

# ARLINGTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Dr. David Moyer, Superintendent of Schools

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November 7, 2021

Dear Arlington Families,

In this update, you will find information about the following:

- Opting in to receive text messages from the District and signing up for the SchoolMessenger App
- A message from our Transportation Department
- Information for the November 9 Board of Education Meeting
- Dates to Remember

## Sign up for the SchoolMessenger App and Opt In to Receive Text Messages

The district uses our SchoolMessenger notification service to send important information to families through phone calls, emails, and text messages.

If you do not already receive text messages from us, we are encouraging all of our parents and guardians to opt in to receive text messages by texting “Y”, “Yes”, or “Subscribe” to 67587 from the **cell phone that the district has on file**.

Please note that even if you opt in successfully, you will only actually receive text messages if the phone you used is registered with the District.

We encourage you to sign up for the SchoolMessenger App in order to verify the cell phone number that the district has on file for you. The SchoolMessenger App provides access to all the messages sent by the District and from our schools in one place. The App allows you to view and listen to messages and to customize how you receive messages. You will be able to add additional phone numbers and email addresses. If you download the app on your mobile phone, you can also receive push notifications.

**Note: Updating a phone number in the SchoolMessenger App does not update the information your school has on file for you. Please make sure your child’s school has updated contact information.**

[Visit the SchoolMessenger page](#) on the District website for important registration information and to learn more about the SchoolMessenger App.

In compliance with wireless carrier requirements, the District cannot automatically enroll you to receive text messages. If you have not already opted in to receive text messages, **on November 17 you may receive an SMS message to the wireless number that the district has on file requesting that you opt in to receive important information from the district via SMS text message.**

The message you receive will be similar to the following:

*"Arlington Central School District alerts. Reply Y 2 confirm, HELP 4 info. Msg&data rates may apply. Msg freq varies. [schoolmessenger.com/txt](http://schoolmessenger.com/txt)"*

**In order to receive these text messages messages from the school district, please reply with “Yes” when you receive this verification message.** The district will continue to send updates via email and will call you as needed. Text messaging will be another way for us to keep you informed.

The school district does not pay for text message charges that may be incurred by the user. Check with your wireless carrier for possible charges.

Make sure you don't miss important information from the District and your child's school! Sign up for the SchoolMessenger App and text "yes" to 67587 to receive messages via text!

### **A Message from our Transportation Department**

Arlington, like districts across the country, has been dealing with a bus driver shortage. Anyone who is interested in driving a school bus is urged to visit our [Job Opportunities webpage](#).

Unfortunately, this bus driver shortage has caused inconsistencies in our daily operations. We ask that all **students be at their bus stop five minutes before their scheduled pick up time**. We have had several instances when parents have called about late buses when the bus had actually arrived a few minutes early and the student was not at their stop and then subsequently missed the bus. At times, when drivers are not familiar with the route, this can also cause pick up delays. We ask for your patience. Please wait to call the Transportation Department until your child's bus is at least 15 minutes late.

This week we were able to modify our SchoolMessenger system to be able to communicate with parents more quickly. This will allow us to notify families when bus issues occur. If we anticipate that a bus will be **more than 15 minutes late**, we will do our best to notify you through SchoolMessenger.

Please white list the email address [ACSDBusNotice@acsdeny.org](mailto:ACSDBusNotice@acsdeny.org) to make sure email messages do not go to spam. A call about pick up delays will come from (845) 486-4955. Don't forget to opt in to receive text messages and to sign up for the App so that you never miss a message from us!

We thank you for your continued patience.

### **November 9 Board of Education Meeting**

The November 9 Board of Education meeting will be held at Arthur S. May School and will be broadcast on YouTube.

Members of the community can watch the meeting on our [Arlington Communications YouTube Channel](#).

### **Public Comment**

In accordance with [Board Policy 1510](#) governing the rules of Board of Education meetings, there are now two 30-minute public comment sessions on the agenda. The first opportunity for public comment is on agenda items only, while the second public comment session is for matters not on the agenda. If there is time remaining during the first public comment session, the Board may elect to hear comments not related to the agenda. Speakers are asked to state their name and address and to limit their remarks to three minutes.

Those wishing to make a public comment can do so in person or via Zoom. Anyone wishing to make a public comment must sign in within ten minutes prior to the announced time of the meeting. There will be a sign up sheet for anyone attending the meeting in-person.

The meeting webinar will open at 6:50pm to give members of the public an opportunity to "sign in" by using the raise hand feature. During the first public comment session, the meeting moderator will ask those who have signed up whether they wish to comment on an agenda item or wait until the second public comment session.

If you would like make a comment during the November 9 meeting via Zoom, please login between 6:50pm and 7:00pm via this [\\*Zoom webinar link](#) and use the raise hand feature. If you wish to join via telephone for public comment, please dial (646) 518-9805 or (646) 876-9923.

Webinar ID: 953 4688 5637

Passcode: 059134

If you join the webinar by phone, dial \*9 to raise your hand, and dial \*6 to mute/unmute.

The moderator will alternate between those attending in-person and those who are commenting via Zoom.

**Dates to Remember**

November 8-12: Local restaurants will be supporting the Arlington Education Foundation. See the [10<sup>th</sup> Annual Arlington Restaurant Week](#) schedule for participating restaurants.

November 11: Schools are closed in honor of Veterans' Day. We thank all of our veterans for their service to our country.

Sincerely,

Dr. Dave Moyer  
Superintendent of Schools