Student & Family Handbook

SY 2026-2027

Arlington Public Schools

2026-27 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

AUGUST		
19-21	Wed-Fri	BASE Camp for new T-Scale Staff] STAFF ONLY
24-28	Mon-Fri	Pre-Service Required for All Staff
31	Mon	First Day of School K-12
SEPTEMBER		
1	Tue	First Day of School PreK & VPI
4	Fri	Holiday - Labor Day
7	Mon	Holiday - Labor Day
21	Mon	Holiday - Yom Kippur
OCTOBER		
7	Wed	PSAT testing day
7-9	Wed-Fri	Elementary Early Release for Parent-Teacher Conferences
12	Mon	No School for Students (Countywide PL for Staff)
28	Wed	Early Release for Elementary/Middle/High School (School-Based PL for Staff)
NOVEMBER		
2	Mon	End of 1st Quarter
3	Tue	No School for Students (Grade Preparation Day)
11	Wed	Holiday - Veterans Day
25-27	Wed-Fri	Holiday - Thanksgiving Break
DECEMBER		
9	Wed	Early Release for Elementary/Middle/High School (Countywide PL for Staff)
23-31	Wed-Thu	Winter Break
JANUARY		
1	Fri	Winter Break
13	Wed	Early Release for Elementary/Middle/High School (School-Based PL for Staff)
18	Mon	Holiday - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
28	Thu	End of 2nd Quarter
29	Fri	No School for Students (Grade Preparation Day)
FEBRUARY		
10	Wed	Early Release for Elementary/Middle/High School (Countywide PL for Staff)
15	Mon	Holiday - Presidents Day
MARCH		
3	Wed	Early Release for Elementary/Middle/High School (School-Based PL for Staff)
10	Wed	Holiday - Eid al-Fitr
17-19	Wed-Fri	Elementary Early Release for Parent-Teacher Conferences
22-26	Mon-Fri	Spring Break
APRIL		
16	Fri	End of 3rd Quarter
19	Mon	No School for Students (Grade Preparation Day)
MAY		
17	Mon	Holiday - Eid al-Adha
31	Mon	Holiday - Memorial Day
JUNE		
2	Wed	Elementary Early Release
9	Wed	Elementary Early Release
11-16	Fri-Wed	High School Early Release
17	Thu	Last Day of School - Early Release
18	Fri	Holiday - Juneteenth (Observed)
JULY		
5	Mon	Holiday - Independence Day (Observed)
6	Tue	First Day of Summer School (Tentative)
30	Fri	Last Day of Summer School (Tentative)

BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHTS	
Sep. 16	H-B Woodlawn
Sep. 17	Elementary School
Sep. 23	Grace Hopper Center
Sep. 24	Middle School
Sep. 30	High School
Oct. 7	Arlington Community High School

Religious Observances *(holidays where indicated above; otherwise, regular school days)*:

Sep11 (sunset)–13: Rosh Hashanah
Sep 20 (sunset)–21: Yom Kippur
Nov 8: Diwali
Dec 4 (sunset)–12: Hanukkah
Dec 25: Christmas
Dec 26–Jan 1: Kwanzaa
Feb 7 (sunset)–Mar 8: Ramadan
Mar 9 (sunset)–10: Eid al-Fitr
Mar 26: Good Friday
Mar 28: Easter
Apr 21 (sunset)–29: Passover
May 16 (sunset)–17: Eid al-Adha

ARLINGTON TRADITIONAL SCHOOL (ATS)

MISSION
To provide for all Arlington Traditional School students a structured environment where every child is engaged in learning in a responsible and productive way so that each student will be challenged to reach his/her potential, be a life-long learner, and contribute as a caring member of our diverse, changing world.

VISION
The Arlington Traditional School community, encompassing students, faculty, and family, envisions a learning environment which focuses on the development of the child into a well-rounded individual. This is to be accomplished through the integration of modern facilities, adequate resources, and a dedication to excellence in education. The school colors, blue and gold, signify the importance of individual achievement and the Golden Rule. At Arlington Traditional School, students are busily engaged in learning in self-contained classrooms. There is a feeling of harmony and a sense of excitement which encourages optimum academic achievement. Class size and staffing allow students to grow as individuals as well as group members. The safe and inviting environment fosters the development of the total child. The latest technology is used throughout the school. Family, faculty, and community work in partnership to support the total development of each child. There is frequent and regular communication between school and home. Each student leaves Arlington Traditional School with the skills and attitudes of a life-long learner as a contributing, caring member of our diverse, changing world.

Arlington Traditional School (ATS) has been guided by seven traditional tenets since the school was founded in 1978:

1. **Teacher-guided instruction in self-contained classrooms**
2. **Emphasis on basic education in the core academic areas**
3. **Regular homework assigned at all grade levels**
4. **Weekly written summary of student progress communicated to parents**
5. **Promotion based on grade level mastery**
6. **Behavior, dress, and grooming standards**
7. **Weekly assembly programs reinforce philosophy and build community**

History and Philosophy

ARLINGTON TRADITIONAL SCHOOL 1995-present

(Previously known as PAGE TRADITIONAL SCHOOL 1978-1995)

Page Elementary School flourished in the 1950s and the 1960s. In June 1977, the APS School Board closed Page School because of declining enrollment. During that same period of time, the Board formed a task force to study the need for an alternative model elementary school. Strong community interest fortified the task force recommendation that the School Board establish a countywide elementary school (grades 1-6). The Board approved action for an alternative school to open in September 1978. The vacated Page Elementary School building was selected as the site for the alternative school.

The opening of Page Traditional School gave Arlington parents three alternative elementary options, Drew Model School (operational since 1971), Page Traditional, or the neighborhood school. The Board set these criteria to describe the traditional program: an emphasis on a basic education (skills, concepts, and knowledge a person needs for a lifetime of learning) in the academic areas, teacher-guided instruction in self-contained classrooms, regular required homework, explicit standards of behavior and appearance, and promotion to the next grade based on the achievement of grade level objectives. By 1995, increasing demand for the countywide traditional option led to its relocation and renovation at the former Stonewall Jackson Elementary School site. Page Traditional was rededicated as "Arlington Traditional School" (ATS). Since 1978, ATS has successfully served Arlington County families. In 2021, the school moved again to 1030 N. McKinley Road.

The ATS community believes that children learn best in a caring environment where everyone has high expectations for academic achievement and has committed to providing students with the tools necessary for becoming independent, lifelong learners. Students work on the *ABCs of Success* (Academics, Behavior, and Character) and they continually demonstrate academic achievement at the highest levels at the county, state, and national level.

Timeline for the History of the Traditional Program:

- 1978 – Arlington Public Schools Board approved establishment of a traditional alternative countywide elementary school called the "Page Traditional School," for grades 1-5. The closed Page School was selected as the site for the traditional program. Dr. Frank Miller was appointed principal. On April 14, 1978, a public lottery selected 252 students from 360 applicants. Waiting lists were created for students not chosen in the lottery.
- 1979 – Added grade six.
- 1980 – Added grade seven and one half-day kindergarten.
- 1990 – Moved the sixth and seventh grades to middle school sites.
- 1992 – Added a second half-day kindergarten. Holly Hawthorne appointed Principal.
- 1995 - Page Traditional School renamed Arlington Traditional School and relocated to the Stonewall Jackson building (had been closed as a neighborhood school for 15+ years). Stonewall Jackson Civic Association changed its name to Bluemont Civic Association. The renovated building supported 2 classes per grade level (K-5th grade). The faculty and

students were housed at Long Branch School for six weeks before the renovated space opened. The library, computer lab, and several rooms were housed in a large trailer complex on the parking lot.

- 1997 – Added a third half-day kindergarten (school had grown to three classes per grade level).
- 1997 -2004 – added an eight-classroom trailer complex to house 2nd and 3rd grades.
- 1999 – added Preschool Special Education program (trailer); Kindergartens grew to full-day programs.
- 2001 – Added one class of Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI) (trailer).
- 2004 – Renovation complete: included main stairway, gymnasium with stage, Kindergarten/1st grade wing, vocal and instrumental music rooms, art room, and second floor computer lab. Trailers removed.
- 2011 – Added one Kindergarten ("bubble class"). Added one trailer (3rd grade).
- 2016– Added one VPI class; one Kindergarten ("bubble class"). Added two trailers (VPI, MIPA).
- 2017 – Replaced the 3 trailers with a four-trailer complex (2nd grade).
- 2018 – Added a 5th Kindergarten class ("bubble class") and a fourth grade 2 class.
- 2019 – Added fourth Grade 3 class and another four-classroom trailer complex (3rd grade).
- 2021 – Moved to 1030 N. McKinley Road.
- 2022 – Sam Podbelski appointed Principal.
- 2024 - Shifted from 3 VPI classes to 2

Recognition and Awards

- #1 Public Elementary School in VA and DC Metropolitan Area (Niche.com) 2026, 2025, 2020, 2017, 2016
- SEPTA Mary McBride Award for Outstanding School/Program 2026
- Virginia Board of Education Highest Achievement Award 2024, 2025
- Virginia Purple Star Designation Award 2022-2026
- **National Blue Ribbon Schools Award 2019**
- Virginia Board of Education Distinguished Achievement Award 2019, 2016
- Common Sense School designation 2018-2020
- Governor's Award for Educational Excellence 2018, 2017, 2008-2012
- Virginia Board of Education Excellence Award 2013-2015
- **National Blue Ribbon Schools Award 2012**
- On Purpose: How Great School Cultures Form Strong Character (Chapter 8) 2011
- National Schools of Character finalist 2007 and 2008
- Parent Involvement School of Excellence 2006
- Arlington Public Schools Principal of the Year 2005-06
- Distinguished Educational Leadership Award (Washington Post) 2005-06
- **National *No Child Left Behind* Blue Ribbon Schools Award 2004**

ABCs of Success

Academics, Behavior, and Character are embedded in our program and emphasized daily. Good Character is terrific. Kids of character are TERRIFIC* (Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, *and* Citizenship).

The Six Pillars of Character

Trustworthiness (Blue)

Be honest • Don't deceive, cheat, or steal • Be reliable — do what you say you'll do • Have the courage to do the right thing • Build a good reputation • Be loyal — stand by your family, friends, and country.

Respect (Gold)

Treat others with respect; follow the Golden Rule • Be tolerant and accepting of differences • Use good manners, not bad language • Be considerate of the feelings of others • Don't threaten, hit or hurt anyone • Deal peacefully with anger, insults, and disagreements.

Responsibility (Green)

Do what you are supposed to do • Plan ahead • Persevere: keep on trying! • Always do your best • Use self-control • Be self-disciplined • Think before you act — consider the consequences • Be accountable for your words, actions, and attitudes • Set a good example for others.

Fairness (Orange)

Play by the rules • Take turns and share • Be open-minded; listen to others • Don't take advantage of others • Don't blame others carelessly • Treat all people fairly.

Caring (Red)

Be kind • Be compassionate and show you care • Express gratitude • Forgive others • Help people in need.

Citizenship (Purple)

Do your share to make your school and community better • Cooperate • Get involved in community affairs • Stay informed; vote • Be a good neighbor • Obey laws and rules • Respect authority • Protect the environment • Volunteer.

Be a person of good character • Be a good person - Someone to look up to and admire • Think right and do right - know the difference between right and wrong and always do what is right• Set a good example for everyone • Make the world a better place.

SCHOOL COLORS are BLUE and GOLD:

Blue reminds you to always do your personal best.

Gold reminds you to follow the Golden Rule, treat others as you would have them treat you.

School colors and "spirit" clothing are worn on Fridays.

SCHOOL SONG

We're A-T-S stars, we shine in Arlington
Learn to read and read to learn,
We strive for excellence.
Our colors gold and blue remind us to stand true.
A-T-S we work hard to do our best!

We're A-T-S stars, a learning family.
Students, parents, teachers
Together we succeed.
If you ask us our goals, we'll answer straight away -
A-T-S we work hard every day! Hey!

ARLINGTON TRADITIONAL SCHOOL POLICY AND PROCEDURES

* PIP refers to the Arlington Public Schools **Policy Implementation Procedures**

Attendance (703-228-6292)

Daily attendance is required by Virginia State Law and is taken by the teacher. An administrative assistant and automated phone system will call the home of each child who is absent if you have not already informed the school.

School Hours: School hours are 7:50 AM - 2:40 PM. except on Early Release days when school hours are 7:50 a.m. – 12:20 p.m. School doors open at 7:35 AM. **Instruction begins at 7:50 AM.** If your child is going to be absent or late to school, please report that information one of the following ways by 8:05 AM:

- Attendance Line: 703-228-6292 (available 24 hours a day)
- Attendance Email: ats.attendance@apsva.us
- Student Attendance Form

Please include the following information in your message:

- Student's first and last name
- Student's grade
- Student's teacher
- Reason for absence/tardy

Children arriving late or returning from an appointment **MUST** check in with the office.

CLOSINGS/DELAYS/EARLY DISMISSALS

In the event that conditions exist that require the delay, closing, and/or early dismissal of school, news about these decisions is communicated as soon as the decision is made by APS. Methods of communication include:

- www.apsva.us home page and Emergency page
- Emails, voicemails and/or text messages sent via **Parent Square**
- Hotline, 703-228-4277, message in English and Spanish
- Message on Comcast Cable Channel 70 and Verizon FiOS Channel 41
- Local radio stations and TV channels 4, 5, 7, 8 and 9
- Message posted on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram

School(s) Closed - All school buildings are closed for the announced school or for the entire county. Extended Day is also closed. All school activities are canceled unless otherwise announced.

Delayed Opening - School(s) will open later than usual. The morning transportation will be delayed the same number of hours as the announced delay. Field trips are canceled. Breakfast is served. The Extended Day program will also open late.

Delayed Opening (Early Release Day) - If a delayed opening is announced on any early release day, the early release is canceled, and students remain until the regular daily dismissal time.

Early Dismissal - School(s) will follow the early release schedule unless announced otherwise. Extended Day will close at the announced time and extracurricular activities, interscholastic contests, team practices, field trips, adult and community education classes, and recreation programs in schools and on school grounds are canceled.

BEHAVIOR

At Arlington Traditional School (ATS), we are committed to fostering a safe, respectful, and inclusive school environment where all students can thrive. Our behavior expectations reflect APS policies, the 6 Pillars of Character, ATS Traditional Tenet #6, and developmentally appropriate, positive behavior support practices.

ATS staff use proactive, consistent, and collaborative strategies to support student behavior, with a focus on building community, restoring relationships, promoting personal responsibility, and developing valuable, life-long social skills.

Students should:

- Show respect, responsibility, trustworthiness, caring, fairness, and citizenship.
- Remain quiet and orderly in the classroom and be attentive to instruction.
- Use spoken expressions of kindness and consideration toward others (pardon me, please, thank you, etc.)
- Walk quietly in the school building.
- Invite the participation of peers for games played at recess.
- Eat only at designated times and areas.
- Use the bathroom responsibly and safely at all times

Students are not permitted:

- To leave school grounds during school hours without written permission.
- Use profane language or gestures.
- Engage in fighting or in any other potentially dangerous activity.
- Intimidate, harass, or threaten other students.
- To disrespect property.
- Engage in games involving tackling, pushing, or grabbing of clothing.
- Chew gum (unless permission has been given by school staff)
- Bring toys, electronic devices, or personal playground/sports equipment to school without teacher approval. Items brought to school for academic purposes should remain in the classroom for duration of the school day
- Bring any item that could be considered dangerous to school: bats, baseballs and anything that resembles a weapon (pocket knife, toy gun, squirt gun, darts, tools, etc.).
- to have cell phones or wear smart watches that are actively using mobile technology. All personal technology must be stored in lockers at the beginning of the day. We strongly recommend all students leave these devices at home

Rules in Cafeteria:

- Students are seated at tables assigned by the teacher and remain seated until they are excused to throw trash away or to line up for recess
- Students clear table areas before they are excused to recess.
- Students practice good table manners and talk quietly.
- Play equipment is not allowed at the lunch table.

Handling Violations of the Rules:

Teachers implement positive behavior planning with students who have chronic misbehavior based on the ATS Behavior Matrix. Teachers are expected to report all Level 3 behavior to the office as soon as possible. ATS administrators will follow up with reporting staff members and appropriate parties once intervention is implemented.

Steps may include:

1. Private reflection and conversation between student and teacher & parent communication.
2. Collaborative problem-solving with the School Counselor, Psychologist, Social Worker, and/or Collaborative Learning Team (CLT).
3. Family conference to create a shared action plan for support.
4. Student Support Process with the broader Student Support Team (SST).
5. Referral to school administration if behavior continues or escalates.
6. Reports from Safety Patrols are reviewed by the Patrol Sponsor, with guidance from the Assistant Principal or Principal.

Restorative Practices:

ATS staff strives to resolve conflicts through restorative conversations and peer mediation when appropriate. Students are encouraged to take responsibility for their actions, repair harm, and rebuild trust with peers and staff.

Equity & Belonging Commitment:

ATS is dedicated to ensuring all students feel seen, safe, and supported. Behavior expectations are applied fairly and equitably, with attention to the unique needs and identities of our diverse student population.

ATS DRESS CODE

At Arlington Traditional School, our dress standards are embedded into our guiding traditional tenets. We believe a respectful and appropriate appearance fosters a focused learning environment, free from unnecessary distractions. Our dress code encourages the development of self-respect, builds community, and supports the academic and personal growth of every student. By upholding these standards, we cultivate a setting where students can thrive, feel confident, and remain centered on the pursuit of excellence.

“Dressed appropriately” means that a student's school clothing is clean, neat, and modest and does not disrupt the school’s educational setting. Examples of infractions that violate ATS policy are including but not limited to…

- Shorts higher than mid-thigh and/or are not visible due to the student's top.
- Clothing with visuals that promote violence, drug use, or displays any sort of weapon.
- Shirts that do not cover the midriff area

Students are not permitted to wear hats or hoods in the building unless related to their religious beliefs or practice and/or by doctor’s orders. We encourage students to wear shorts under skirts/dresses as well as appropriate footwear (closed-toed shoes) for physical education classes and recess. If a student's outfit is out of compliance, the school will contact parents/guardians for a change of clothes. Please refer to the APS policy for further guidance [APS Family/Student Handbook].

Party Invitations

Party invitations are permitted to be brought and distributed to school only if all students in a class are invited. ATS strongly recommends party invitations be handled outside of school to maximize instructional time.

BICYCLES

Arlington Traditional School cannot be responsible for damage or theft and advises students and staff members to have their bicycles registered, licensed, and locked.

BUS REGULATIONS

Bus transportation is a privilege that students can lose due to misbehavior. Parents are responsible for the transportation of students who have lost bus privileges.

CLINIC (703-228-7676)

Health services are provided by Arlington Department of Human Services, Public Health Division, School Health Bureau. ATS has one health clinic, staffed by a clinic aide who provides day-to-day services. The clinic is supervised by a registered nurse, who divides their time among two or more school schools. Clinic aides are specially trained to provide first aid, dispense routine medicines, and provide basic care for ill students. The nurse supervises these daily activities and provides support for children with special health needs. The nurse also provides consultation to parents and students, response in emergency situations in the schools, and collaborates with teachers and school leadership to provide education and support for the health of the entire student body. Nurses also participate in community health assessment and education.

School Health Services include:

- First aid and emergency care.
- Routine medication administration
- Referrals - Health and social services
- Communicable disease surveillance and control
- Individual student consultation
- Resources for students, parents and staff

- Health program planning and management
- Health screening (e.g. vision and hearing)

No medication should be administered by a teacher if the clinic aide or nurse is available. Teachers care for minor injuries (scrapes, scratches, small cuts) using the classroom first aid fanny pack. For more information see: https://health.arlingtonva.us/public-health/

DROP OFF, PICKUP, AND PARKING PROCEDURES

Children who do not ride the school bus should be dropped off no earlier than 7:35 AM. and no later than 7:50 AM. Children are permitted to go to their classroom starting at 7:35 AM when the doors open. School starts promptly at 7:50 a.m.

Carpool Lane: Drop off for car riders is on McKinley Rd. Parents should obey all traffic rules and pull into the drop off lane. A staff member will be there to greet your child. Parents should remain in the car.

Parent Walk-Up: Parents who park and then walk students up to the door should park in designated spots on the street. To ensure safety, use designated crosswalks and sidewalks to come to Door A1 (VPI - 3rd and students eating breakfast at school) or Door A9 (4th and 5th grade only) The circle in front of the school is for school buses only until 8 AM

EXTENDED DAY (703-228-7677)

The ATS Extended Day Program offers before and after school childcare (grades preK-5), for children of working parents. Sessions operate from 7:00–7:50 a.m, and 2:40–6:00 p.m. Extended Day is an accountability program. Parents must notify Extended Day when their child's schedule changes and they will not be attending the program. Parents should also inform Teachers of these changes. **All children must be picked-up by the 6:00 p.m. closing time**.

HOMEWORK PIP I-11.2

Nightly homework is an ATS core tenet. Homework is an important part of a student's learning experience. It strengthens basic skills and independent study habits, extends classroom learning, provides school/home communication, enrichment and/or remedial work, and develops responsibility, initiative, and self-discipline. Homework will be assigned on a regular basis at all grade levels. Parents can be helpful in making homework effective by setting a definite time and suitable place for study, encouraging independent completion of assignments, fostering a positive attitude toward homework, and providing guidance or help when necessary.

GRADING GUIDELINES

Kindergarten students are graded as follows:
M Child consistently meets behavior or skill
P Child is in the process of developing a behavior or skill
B Child is beginning to demonstrate a behavior or skill
N Child is not yet demonstrating behavior or skill
NI Skill has not been introduced

First and second grade students are graded as follows:
P Making Expected Progress
N Not Making Expected Progress

In grades three, four, and five whenever percentages are used, grades are assigned using the following scale:

A 90-100%
B 80-89%
C 70-79%
D 60 –69%
E 0 – 59%

When it is not possible to use percentages, grades will be based on teacher evaluation.

MEAL PROGRAM (Breakfast and Lunch) **E-6 PIP 1**

Cafeteria service starts the first day of school. Breakfast and lunch may be purchased daily. Milk is included with each meal or may also be purchased separately. APS offers an online payment center that allows Arlington parents to manage their child's food accounts. The online payment center will direct parents to **www.mySchoolBucks.com** where parents will be able to make online payments to their child's meal account, view their student's cafeteria purchases, track account balances, schedule recurring payments and sign-up to receive low-balance email reminders. If a family qualities and could benefit from the Free and Reduced meal program, they can find the application here. Breakfast and lunch menus are available on the APS website.

Children, whether they buy lunch or bring it, are supervised during the lunch period. Children have 20-25 minutes for lunch and 30 minutes for recess. Your cooperation in stressing good manners with your children and respect for our lunchroom supervisors will help us in achieving good lunchroom behavior at school.

Cafeteria Standards

- Students are seated at tables assigned by grade and remain seated until they are excused to throw trash away or to line up for recess.
- Students clear table areas before they are excused to recess.
- Students practice good table manners and talk quietly.

LOST AND FOUND

Please label all clothing! All lost and found articles are placed in the Lost and Found. **At the end of each grading period all unclaimed articles are donated.**

RECESS PIP I-10.30

Recess is thirty minutes a day typically outdoors, weather permitting. Given the value of recess in a student's physical and social development and the need for periodic breaks from classroom instruction, withholding recess will be a rare occurrence, and only used as a last resort. Students will be given periodic breaks during activities that require them to be seated for long periods of time.

Playground rules - Students will:

1. play safely and will observe ATS behavior standards at all times.
2. play in view of supervisors.
3. include all who wish to participate in games.
4. show respect for themselves, peers, adults, and school property.
5. not fight or engage in other potentially dangerous activities.
6. not tackle, push, nor grab clothing.
7. not bring personal sports equipment nor electronic devices.
8. leave sand, rocks, sticks, and other objects on the ground.

TECHNOLOGY AND INTERNET SAFETY

The following is from the Arlington Public Schools Handbook:

Arlington Public Schools has developed a plan to ensure that students know how to use the Internet safely and that they understand APS rules for the use of technology. The following is an overview of the rules and guidelines outlined in Policy I-9 2.5.1, Electronic Technologies Acceptable Use for Students. Violations of this policy can lead to disciplinary action.

EXPECTATIONS – Students will:

- use all technology carefully, respectfully, and responsibly.
- not use the division's computer equipment and communication services for sending, receiving, viewing, or downloading illegal or inappropriate material.
- only connect to the APS network using approved methods.
- respect intellectual property and copyright laws.
- not tamper with or alter the system in any way that disrupts the network.
- report suspected computer viruses and other problems immediately.
- understand that all messages and files sent, accessed or received on or through APS equipment are subject to inspection.
- comply with all applicable policies when connecting to the APS network using a personal device.
- only use APS technology for school-related instructional and APS business activities.

Each student will sign the **Acceptable Use Agreement** at the beginning of each school year. The agreement states:

- I agree to use Arlington Public Schools technology carefully, respectfully and responsibly.
- I will follow school and Arlington Public Schools rules.
- I will follow the Arlington Public Schools **Acceptable Use Policy.**
- I will protect my privacy and the privacy of others.
  • I will be safe on the internet. • If I do not work safely and responsibly, I may lose my technology privileges.

INTERNET SAFETY TIPS

- Students should be careful not to disclose information that could lead to the discovery of their identities.
- Students should use only their assigned user names and/or passwords.

- APS limits exposure of inappropriate and illicit internet content to students by preventing students from using some websites with personal learning devices that APS issues, whether using the devices at school, at home, or in public spaces. While APS makes significant efforts to filter inappropriate content, your child could reach content you feel is not appropriate. If this occurs, families are encouraged to discuss the matter with the students and report the inappropriate content to teachers or Instructional Technology Coordinators. Purposely bypassing content filters is a violation of the APS Acceptable Use Policy (AUP).
- Words are very powerful. Students should be courteous and use appropriate language, understanding that their message will be read.
- Cyberbullying is a crime. Students should not view, send or display profanity, obscenities, sexually explicit or offensive materials. Any threatening messages students receive should be immediately reported to a trusted adult. Copies should be kept to provide to authorities. If students receive messages at school, they should notify a teacher immediately; at home, report the problem to the home Internet service provider (ISP).
- Meeting someone via the Internet can be dangerous. Before agreeing to any kind of meeting, students should discuss it with a parent or other trusted adult.