Arlington Public Schools

Arlington School Board Meeting

Superintendent's Announcements

October 22, 2026

Supporting Student Well-Being at APS

EVERY STUDENT COUNTS

EXCELLENCE FOR ALL



Fourth Circuit Court Ruling

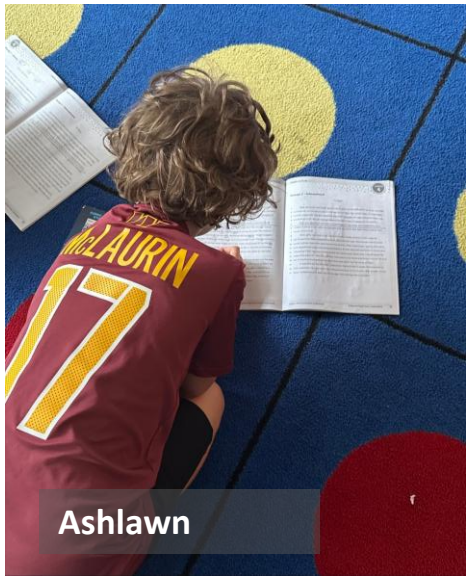
Update for the APS Community



- The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit ruled in favor of APS and ruled APS' legal challenge may proceed in federal district court.
- The decision allows the legal process to continue in the Eastern District of Virginia. It does not resolve the underlying dispute.
- Our commitment remains unchanged: Providing a safe, welcoming and supportive learning environment where every student feels valued and respected.

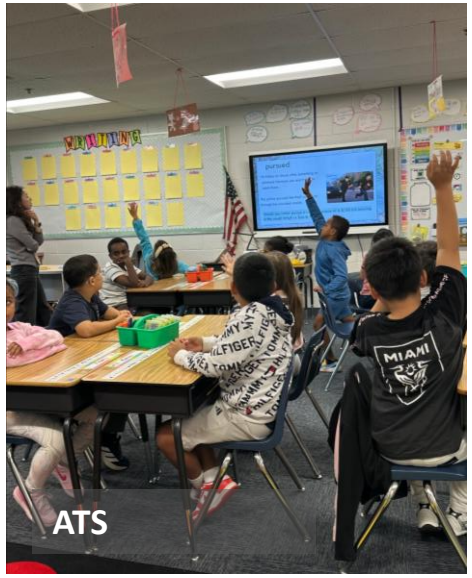
Fall 2026 Superintendent Visits


Abingdon



Ashlawn


Arlington Science Focus



ATS


Barcroft

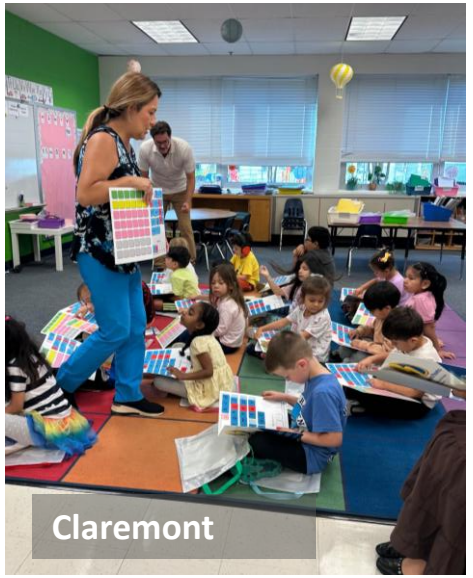

Barrett


Campbell

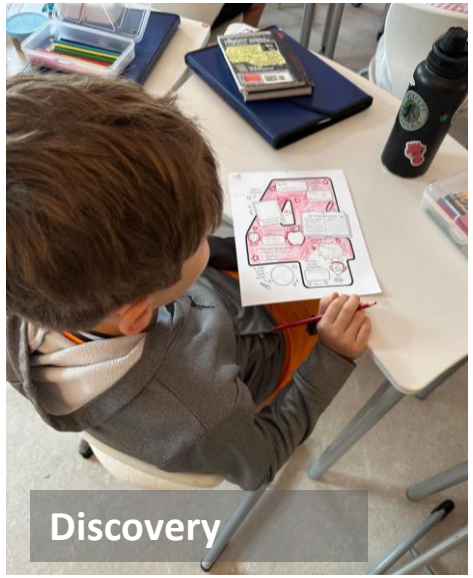


Cardinal


Carlin Springs


Claremont

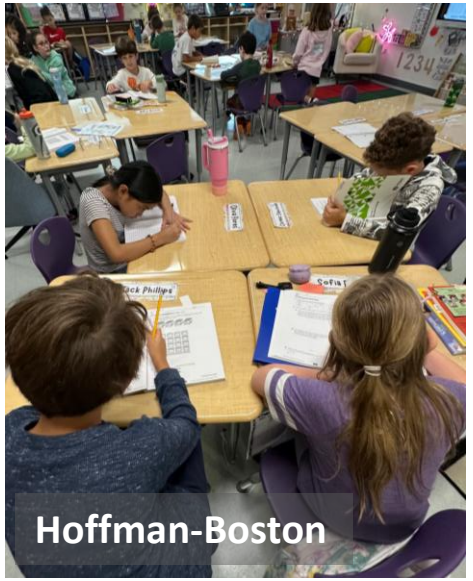
Fall 2026 Superintendent Visits


Discovery


Drew


Fleet


Glebe


Hoffman-Boston


Innovation

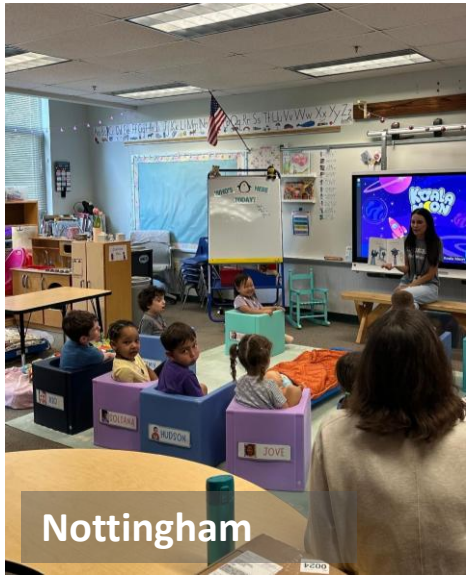

Jamestown


Key


Long Branch

Fall 2026 Superintendent Visits

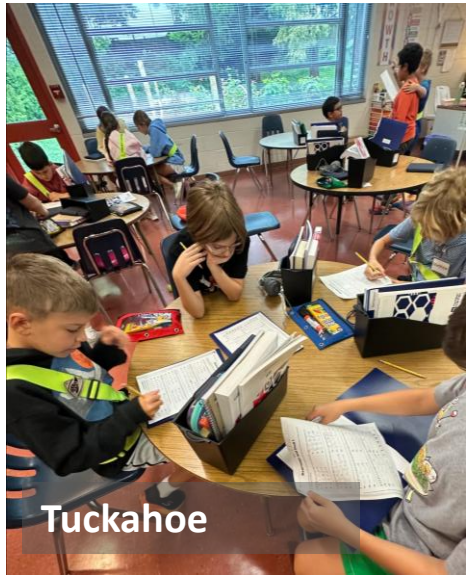

Montessori

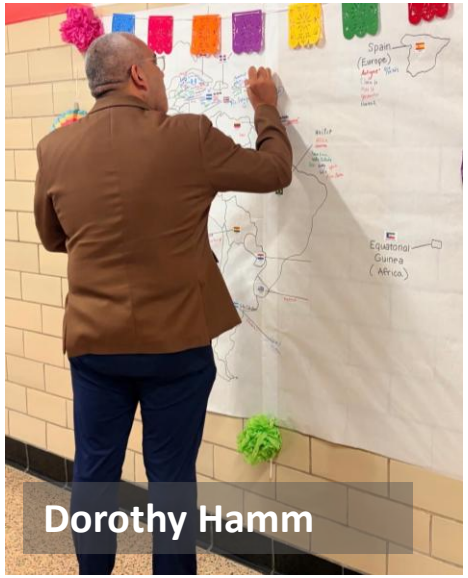

Nottingham

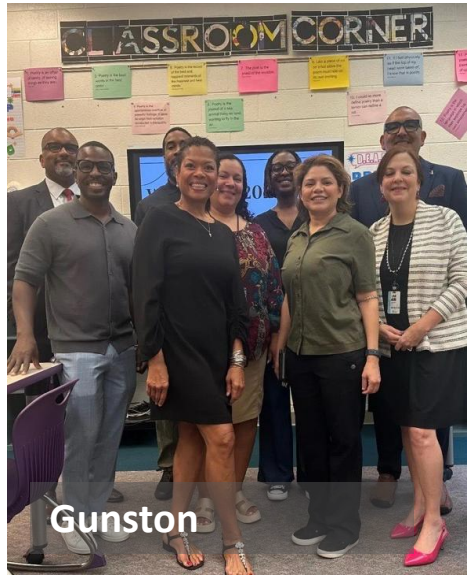

Oakridge


Randolph

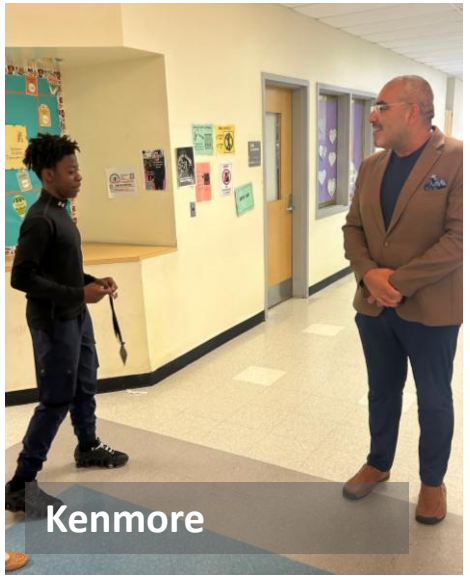

Taylor


Tuckahoe


Dorothy Hamm



Gunston


Kenmore

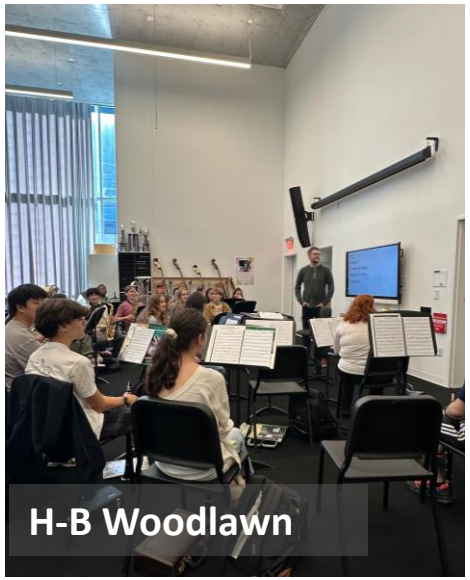

Jefferson

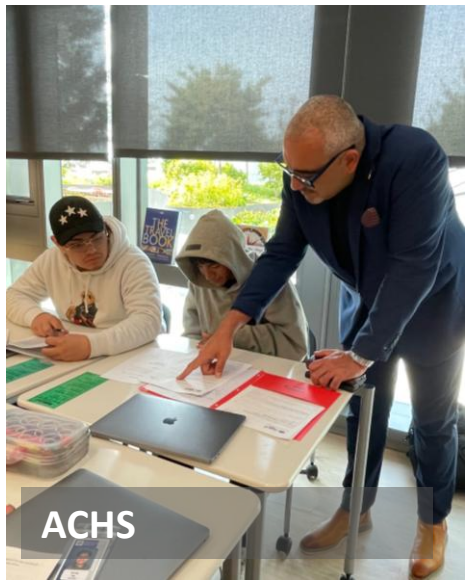
Fall 2026 Superintendent Visits


Swanson



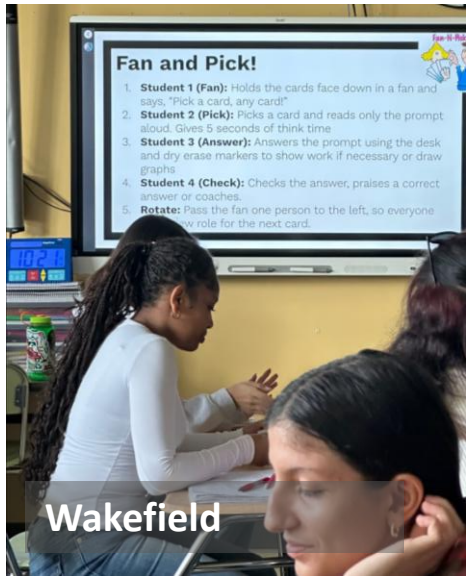
Williamsburg


H-B Woodlawn

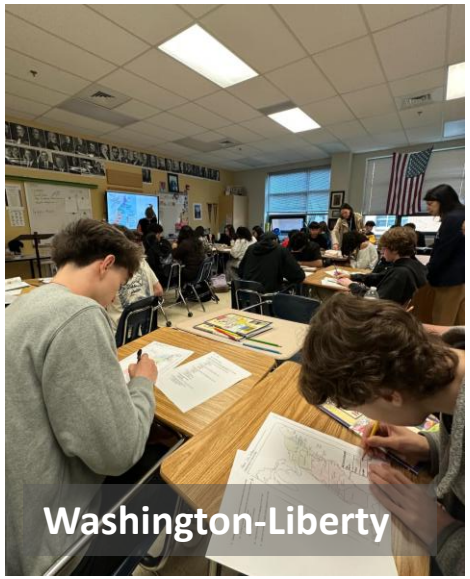

ACHS

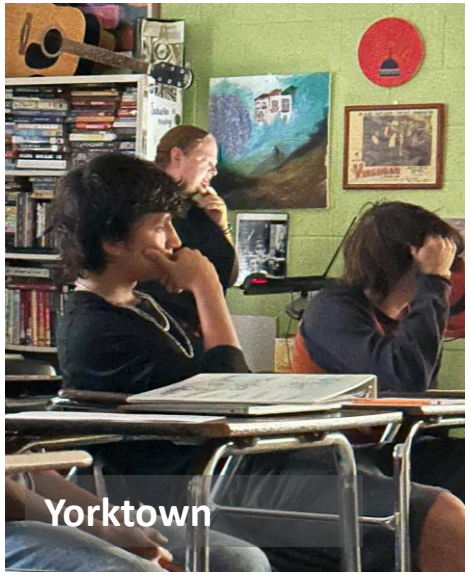


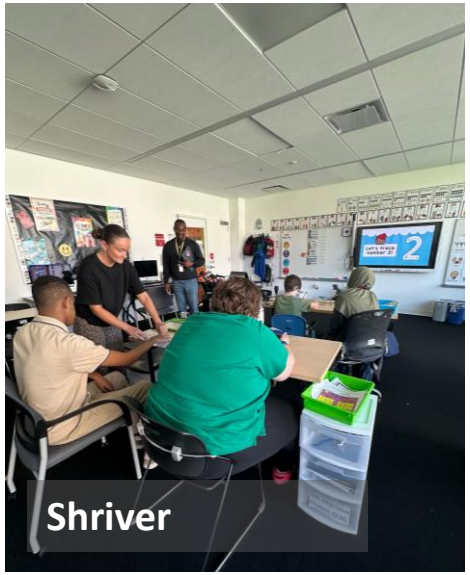
Grace Hopper



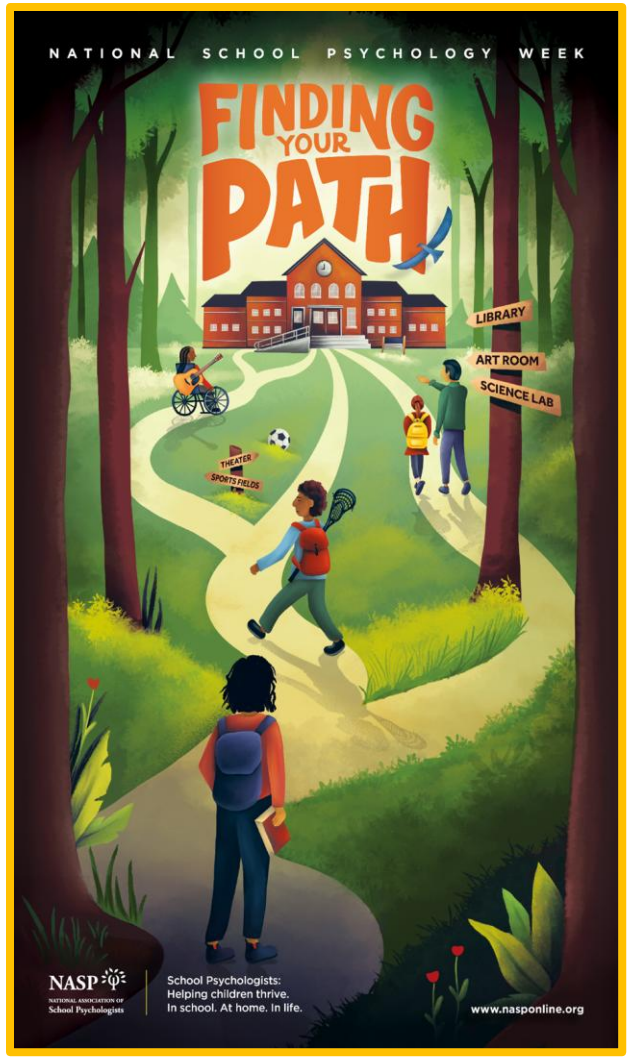
Wakefield


Washington-Liberty


Yorktown

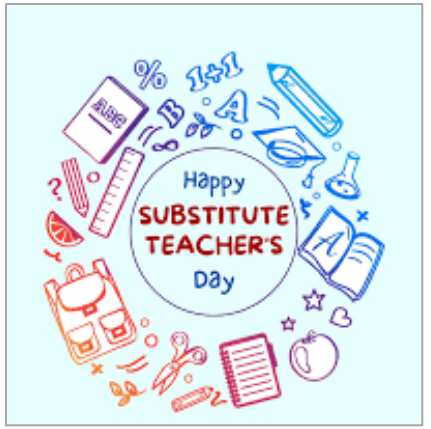

Shriver

Upcoming November Recognitions















Preparedness Starts with Us

APS Emergency Preparedness Week

October 26-October 30

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS WEEK

Monday, Oct. 26

- **Everbridge Notification Test:** SSEM will test the division's emergency notification system
- **Grace Hopper Center:** Arlington County emergency preparedness activities and giveaways

Tuesday, Oct. 27

- **Districtwide Radio Check:** SSEM will test school radio communications
- **Wakefield High School:** Arlington County preparedness activities and giveaways

Wednesday, Oct. 28

- **Washington-Liberty High School:** Preparedness activities and hands-on Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) demonstrations

Thursday, Oct. 29

- **Yorktown High School:** Preparedness activities and hands-on CERT demonstrations
- **StudentSafe Showcase (Virtual):** Jared Hagenow will demonstrate Raptor's Report of Concern and integrated threat assessment workflows

Respect & Belonging Summit: All Are Welcome

- **When**: Thu, Oct. 29 | 6:30–8 p.m.
- **Where**: Washington-Liberty High School, Little Theater
- **Who**: Students, families, staff and community members
- **What**: Interactive discussions focused on recognizing, addressing and responding to hate speech and identity-based harm in our schools
- Register today and help strengthen belonging and respect across APS!



Questions? dei@apsva.us

Free Winter Break Meal Kits Available



- Registration open through Nov. 15, 2026
- 14 free meals per student: Seven breakfasts and seven lunches
- Easy to store: No cooking or refrigeration required
- One meal kit per student
- **Take Action**: Register by Nov. 15 to reserve your student's meal kit at **apsva.us/mealkit**.

apsva.us/mealkit

APS Option Schools & Programs for 2027-28

Key Dates

- **Nov. 9, 2026:** Applications open through SchoolMint
- **Jan. 22, 2027, at 4 p.m.:** Application deadline
- **Feb. 6, 2027:** Lottery results and first-round offers

Neighborhood and targeted transfer opportunities will be announced in November. Families can learn about programs, eligibility and application requirements on the APS Options Schools & Programs webpage.

Non-Resident APS Employee Tuition Initiative

New for the 2027–28 School Year

A new enrollment opportunity for eligible APS employees

- Full-time APS employees living outside Arlington County may apply for their children.
- Enrollment in participating neighborhood schools is based on available space and lottery results.
- Tuition is determined using a five-tier, salary-based sliding scale.
- Accepted students may remain enrolled through Grade 12 as long as eligibility requirements are met.

Applications Open	Deadline	Lottery
Nov. 9, 2026	Jan. 22, 2027 | 4 p.m.	Feb. 12, 2027

Apply through SchoolMint beginning Nov. 9. Details available on Staff Central. Placement is not guaranteed.

Your Benefits, Your Choice Deadline

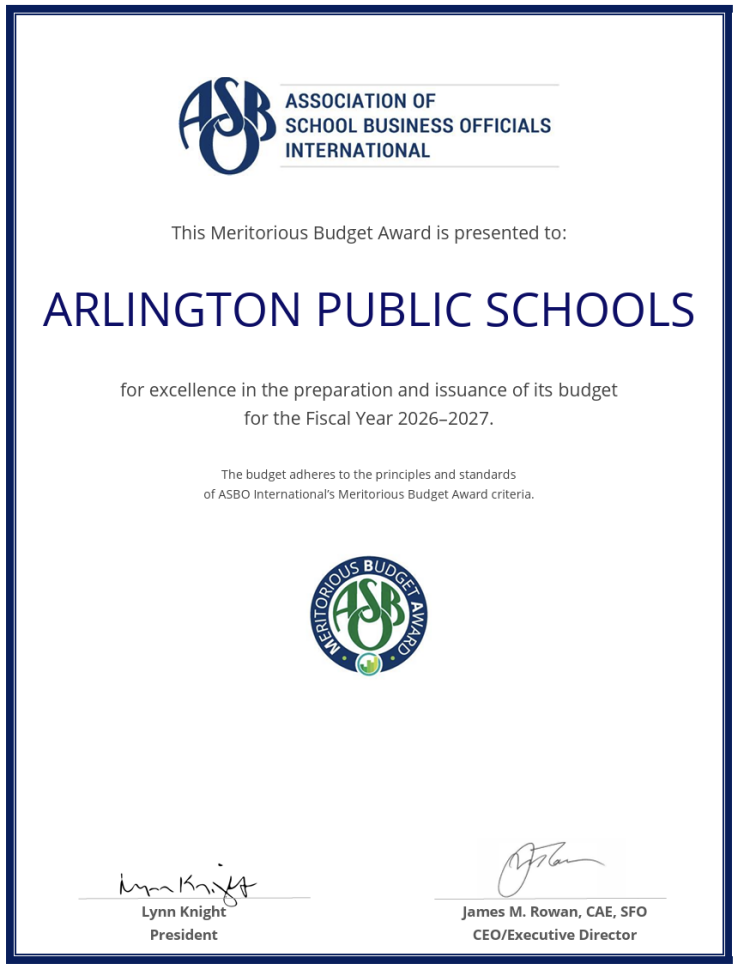
Deadline: Sat, Oct. 31 at 11:59 p.m.



- **Current employees**: Must actively enroll in or waive benefits for 2027.
- **Retirees under 65**: Must complete enrollment to maintain coverage.
- **Retirees 65+:** No action required
- Employees should visit Staff Central. Retirees should visit the APS Retiree Benefits webpage.

APS Earns National Budget Recognition

2026–27 Meritorious Budget Award



ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BUSINESS OFFICIALS INTERNATIONAL

This Meritorious Budget Award is presented to:

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

for excellence in the preparation and issuance of its budget for the Fiscal Year 2026–2027.

The budget adheres to the principles and standards of ASBO International's Meritorious Budget Award criteria.

Lynn Knight
President

James M. Rowan, CAE, SFO
CEO/Executive Director

- Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO) recognition for excellence in school budget development and communication
- National recognition for APS' FY 2026-27 budget
- Highlights clear, accessible budget information and financial transparency
- APS Budget and Finance team recognized

BRIGHT SPOTS

Bright Spot: Grammy Award Semifinalist!



Congratulations, Bill!
We are APS Proud!

- Bill Podolski, Director of Choral Activities at H-B Woodlawn, has been named a **2027 Grammy Music Educator Award** semifinalist, one of just 25 nationwide selected from more than 2,000 nominations.
- This marks his second consecutive year as a semifinalist, following his selection as a top 10 finalist in 2026.
- **Upcoming Performance:**
  H-B Woodlawn Fall Chorus Concert
  Tuesday, Oct. 27, 7 p.m.
  The Heights Auditorium

BRIGHT SPOTS