Arlington Public Schools

Arlington School Board Meeting

Superintendent's Announcements

August 27, 2026

Every Student Counts: Back to School Prep

EVERY STUDENT COUNTS
EXCELLENCE FOR ALL



The countdown is on, and teams across APS have been busy getting ready for Monday, August 31.

Staffing & Enrollment Update



99.05 %

Staffed!

Licensed Vacancies*

29 school-based positions

- 21 full-time
- 8 part-time

Enrollment

- 27,026 students are enrolled**

*as of Aug. 26, 2026

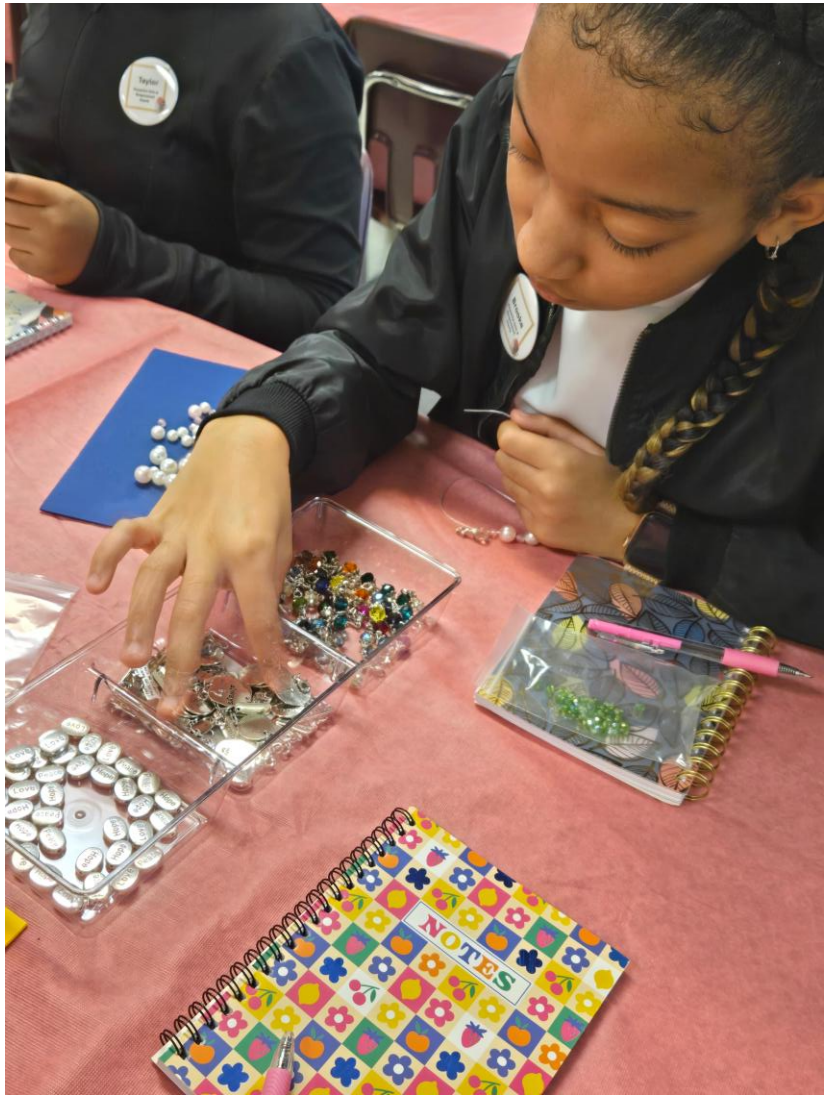
**as of Aug. 25, 2026

Ready for the First Day?



- **Transportation**
  Review your student's route, stop and ride time in ParentVUE. Some routes and stops may have changed.
- **Bus Tracking**
  Stopfinder will begin as a pilot Sept. 8 before expanding to additional schools.
  - **Need help?** Contact the Transportation Call Center at **703-228-6640**, Monday-Friday, **6 a.m.-6 p.m.** or via email at transportation@apsva.us. Please have your student's name/ID, school, route number, bus stop and contact information ready.

What to Know About Learning



- **Purposeful Homework**
  Math and literacy homework will provide meaningful practice connected to classroom learning.
- **Secondary Grading**
  Updated expectations provide greater consistency for late work and assessment retakes.
  - Late work: *generally* within 7 calendar days or before the end of the unit
  - Retakes/revisions: within 2 weeks of the original summative assessment
- **Student Devices**
  Technology use will be more intentional, based on developmental needs and instructional purpose.

Back-to-School Tips for Families



A few ways to start the year strong

- **Get back into a routine.** Start adjusting bedtimes, wake-up times and morning routines.
- **Make a first-day plan.** Know how your student will get to and from school and what to expect.
- **Check ParentVUE.** Review back-to-school information and make sure your contact and emergency information is current.
- **Talk with your student.** Ask what they're excited about, what they're wondering about and what they need to feel ready.

Technology Readiness by the Numbers



9,455 student devices
4,000 iPad protective cases
520 charging and storage carts
200 Smart Panels
520 wireless access points upgraded

And they did it AHEAD OF SCHEDULE.

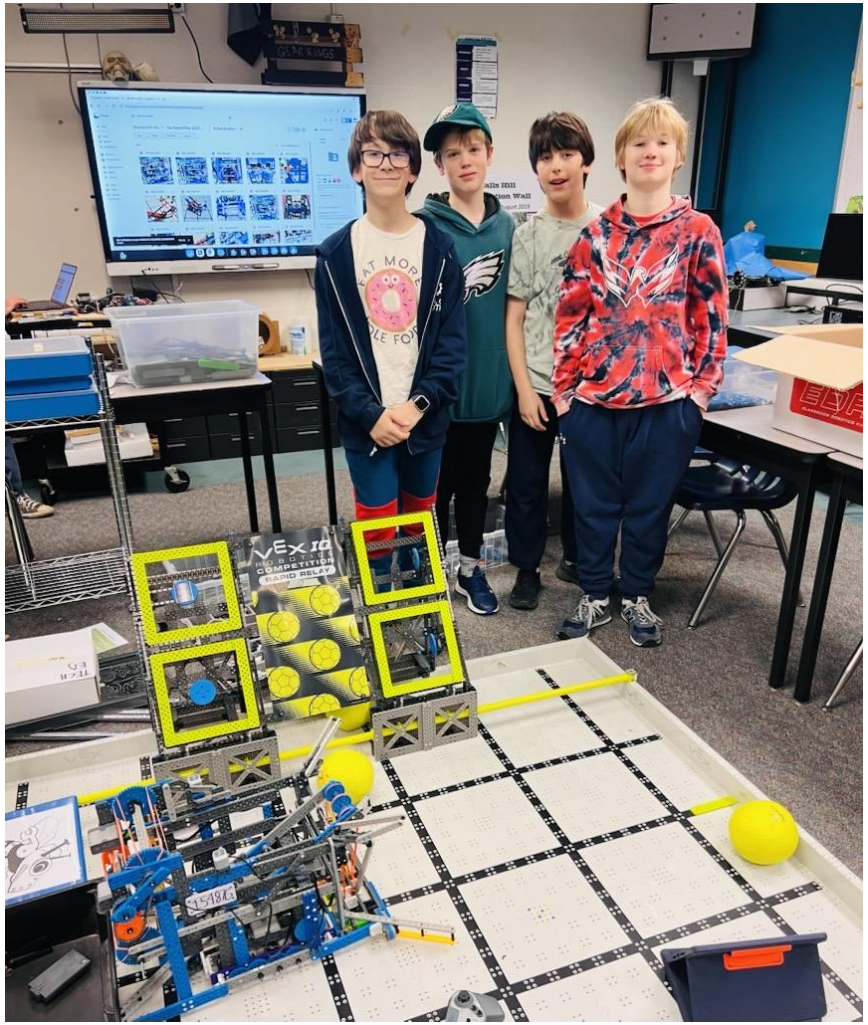
Thank you, Information Services!

Share Your Culture. Share Your Story.



- **Hispanic Heritage Month - Sep. 15-Oct. 15**
- APS students, families and staff are invited to submit short videos celebrating their culture and heritage.
- Share a tradition, story, music, art or personal reflection.
- Submissions will help create APS Heritage Month celebration videos.
- Visit the APS Heritage Months webpage to submit your video. www.apsva.us/heritage-month-celebrations/

AI Community Conversation: A.I. Roundtable



SAVE THE DATE

September 15 - 6:30 p.m. at Wakefield H.S.

- Families and staff are invited to share experiences, questions, benefits, concerns and priorities related to AI in APS.
- The evening will focus on listening and small-group conversation, with multiple ways to share feedback that APS can capture and consider.
- Community input will help inform the next phase of APS' AI guidance communications, professional learning and implementation.
- More details coming soon, including agenda and steps to RSVP.

Supporting Our Students and Families

- **APS is committed to ensuring every student and family feels welcomed, valued and supported.**
  - APS does not ask for a student's immigration or legal status.
  - Student information is protected in accordance with federal law and APS policies.
  - Keep your ParentVUE emergency contacts and authorized caregiver information up to date.
  - If your family or caregiving situation changes, contact your school. We are here to help.
  - School counselors, social workers and Bilingual Family Liaisons are available to support students and families.
  - Visit www.**apsva.us/face/immigration-resources-for-families** for information and resources.



APS families do not have to navigate a change or difficult situation alone.

A World-Class APS Shout-Out







BRIGHT SPOTS