

# School Talk

WEEKLY UPDATE!

June 7, 2024

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**Field Day** has been rescheduled for **Monday, June 10<sup>th</sup>**! Please check your ParentVUE for the message sent out today (the 7<sup>th</sup>) with the new times/schedule and volunteer link.

### Spring Concert is on Tuesday

The **Band, Chorus and Orchestra** students have worked very hard to make the upcoming **MPSA Spring Concert** a beautiful time for all in attendance! They have been practicing becoming versed in the songs they will be performing, and would love for families to come out and see how much they've grown since the beginning of the school year.

The concert is Tuesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>. There will be a showing just for students at 2PM. Families and friends are invited to come out at 7PM for the second performance. Doors open at 6:45PM. No admission!

**Mr. Rinker** (Band), **Ms. Ellis & Ms. Shakespeare** (Chorus), and **Mr. Kamenski** (Orchestra) and the students hope to see you there!

### [Watch the MPSA Monarch Book Awards!](#)

The Upper Elementary students present this year's **Monarch Book Awards!** Created 3 years ago, this literary award was designed by the UEM students, and they worked hard on choosing the books to present in each literary category. [Watch the video to see who won!](#)

This year's Monarch award was designed by 5<sup>th</sup> grader, **Tyler S.** of Ms. Lopatkiewicz' class. His design received the most votes in the school-wide design contest.

**More notes from the library:** Books are still missing from our collection, so please keep looking for them and sending them in. 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](#).

### [What Happened After Once Upon a Time \(MPSA Spring Play\)](#)

Last Friday, the afterschool MPSA theater troupe presented "**What Happened After Once Upon a Time**" to the community, an **Encore Theater** production. Several students in 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade (and one 3<sup>rd</sup> grader!) played the roles of our favorite fairytale characters whose purpose was to tell a fledgling storybook narrator the REAL story behind the scenes of our beloved stories. It was a fun play with rousing and vibrant performances that put a smile on everyone's face. MPSA students had the chance to watch the play during the afternoon, and families and friends were invited out later in the evening for a viewing. Please enjoy some pictures of the play! [Click here!](#) *(Picture credit: Richard Roberts)*

### [MPSA UEM Montessori Math Dice Tournament](#)

Congratulations to fifth graders **Adrian K.** and **Sai N.** (both from Ms. Collier's class) who are the winners of the **MPSA Upper Elementary Math Dice Tournament.** The two rose to the top of a field of 24 fierce competitors. A HUGE shout out to all who competed - especially to those new to the game who challenged themselves to step out of their comfort zone and compete against seasoned players. Well done all!!!

### [June SEL Notes for Families](#)

This month's SEL note focuses on the transition from school to summer break. It's tempting to race blindly forward into the sunshine without looking back. But there is significant value in taking a moment to reflect on the growth of the past year – friendships, academic progress and newly developed interests.

Children may be sad to leave their teacher, their friends and the predictability of the school routine. They may worry about the loss of the stability of consistency that school provides over the summer and all of the unknowns of the anticipated next school year. There are some small, simple steps you can take

to ease the transition and also deepen the lessons of the year through reflection. [Click here for some suggestions.](#)

### Lock Box Challenges

Each month in a collaboration between the MPSA Library Staff and the MPSA Advanced Academics Coach, the library hosts a "lock box challenge". These are challenges that always involve a lot of critical and creative thinking skills along with some math and some research to find the solution. Each month students who solve the lock box challenge get a sticker to place on their lock box challenge bookmark. Lots of students solved one or two puzzles this year, many solved three or four puzzles - but only seventeen upper elementary students solved every single puzzle this year.

Congratulations to these amazing puzzle masters for their hard work and perseverance!



### Arlington Community Event: Juneteenth Celebration at Metropolitan Park

You're invited to a joyous **Juneteenth Celebration & Cookout!** Hosted by **Challenge Racism**

This family-friendly event commemorates the emancipation of enslaved Africans and honors African American culture and heritage. The 2024 theme is "What freedom means to me."

Honor and celebrate the strength, determination, resilience, and integrity of those who weathered in the pursuit of liberation and freedom!

Come for a day of celebration and reflection at Metropolitan Park as we commemorate Juneteenth, a pivotal moment in American history. This in-person event will feature live music, cultural performances, delicious food, and activities for all ages.

Let's honor the past, celebrate the present, and look toward a brighter future together. Don't miss out on this opportunity to come together as a community and celebrate freedom!

Admission: Free and open to the public

Rain or Shine!

Please sign up to reserve your spot <https://tinyurl.com/juneteentharlington>



The poster features a yellow background with three large hearts in green, black, and red. The text 'Arlington Community JUNETEENTH celebration & cookout' is prominently displayed. A green banner provides event details: '4-7 PM JUNE 19TH METROPOLITAN PARK 1400 S EADS ST'. Below this, it lists 'Live Music', 'Great Food', 'Cool Vendors', and 'Free & Open to the Public'. The 'sponsors' section includes Amazon, Arlington Community Federal Credit Union, WHUT, and Arlington Community Foundation. The 'hosts' section lists Arlington Coalition of Black Clergy, Arlington Historical Society, Black Heritage Museum Arlington, Challenging Racism, and NAACP Arlington Branch. A QR code and a sign-up URL are also present.

### 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>

### 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
- Monday, June 10 – **MPSA Field Day** (raindate, Monday, June 10)
- Tuesday, June 11 – **MPSA Spring Concert**, 7PM
- 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?

- **Introducing Your New PTA Executive Committee for 2024-2025**
- **Restaurant Night at the NEW Cornerstone!**
- **Keep Us Honest – Be on the PTA Audit Committee**
- **Last LAST Chance Yearbook Sale**
- **Giant Food Community Bag Program**

### Introducing Your New PTA Executive Committee for 2024-2025

The upcoming Executive Committee (EC) was voted in at the PTA general meeting held this past Wednesday at our Popsicles on the Playground event, where students and their families enjoyed free popsicles to cool off while PTA business was discussed. The EC is:

- **Jamey Borell**, President (*returning*)
- **Jenn Gonzaga**, Vice President of Communication & Outreach (*returning*)
- **Sonali Singh**, Vice President of Programs & Events (*returning*)
- **Katie Lilja**, Treasure (remaining in place for a 3<sup>rd</sup> term until a new candidate is found)
- **Trinh Lieu**, Secretary (*returning*)



L-R: Secretary Trinh, VP Jenn, President Jamey, VP Sonali, Treasurer Katie; PTA supporter Michael Bruno, Reflections Chair Vaneshree Moodley, and PTA supporter Katie Lin.

### 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).

### Keep Us Honest – Be on the PTA Audit Committee

ACMPTA is seeking 3 volunteers to assist in the 2023-24 financial audit of our PTA funds. Each volunteer will review the receipts, reconciliations and deposits made for this year and complete a one-page form to acknowledge their findings. It only takes a few hours of your time, and we are looking to complete this in early to mid-July. Please email [treasurer@acmpta.com](mailto:treasurer@acmpta.com) to inquire or be a part of this process.

### Last LAST Chance Yearbook Sale

We have reopened the **last chance** order form for yearbooks. This is the absolute last chance to get your 2023-2024 yearbook! If we get at least 25 orders, we will order another batch of yearbooks.

#### [Reserve your copy here.](#)

Payment is due to secure your order. If we do not get enough to order another batch, you will be refunded. There are two ways to pay:

1. Via Paypal to @ACMPTA - Please forward a copy of your receipt to [info@acmpta.com](mailto:info@acmpta.com) along with your child's name and teacher's name
2. EXACT Cash only or check made payable to ACMPTA. Drop this off to Kia at the front office along with your child's name and teacher's name written on the envelope.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at [info@acmpta.com](mailto:info@acmpta.com)

### 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!