



School Talk

WEEKLY UPDATE!

January 7, 2022

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[Please Report Positive Covid Results](#)

It is important that families report their positive COVID-19 test results. The easiest way to do so is to fill out the daily Qualtrics survey for your child. School staff will receive the notice that you reported a positive and the school's Public Health Nurse (PHN) will contact you for more information and to deliver instructions. You should do this for **all positive results**, even those from a home/self test kit.

Vaccinated close contacts: You should also report all **close contacts** via the Qualtrics survey, regardless of vaccination status. Vaccinated children who are close contacts will still be permitted to attend school but the PHN still needs to be notified so she can verify your child's vaccination status and clear them to attend. Reporting in a quick and timely manner can prevent any missed school for your child. Once your child has been confirmed to be fully vaccinated, that information will go on record, and they will not need to be verified again.

Our school's PHN is [Sohilah Soliman](#). Any correspondence to her should also include the clinic aide, [Jenniffer Booth-Mericle](#), to ensure your message was received.

[N95 Masks & Tests for Staff/Students](#)

APS has ordered a supply of KN95 masks for staff, particulate filters for an APS-provided student masks, and at-home rapid antigen test kits for every staff member and student. Supplies for these items are

limited but we anticipate them soon and APS will send additional communication when available. As always, visit the APS COVID-19 [information page](#) for the most updated information.

Weekly Covid-19 Testing

Starting this month, APS will be using a new testing partner for the weekly surveillance testing - CIAN Diagnostics. This means that, if you would like your child to continue to be tested weekly, you need to sign new paperwork with CIAN.

The link to sign up for **STUDENTS** is [here](#). The link to sign up for **APS STAFF** is [here](#).

Read more information about testing [here](#).

Note: Our testing day and time has been changed to Mondays from 12PM to 2PM.

Be a Substitute for APS

Coming back to in person instruction has had its ups and downs with finding substitutes on a consistent basis to fill our jobs. APS has been working hard to increase our pool with quality substitutes to cover classes for our students.

The substitute pay rate was increased beginning November 1st, making Arlington Public Schools the highest paying district for substitutes.

Effective as of November 1st:



APS substitutes are compensated at the highest rate in Northern VA

New Rates effective November 1

Substitute Teacher	\$18/hr (\$126/day)
Long Term Substitute	\$28/hr (\$196/day)
School Based Substitute	\$18.25/hr (\$127.75/day)

Go for the Gold effective November 1

Bronze Star	50 jobs worked
Silver Star	75 jobs worked & \$50 bonus
Gold Star	100 jobs worked & \$100 bonus



If you are interested, please fill out the [substitute application form here](#), and send an e-mail to [Amaris Johnson](#) expressing your interest in being an MPSA sub.

Important to note: You only have to work when you want to and when you are available. There are no minimum time requirements!

 **Upcoming Dates**

- Monday, January 17 – **Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday – NO SCHOOL for Students/Staff**
- Monday, January 31 – **Grade Preparation Day – NO SCHOOL for Students**

 **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/>