Question (SDBQ)** report and the vertical scaled scores, parents may visit the [APS Fall Growth Assessment webpage](#) where following resources are available:


- [Overview of the Student Detail By Question \(SDBQ\) Report](#)
- [Interpreting Fall 2021 Vertical Scaled Scores: Grades 3-8 Reading Growth Assessments](#) (PDF)
- [Interpreting Fall 2021 Vertical Scaled Scores: Grades 3-8 Mathematics Growth Assessments](#) (PDF)
- [Parent & Caregiver Resources for Growth Assessments](#)

School's Closed?! - Weather Codes


With the coming of winter and possible inclement weather, it is important to familiarize yourself with the new **APS Weather Codes**.




ALL APS
SCHOOLS
AND OFFICES
ARE CLOSED
DUE TO WEATHER



APS SCHOOLS
WILL OPEN
2 HOURS LATE
DUE TO WEATHER



APS SCHOOLS
WILL CLOSE
EARLY TODAY
DUE TO WEATHER



AFTER SCHOOL
ACTIVITIES ARE
CANCELLED
DUE TO WEATHER



ALL WEEKEND
ACTIVITIES ARE
CANCELLED
DUE TO WEATHER

Click [this link](#) to read about the codes in more detail, as well as see how APS determines how and when to close or delay school.

MPSA Vaccination Event

MPSA will be hosting a vaccination clinic for **children aged 5-11 only** to receive the Covid-19 vaccine, free of charge. The event is walk in only, no appointments necessary. The schedule is as follows:

- First Dose Vaccines: **December 17th**, 4:30PM to 6:30PM
- Second Dose Vaccines: **January 7th**, 4:30PM to 6:30PM

This event is being run by the Public Health Division in Arlington County. If supplies or time should run out, the staff will help families locate other resources to get their children vaccinated.

MPSA Lost & Found

On Wednesday, **December 15**, all the items in the MPSA Lost & Found will be collected and donated. If your child is missing any clothing or items, please remind them to check the Lost & Found. It is located on the only shelf in the cafeteria.

Upcoming Dates

- Tuesday, December 7 – **PTA General Meeting**, 7PM on Zoom
- Wednesday, December 8 – **EARLY RELEASE**, Dismissal is at 1:26PM
- Monday, December 13 – End of the **MPSA Gift Card Drive**
- Monday, December 20 to Friday, December 31 – **NO SCHOOL/Winter Break**

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/>