

# School Talk

WEEKLY UPDATE!

May 31, 2024

## Inside this Edition

- Congratulations to Mr. Koutsouftikis for 25 Years!
- SOL Retake Schedule
- Summer iPad OPT OUT
- MPSA Library Reminders
- Field Day Volunteers – Sign Up Now!
- Extended Day Wish List
- Lost & Found Final Purge
- Upcoming Dates
- Keep in Touch

Reminder that this **Wednesday, June 5**, is an **EARLY RELEASE** for students. They will be dismissed at **1:30PM**. Please note that **June 12** and **June 14** are also **EARLY RELEASE** days.

### Congratulations to Mr. Koutsouftikis for 25 Years!

Congratulations to Mr. Koutsouftikis reaching this momentous career milestone – 25 years of service to Arlington Public Schools. He was surprised with his service award this past Wednesday by Principal Genove. Happy silver anniversary, Mr. K!





### SOL Retake Schedule

All SOLs retakes\* will begin at 9:15 so please make sure your child is on time and has had a good breakfast. Breakfast is available for purchase from the school cafeteria as well.

Retakes:

**TUESDAY June 4<sup>th</sup>** - All **Reading** SOL retakes/makeups

**WEDNESDAY June 5<sup>th</sup>** - All **Math** SOL retakes/makeups

**THURSDAY June 6<sup>th</sup>** – All **Science** and **Virginia Studies** retakes/makeups

*\*Retakes were offered to students who scored within 25 points of the benchmark passing score of 400.*

### Summer iPad OPT OUT

MPSA parents of **PreK-3 students through 4th grade** may **OPT OUT** of having their child take their iPads home. If you opt out, your child will surrender their iPad to their teacher before departing for summer break. Any questions? E-mail **Renee Shaw** at [renee.shaw@apsva.us](mailto:renee.shaw@apsva.us).

\*\*\*Submit a new form for each child you are opting out, please.\*\*\*

Form: <https://forms.gle/CYpuJR2mesSW1BQCA>

### MPSA Library Reminders

Library check-outs ended today, **May 31st**, and checkout notices have been put in backpacks. Please help your students look for their books, it would be appreciated. Not all students have notices so you might not find one.

Some of these books were checked out long ago, so it is possible they are lost forever. We'll help search classrooms and extended day for copies that may have been misplaced at school.

If you do find the books, please send them back. If you don't find them, it's ok, but please contact Kay Miller through ParentSquare or email about the lost book. If you would like to help grow our collection, we can share a list of books the kids would enjoy and you could get something from that list to replace the lost book. We also have an ongoing Amazon [wishlist](#) for library supplies that can be found [here](#).

We do care about our books, but we don't want to create tension at home or discourage students from using the library and checking out books. We LOVE that your kids love the library books (and almost always return them). We want to encourage reading and exploration, so please don't let anyone feel guilty for misplaced books. It happens to all of us. We want to make sure our students always feel welcome here, and we'll welcome lost books back if they ever turn up.

### **Field Day Volunteers – Sign Up Now!**

**Field Day 2024** is next Friday, **June 7<sup>th</sup>**! (Raindate: June 10<sup>th</sup>). We will be having a full day of events and need volunteers! Sign up to help if you are a **CLEARED** APS volunteer!

Primary Montessori will have their field day in the morning and LEM/UEM in the afternoon. We will also be having our traditional staff vs. students game at the end of field day.

Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4FAFA629ABFDC07-49943215-field>

*\*Parents will be invited to come observe field day – you do not need to be a cleared volunteer to be a spectator!\**

### **Extended Day Wish List**

There are 3 early releases coming up which means 3 whirlwind early release events for Extended Day, to include the famous Carnival Day! There is a [wishlist](#) for items needed for those events. If you are able to help with a contribution, they would be so grateful. You can find the wishlist [here](#) on Amazon. Thank you!

### **Lost & Found Final Purge**

The end of the school year means it's time for the final purge of the overflowing Lost & Found. On Friday, June 14, we will donate any items remaining in the school's lost and found;

We encourage you to come check out the lost and found in the next few weeks if you are missing belongings.

### Upcoming Dates

- Wednesday, June 5 – **Early Release**, dismissal is at 1:30PM
- Friday, June 7 – **MPSA Field Day** (raindate, Monday, June 10)
- Wednesday, June 12 – **Early Release**, dismissal is at 1:30PM
- Friday, June 14 – **Last Day of School & Early Release**, dismissal is at 1:30PM

### 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](https://twitter.com/MPSA_Library)
- MPSA Science on Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/MPSA\\_Science](https://www.instagram.com/MPSA_Science)
- Principal Genove on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/CSGenove>
- Arlington Montessori PTA: <http://acmpta.com/>
- Arlington Montessori Action Committee (AMAC): <http://www.arlingtonmontessori.org/>

**\*\*SCROLL DOWN FOR THE PTA NEWSLETTER\*\***

# ACMPTA WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



## What's Inside?

- Join the PTA for Popsicles on the Playground!
- Help Clean Up Our Pond! (ACMPTA Gardening Day)
- Upcoming Restaurant Night at the NEW Cornerstone!
- Sorry - No Yearbooks Left!
- Giant Food Community Bag Program
- Join the PTA or Sponsor a Staff Member

## [Join the PTA for Popsicles on the Playground](#)

ACMPTA INVITES MPSA FAMILIES TO...



**POPSICLES @  
THE MPSA PLAYGROUND!**

JOIN US FOR OUR LAST ACMPTA MEETING OF  
THE SCHOOL YEAR AND ENJOY A FREE ORGANIC,  
KOSHER ICE POP!

**WED, JUNE 5 - 2PM - 3PM**  
**LAST ACMPTA MEETING 2:30 - 3PM**

### Help Clean Up Our Pond! (ACMPTA Gardening Day)

Let's work together to get the pond up and running again and a happy place for fish and our friendly turtle escapee, Squirt!

Please join us Saturday, **June 8th**, at **9am** (until 12) to clean out the pond and remove muck from the bottom. We'll bail water out first then clean it out.

APS Facilities will soon put in a new pump and water replenishment system (for when water levels get low)! This will enable the pond to be a habitable environment for fish once again, restoring the pond to the beautiful outdoor space it was meant to be.

If you can come, please RSVP to [gardening@acmpta.com](mailto:gardening@acmpta.com)

Please bring, if you have them: work gloves (mud gloves), shovels, brooms, squeegees (for cleaning bottom) and buckets! We will supply garbage bags!

We would love to get a good group out to knock this out at one time! So please join!

*\*Please bring a water bottle. The school will be closed but there are restrooms available across the parking lot in the Columbia Pike library. Children are welcome to come along.*

### Upcoming Restaurant Night at the NEW Cornerstone Restaurant!



The brand new [Cornerstone](#) restaurant on the Pike has offered to host a restaurant night for MPSA! This is your chance to try a new restaurant, support a small business and raise money for the ACMPTA! **Tuesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>** from **4PM to 10PM**. We will receive 15% of the profits - no need to mention MPSA (unless you want to).

Cornerstone is located at **2900 Columbia Pike** – the former home of Rebellion on the Pike. Tell your family and friends to come out! Have a good meal before the MPSA Spring concert (Starting at 7pm).

### So Sorry – No More Yearbooks Left!

We are completely sold out of yearbooks. Unfortunately, if you requested a last-minute copy via Google but did not submit payment in response to the e-mail sent on Wednesday, your request was canceled. Any payments sent will be refunded. We're sorry for the inconvenience.

### **Giant Food Community Bag Program**

Have you heard the news? The ACMPTA has been selected as a beneficiary of the [Giant Food Community Bag Program](#)! For the month of **July**, we will receive a **\$1** donation from each purchase of the \$2.50 reusable Community Bag at the Giant Food store located at [3131 Duke Street, Alexandria VA](#) – in the Landmark area of Alexandria.

In addition to purchasing one yourselves, please encourage friends and family to purchase a reusable bag to help our environment and our school!

### **Join the PTA or Sponsor a Staff Member**

Membership is **\$12** per person, or **\$20** for 2 people. Cash and check will be accepted or sign up through our [online portal on Membership Hub](#). Signing up to be a member is also the easiest fundraising effort you could make as a portion of the dues goes into our general fund. Already have a membership? Consider sponsoring a staff member. We require staff to be a paid PTA member to receive a PTA grant. Help them out by purchasing them a membership!