



Your School Board



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Residents who wish to meet with a Board member may do so on a walk-in basis during Open Office Hours on Monday from 5-7 p.m. on days when school is in session. School Board members can also meet by appointment with small groups of individuals to discuss issues or positions. If Monday is a holiday, Open Office Hours are held the following Tuesday from 8:30-11:30 a.m.

School Board Meetings:

Arlington School Board meeting dates, times, agendas and other information are available online at www.apsva.us/schoolboard.

Watch APS on YouTube!

Have you checked out Arlington Public Schools on YouTube? Episodes of *APS Snapshots*, *Green Scene* and *#digitalAPS* are available on the APS channels, as are school-produced videos and even school concerts and plays. APS and AETV are on YouTube at: www.yt.com/APSVAVideo and www.yt.com/AETVAPS



APS Capital Improvement Plan: Preparing for 30,000 Students by 2021

By 2021, Arlington Public Schools is expected to surpass the 30,000-students benchmark in enrollment. To address the increasing enrollment, Superintendent Dr. Pat Murphy and his staff are currently putting together the FY17-26 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

The FY 17-26 CIP is being guided by a framework that was adopted by the School Board in January to ensure that APS continues to provide high-quality, safe, efficient, and environmentally friendly facilities for students, educators and staff.

The CIP will reflect the School Board's ongoing effort to engage the community to address the capacity needs.

Enrollment Growth

Enrollment at APS has grown by 6,827 students since fall 2005 and is

currently projected to grow by another 6,655 students over the next 10 years (fall 2025). In terms of total students, APS has grown from 18,411 students 10 years ago (fall 2005) to 25,238 this school year (fall 2015) and is projected to reach 31,893 students over the next ten years (fall 2025). APS enrollment is expected to surpass the 30,000-student benchmark in 2021.

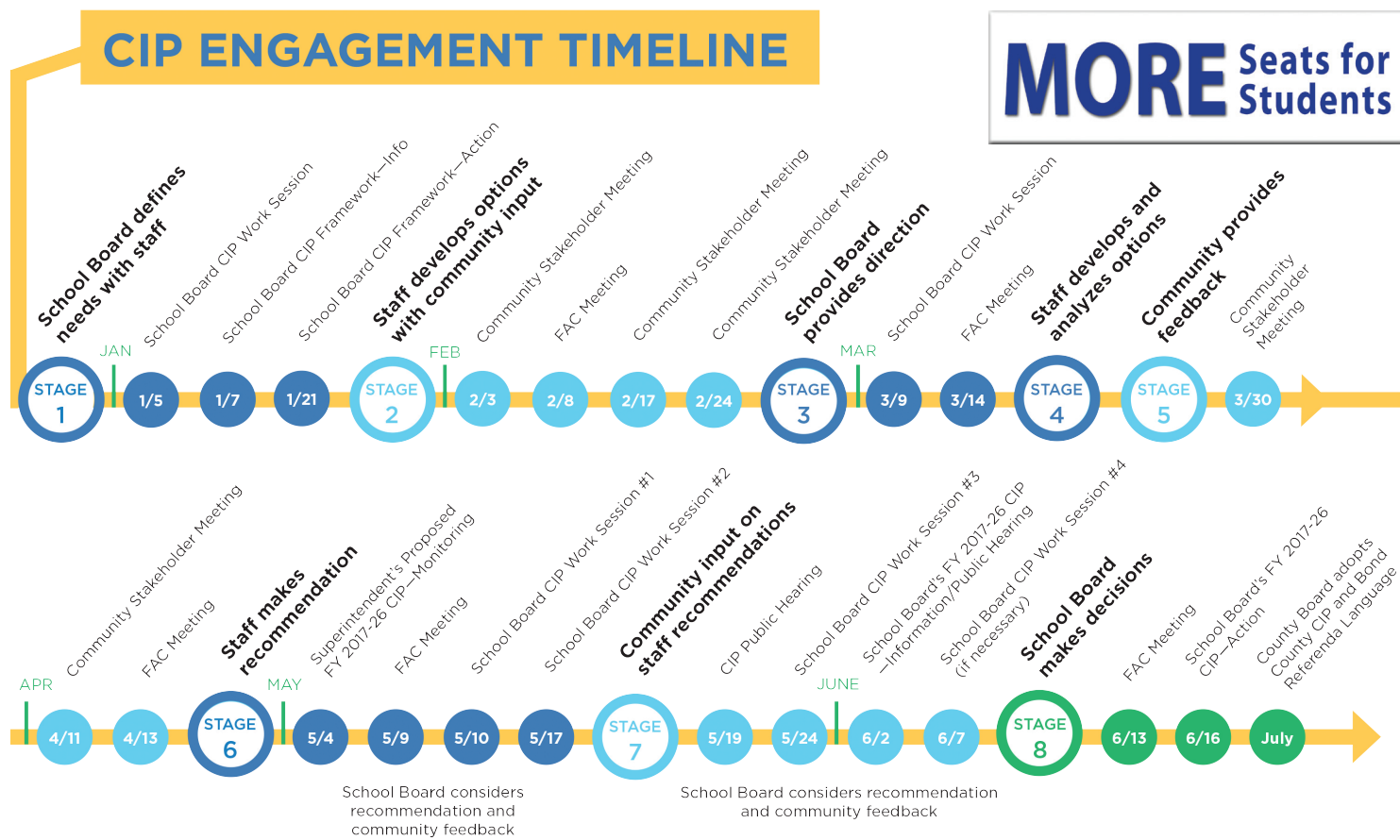
UPCOMING CIP DATES

- March 9 – CIP Work Session
- March 30 – Community Meeting @ W-L
- April 13 – Community Meeting @ Jefferson

Community Engagement

APS will continue to actively engage with members of the Arlington community in the CIP planning process to develop, prioritize, and identify specific proposals for providing seats to meet enrollment growth. APS will also work closely with the Arlington County Government to align the APS CIP with the County CIP and ensure that the needs of both APS and the County are appropriately addressed.

If you have any comments or questions, please email moreseats@apsva.us. Additional information about the process is available on the More Seats for More Students webpage at www.apsva.us/moreseats.



March is Arts in the Schools Month

Arlington Public Schools invites the community to join in the celebration of Arts in the Schools Month. Created in 1961, this annual observance emphasizes the value of arts education and encourages support for quality school arts programs.

Throughout March, APS will hold a number of concerts, arts festivals, workshops, recitals, poetry readings and plays. Just a few of the events include:

- **March 2:** Elementary Art Exhibit Reception, Education Center Gallery, 6:30 p.m. (ongoing through March)
- **March 7:** Scholastics Ceremony at Washington-Lee and Exhibit Opening at the Central Library, 6:30 p.m. (ongoing through March 30)

- **March 7:** APS/Signature Theater Signature in the Schools Program presentation, 7:30 p.m.
- **March 15:** Jr. Honors Band, Orchestra, Elementary Chorus & Middle School Chorus performance at Kenmore Middle School, 6:30 p.m.
- **March 31:** Arlington Youth Symphony performance at Swanson Middle School, 7:00 p.m.
- **April 6:** Washington-Lee Pyramid Jazz Festival, 7 p.m.

To see a complete list of performances, visit the Arts Events Calendar at www.apsva.us/artseducation.



APS Senior Citizens Cards are available and provide free admission to all APS events. Call 703-228-6005 to request your free Senior Citizen Card today.

Follow the APS Arts Education Office on Twitter [@APSArts](https://twitter.com/APSArts) and use the hashtag [#APSArtsHappy](https://twitter.com/APSArtsHappy) to share photos of student performances.

Mark Your Calendars

MARCH



Summer School Registration Begins



Elementary School Parent-Teacher Conferences
No School for Students



Middle School Parent-Teacher Conferences
No School for Students



Public Hearing on Superintendent's Proposed Budget
7:30 p.m., School Board Room



Spring Break
No School
Through March 25

APRIL



Last Day to Apply to Countywide Elementary Schools and any other elementary schools



Color of Leadership Middle School Boys Conference
Location TBD



Public Hearing on School Board's Proposed Budget
7:30 p.m., School Board Room

To view the complete calendar, visit: www.apsva.us/calendar

APS Marks Integration of Stratford Junior High

On Tue, Feb. 2, APS marked the integration of Stratford Junior High (now H-B Woodlawn) with "An Evening to Celebrate Arlington's History Makers: Honoring those who fought for School Integration and Made History at Stratford Junior High School."

On February 2, 1959, four African American seventh grade students entered Stratford Junior High School for the first time. Up until 1959, black students had to attend one of the racially-segregated schools in Arlington County instead of their neighborhood school. Here in Arlington, black families worked closely with many community allies and effectively used the legal

system to challenge Virginia's Massive Resistance movement to the federal Supreme Court-mandated integration of public schools.

Two separate events were held this year: one for students during the school day, and one for the community. Both events featured a panel discussion about that historic time, anchored by three of the four Stratford students: Michael Jones, Ron Deskins and Lance Newman. The panel also featured community members and former Stratford teachers.

If you missed the Feb. 2 event, you can view the film that was shown at the event, "It's Just Me," or watch the streamed video of the event itself.



L-R: Former Stratford students Michael Jones, Ron Deskins and Lance Newman

"It's Just Me": www.youtube.com/watch?v=OtKtqbrbbQg

Event streamed video: www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ynu_I4QyUe

APS to Participate in Operation Rain Barrel



Last year's Operation Rain Barrel entry from the New Directions Program.

Get ready to Go Gaga! "Go Gaga for Green," that is, on Sat, April 30, 5-8 p.m. at George Mason University's Arlington Campus. This family-friendly, community-wide gathering celebrates Earth Day and environmental sustainability in Arlington with food, fun activities and live entertainment including the now-famous Lip Sync Battle. Best of all: it's FREE for APS students, families and staff with advance registration. (Food passes can be purchased separately at event.)

A showcase feature of "Go Gaga for Green" is Operation Rain Barrel – a program that engages APS students in creating amazing artistic rain barrels while they learn about sustainability. All 37 schools will enter a rain barrel in the competition. At the event, the artistic rain barrels will be on display and sold

through a silent auction. The barrels will be judged and winners announced at the event.

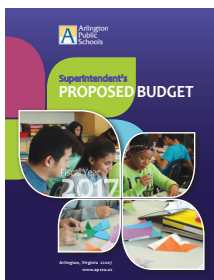
A second feature of "Go Gaga for Green" is the Arlington Green Patriot Awards, which honors individuals and organizations that exemplify their commitment to environmental sustainability. The nominees and recipients of the Arlington Green Patriot Awards will be recognized and announced at the event.

"Go Gaga for Green" benefits three special programs: George Mason University's Early Identification Program, the Arlington County Council of PTAs Scholarship Fund, and Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment's Energy Masters Program.

Reserve your tickets today and get ready to Go Gaga for Green!

FY17 Budget Information

At the end of February, the Superintendent presented his Proposed FY 2017 Budget. Public hearings will be held on March 17 and April 21. The School Board will present its FY17 Budget to the Arlington County Board in April, and is scheduled to adopt the final FY17 budget on May 5. For more information on the FY17 budget, visit www.apsva.us/budget. Tweet your questions about the FY17 budget using the hashtag [#APSBudget](#).



Summer School Registration Begins March 3

Registration for Summer School begins on March 3. Most classes run from July 11 – July 29 for elementary and middle school students, and from July 11 – Aug. 12 for high school students. Program fees are due at the time of registration and are generally non-refundable except under very limited circumstances.

Registration forms are included in the Summer School catalog and both are available online at www.apsva.us/summerschool. APS students should register at the schools they are attending during the 2015-16 school year.

March 6 Reception to Highlight APS Montessori Program

Arlington families are invited to attend a prospective-parent reception on Sun, March 6 from 3-4:30 p.m. to meet current elementary Montessori parents and teachers and get answers to your questions about the Montessori program.

APS offers free Elementary Montessori education for grades 1-5. The countywide APS Montessori Elementary program is hosted at Drew Model School, a light-filled, modern school facility with an exciting technology program and a focus on the arts.

The event, hosted by the Arlington Montessori Action Committee, is free and open to all Arlington parents. To RSVP, visit www.tinyurl.com/elementarymontessori or contact Leah Maderal at admin@arlingtonmontessori.org or 703-465-9603.

APS to Host Teacher Job Fair, Sat., April 9

The 2016 APS Recruitment Fair will take place on Sat, April 9 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Wakefield High School. Those interested in becoming a teacher in the Arlington Public Schools should bring their résumé and a copy of their teaching license/certificate or proof of license eligibility. Interviews will be granted to candidates who are eligible for or hold a Virginia teaching license. A recruitment specialist will review all résumés that are submitted at the fair. No advance registration is necessary. For more information, visit www.apsva.us/jobs.



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