

EDUCATIONAL PLAN MAINTAINS AND EXPANDS VITAL STUDENT SERVICES

TAX LEVY INCREASE LESS THAN 1%

On April 12, 2021, we were thrilled to welcome our hybrid students back for in-person instruction five days a week. Our classrooms are overflowing with learning, laughter, and goodwill. “Operation Kidz-In!” supports our mission to educate our students and to support social-emotional learning, while doing all we can to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. As always, in addition to learning and teaching, our top priority is the health and safety of our students, faculty, and staff.

We learned a great deal this year as we adjusted to ever changing guidance from the CDC and the NYS Department of Health. The 2021/2022 Educational Plan and Budget is built around the premise that all Arlington students will attend school in-person this fall. We are confident we can accommodate all of our students based on current physical distancing guidelines. As we move forward with our plan, we are in a much better position to adjust to the uncertainties associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

The primary focus of our 2021/2022 Educational Plan and Budget is to provide supports to address the disruption created by the COVID-19 pandemic. Our priority is to ensure that resources are allocated to help address the effect that this period of time has had on our students educationally and emotionally. The proposed plan maintains all current District programs and includes additional supports to address learning gaps and social-emotional learning. We are grateful for additional funds from the New York State and the Federal governments that will allow us to provide this level of service while keeping the tax levy increase under one percent.

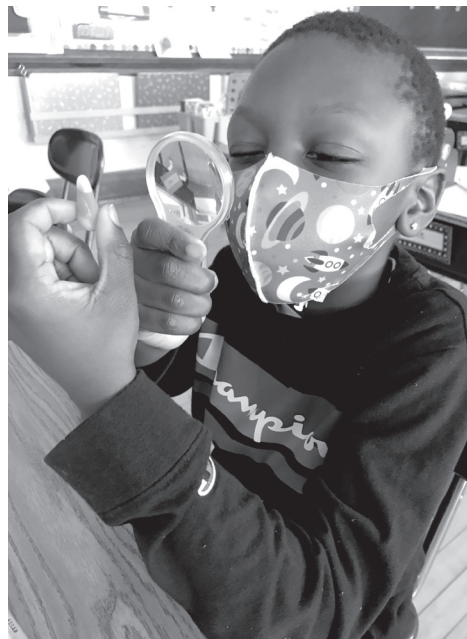
For the tenth consecutive year, the Board of Education has adopted a budget that is below our allowable tax levy cap. The proposed 2021/2022 Educational Plan and Budget is \$233,582,000, a 3.97% increase from the current school year. The tax levy increase is 0.98%, which is below our allowable 1.98% tax cap. See page 2 for the highlights of programs and services maintained or expanded in the educational plan.

A complete copy of the 2021/2022 Educational Plan and Budget is available online and at all of our schools. For more information, call 845-486-4460 or visit our website at www.arlingtonschools.org. Please, remember to vote on May 18.

Sincerely,

Larry Licopoli, Ph.D.
Interim Superintendent
of Schools

Peter Bodnar
Board of Education
President



ARLINGTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COMMUNICATOR

2021 BUDGET VOTE MAY 18 • 6:00 AM – 9:00 PM

BUDGET ISSUE 2021



HOW DOES THE 2021/2022 EDUCATIONAL BUDGET SUPPORT STUDENT AND FAMILY NEEDS?

The proposed budget maintains all current Arlington programs. In addition, it provides supports and opportunities to address the disruption created by the COVID-19 pandemic. Our mission is to empower all students to be self-directed, lifelong learners, who willingly contribute to their community, and lead passionate, purposeful lives. We believe that the 2021/2022 Educational Plan and Budget continues to support this mission, while also providing essential services for helping our students and their families recover from the upheaval that has occurred over the past 15 months.

5 DAYS OF IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION FOR ALL STUDENTS

Our District recognizes the need to ensure a deep and enriched program that is responsive to student learning needs. As we plan and prepare for all students in grades K–12 to attend five days per week of in-person instruction during the 2021/2022 school year, we will also create a state of readiness that can respond quickly to any changes in NYS Department of Health guidance.

ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONAL AND SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING SUPPORT

After 15 months of disrupted instruction, we anticipate that a number of students may have learning gaps and needs in core academic skills. Our educational plan includes progress monitoring to assess student needs and additional programs to meet these needs. These may include summer programs, additional teaching assistant support, and a variety of school year supports to address learning gaps. The proposed budget also includes hiring five additional elementary teachers to reduce class sizes in grades 1–5.

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused our students and families to experience an array of emotions, including stress and grief, that will continue to have an impact. As we return to school this fall, we must support the well-being of our students. We will conduct a district-wide social emotional assessment to identify students who may be struggling with self-management, self-awareness, responsible decision making, relationship skills and/or social awareness. The budget includes a \$200,000 allocation that will be used to address the findings from the social emotional assessment. This may include additional staff, a program and/or professional learning.

FOCUS ON EQUITY

An equity conscious school district fosters the principles of inclusion and diversity as essential by empowering each individual, through education, to embrace cultural, racial, gender, ability, orientation, and religious diversity in a safe and healthy environment that promotes “belonging”. Our Educational Plan is built around

providing each individual full access to all educational experiences and services that the district provides. We will be recruiting a district equity consultant to frame a district vision for equity starting with the Board of Education and our new Superintendent of Schools.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTS

The 2021/2022 Educational Plan and Budget also includes funding for the following:

- Additional special education faculty and staff to meet the needs of our incoming kindergarten students who require special class settings.
- In response to COVID-19 and the need to provide remote instruction, the District provided Chromebooks for every Arlington student. The proposed budget includes additional staff to repair and maintain the additional devices, the purchase of new instructional software, Chromebook and desktop replacement, and innovation stations in each school library.
- To ensure that District communications are clear, concise, and compelling, we will be contracting with the BOCES public information services to enhance our communications and improve our websites.
- We received one year of funding to implement universal pre-kindergarten for District four-year-olds. We are currently exploring the options for providing this service to our community.
- The proposed budget includes a \$3.25 million HVAC project at Overlook Primary School to enhance mechanical ventilation of occupied spaces. The scope involves rooftop units, wall units, ductwork, piping, pumps, controls, finishes and, if required, abatement of existing hazardous materials. We will transfer funds from the budget to our existing Capital Fund to cover the cost of this project.

Please visit www.arlingtonschools.org for complete details. •

2021 BUDGET VOTE MAY 18 • 6:00 AM – 9:00 PM

ARLINGTON WELCOMES DR. DAVID MOYER AS OUR NEXT SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS



On July 1, Dr. David Moyer will become Arlington's next Superintendent of Schools. Dr. Moyer has worked with our current administration to develop the 2021/2022 Educational Plan that he will be responsible for implementing upon his arrival.

Dr. Moyer comes to Arlington with eleven years as a school superintendent and 23 years as a school administrator. For the past 6 years, Dr. Moyer has been the superintendent of Elmhurst Community Unit School District 205. This district in Elmhurst, Illinois, is similar in size to Arlington with 13 schools and more than 8,500 students.

In his application, Dr. Moyer stated: "I believe that children are more than a test score. They have a name and a face." In 2019 the Illinois Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development recognized these beliefs and named Elmhurst as the 2019 Exemplary District in the State of Illinois as the Overall Whole Child Award Winner for District Excellence in providing healthy, safe, supportive, and engaged learning environments.

In 2015, Dr. Moyer was recognized as an Illinois Superintendent of Distinction. He believes that external and internal communication is essential for success for any superintendent. A former Board president described Dr. Moyer as highly motivated and always focused on his efforts to add value and quality to the daily business of schools and to the essential role of education: teaching and learning.

In accepting the position of the Arlington Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Moyer stated: "I could not feel more fortunate to be selected as the next superintendent for the Arlington Central School District. My family and I are appreciative of the opportunity and the trust the Board has shown in me. People are obviously proud of their schools, and the sense of community has been obvious from the outset. This is the perfect professional and personal opportunity for me at the perfect time. Everyone has gone out of their way to make me feel welcome, and I am very hopeful that a trip out there to meet people in person will be possible in the very near future. I'm a lucky guy."

After conducting a national search, Dr. Moyer was selected from a pool of more than 40 applicants after a rigorous interview process. We look forward to welcoming Dr. David Moyer to Arlington. •

WHAT HAPPENS IF THE BUDGET IS DEFEATED?

Under state law, if the school budget is defeated, the Board of Education has three choices:

1. Put the same budget up (without change) for a re-vote on June 15
2. Present a revised budget for a vote on June 15
3. Adopt a contingency budget.

If the budget is defeated a second time, the board must adopt a contingency budget. Under the tax cap law, a district that adopts a contingent budget may not increase its current tax levy by any amount—which would impose a 0% cap. For Arlington, this means cutting an additional \$3.8 million from the proposed budget.

If forced to develop a 0% contingency budget, Arlington must eliminate the purchase of all new equipment (with the exception of instructional technology).

In addition, a contingency budget would also exclude capital projects from the general budget. We would be unable to complete the HVAC project at Overlook Primary School. We identified the need for these HVAC improvements in the 2016 five-year facilities study. These projects generate state building aid, which will lower taxes and support future budgets over the next fifteen years. The pandemic has increased the need for the HVAC improvements for Overlook Primary. •



Art students at LaGrange Middle School had the opportunity to work with artist Joseph Pimentel on a collaborative mural located in the school's cafeteria. The mural was designed to embody the local Hudson Valley landscape and adds brilliant,



bold, colorful imagery that instantly gives life to a once bare wall. This opportunity couldn't have come at a more needed time. With students returning to in-person learning 5 days a week, the artist in residency program gave our students a



wonderful opportunity to participate in a collaborative project with their peers. Mr. Pimentel is working with students at several Arlington schools this spring to brighten our buildings.

WE REFLECTIONS FROM OUR 2021 VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN

BELIEVE

This year's valedictorian and salutatorian are two very impressive young women who have clearly made the most of their time at Arlington High School. Congratulations to Valedictorian Gigi Goldfischer and Salutatorian Sally Ball, who shared some reflections on their past four years at Arlington High School.

that all

people are

responsible

for their

choices

and actions.



GIGI GOLDFISCHER

While at Arlington High School, Gigi has been a member of the Student Equity Association, working towards creating a more equitable and fair learning environment for Arlington students. She has served as a writer, section

editor, and is currently the editor-in-chief for the AHS newspaper, the Arlingtonian. She plans to major in sociology, but as of our publication deadline had not yet committed to a school.

What have you gained from your time at AHS?

"I think that over the past four years I have really gained a strong sense of self, and even though I want to continue to evolve and grow, I think that I know who I am at my core and what my values are, which is something that I'm really proud of. I think that's because Arlington is big enough that it leaves you with room to grow, have some independence, try different things, and see what does and doesn't work for you; but, you are by no means on your own in this as I've found there really is help available if you ask for it."



SALLY BALL

During her time at Arlington High School, Sally has played soccer all four years. For the past two years, she and Gigi have been co-presidents of the Environmental Club. During her senior year, she has served as the co-student body president.

She plans to major in global health. As of our print deadline, she had not yet decided which school she will be attending.

What have you gained from your time at AHS?

"I have learned so much at Arlington both in and out of the classroom, and I am endlessly grateful for the relationships I have formed with the classmates and faculty who have supported me these past four years. This school is full of incredible people, but nothing was ever handed to me. At Arlington, I learned to be resilient and self-motivated, but I also learned the importance of asking for help. The world does not always need to be faced alone.

I am so grateful for my time at Arlington, even though this past year was not what I expected. I remember feeling lost as a freshman, unsure of where high school would take me. I got more out of my four years at Arlington than I ever imagined I would, and I am truly so thankful for every opportunity this school has given me." •

"THE FUTURE BELONGS TO THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN THE BEAUTY OF THEIR DREAMS."

—ELEANOR ROOSEVELT

When they walked through the doors of Arlington High School four years ago, the Class of 2021 could not have imagined a more tumultuous senior year. Yet they have handled themselves throughout with resilience, grace, and Arlington spirit.

Congratulations to the Class of 2021!



ARLINGTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET NOTICE

OVERALL BUDGET PROPOSAL

	Budget Adopted for the 2020/21 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2021/22 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2021/22 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$224,658,000	\$233,582,000	\$229,792,018
Increase/Decrease for the 2021/22 School Year		\$8,924,000	\$5,134,018
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		3.97%	2.29%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		1.23%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$145,987,196	\$147,420,288	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	0	0	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	0	0	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	0	0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$145,987,196	\$147,420,288	\$145,987,196
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$5,036,299	\$5,300,230	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$140,952,819	\$143,578,726	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)	\$140,950,897	\$142,120,058	
I. Difference: G – H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$1,922	\$1,458,668	
Administrative Component	\$19,726,059	\$19,600,139	\$19,548,773
Program Component	\$171,180,328	\$176,906,745	\$176,443,129
Capital Component	\$33,751,613	\$37,075,116	\$33,800,116

** The following is a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2021/22 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated, pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law. The projected contingency budget for the 2021/22 school year would be the proposed budget less \$3,789,982. These reductions would be made by eliminating all new equipment (except state-aided equipment), reducing staff, reducing programs, eliminating certain raises, eliminating certain materials and supplies for students, reducing extracurricular activities, and reducing capital expenditures.

** List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)

Description	Amount
Proposition #2 – Purchase of School Buses and Equipment	\$1,937,400

	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2021/22 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹	\$860

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2021-2022 by the qualified voters of the Arlington Central School District, Dutchess County, New York, will be held at School Election District #1 – Arthur S. May School, School Election District #2 – Traver Road Primary, School Election District #3 – Overlook Primary, School Election District #4 – Noxon Road Elementary, School Election District #5 – Beekman Elementary, and School Election District #6 – Vail Farm Elementary school(s) in said district on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 between the hours of 6:00am and 9:00pm, prevailing time in the Arlington Central School(s), at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting machine.

¹ The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR THE 2021/2022 SCHOOL YEAR



This Vail Farm kindergartener learns to read with the help of her elephant "reading buddy."

Students must be 5 years old by December 1, 2021 to register for kindergarten for the 2021/2022 school year.

The Arlington Central School District is conducting an online kindergarten pre-registration for the 2021/2022 school year.

The online pre-registration includes answering questions in our pre-registration portal, completing fillable registration documents, and then uploading them into the portal. Once the online pre-registration is complete, the school registrar will review the documents and will either contact you for additional

information or will schedule an appointment for you to bring in your child's original birth certificate, your I.D. and any other official documents that must be verified in order to register your child for school.

Incoming kindergarten families can find full details at www.arlingtonschools.org/Registration. If you have any questions, please send an email to Registration@acsdny.org or call Central Registration at 845-227-1821.

We look forward to getting to know your child this fall. We wish you and your child a most rewarding, fun and exciting experience surrounded by the joy of learning. •



2021/2022 BUS AND EQUIPMENT PROPOSITION

ON MAY 18, VOTERS WILL CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT PURCHASES

- 11 Seventy-two (72) Passenger Propane Buses
- 3 Twenty (20) Passenger Vans
- 2 Thirty (30) Passenger Vans
- 2 Thirty-four (34) Passenger Vans
- 1 Wheelchair Van
- 1 Utility/Plow Truck

This year's bus and equipment proposition is for \$1,937,400 bonded over five years. Bus costs totaling \$1,877,400 are eligible for state transportation aid at the rate of 65.3% so the local share is \$711,458.



DID YOU KNOW?

Arlington's fleet of 255 buses and vans travel 3 million miles per year. There are 722 routes this school year. We currently transport approximately 7,685 Arlington students, 433 private and parochial students, 259 special education students, and 20 homeless students.

The district is required by law to transport students to 9 private schools within district boundaries, to 37 schools for special needs students, and to another 16 out of district private and parochial schools. To save money, we continue to forge agreements with surrounding districts and with BOCES to share busing for special needs students.

SAFETY AND FLEET AGE

Arlington's Transportation Department's primary responsibility is to provide students with safe transportation to and from school. This requires us to maintain safe, reliable vehicles that meet all NYS Department of Transportation requirements. In order to maintain our fleet in a fiscally responsible manner, we adhere to a year-to-year schedule

for replacing our older buses. This provides cost predictability for the District and for our taxpayers. We need to replace buses after 10–12 years that have excessive mileage or undercarriage rusting. This replacement cycle helps to avoid expensive repairs and the need for emergency leasing. Purchasing new vehicles through a bond maximizes state aid and our buying power.

WHAT IF THE BUS PROPOSITION DOES NOT PASS?

As noted, Arlington maintains a schedule for bus replacements. If we do not replace buses in one year, then we need to replace more buses in subsequent years. This interrupts budget sustainability and predictability. Operating older buses increases our repair costs and has the potential to increase the number of buses taken out of service by the DOT. We want to avoid making cuts to our educational programs due to additional costs incurred from added repairs or the need to lease buses. •

BUDGET SNAPSHOT

Budget Element		Year over Year Change
Spending	\$233,582,000	3.97%
State Aid Revenue	\$71,065,440	7.15%
Other Revenue	\$6,224,823	101.03%
Assigned Fund Balance	\$7,403,000	0%
Tax Levy Revenue	\$147,420,288	0.98%
Interfund Revenue Capital Fund	\$1,468,449	-20.56%

WANT MORE BUDGET DETAILS?

Visit the Arlington website: www.arlingtonschools.org

- Voting locations: street listing
- Complete budget details
- Full bus proposition details
- Superintendent's budget presentations
- Board of Education candidate bios



2021 SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

On May 18, voters will also elect three members to the Arlington Board of Education. The terms of Edward L. McCormick, Charles McLeod, and Mary Anne Meaden will expire on June 30, 2021. There are six candidates running for three seats. Those elected to the Board will serve a three-year term beginning July 1, 2021.

Below are candidate statements explaining why they wish to serve on the Board of Education. For further details on each candidate's educational background, career history, and community involvement, please visit www.arlingtonschools.org. The candidates are listed in the order that they will appear on the ballot.



JEFF KOBAK, M.D.

As a lifelong New Yorker, I have been in the NY public school system for my entire education.

As a local physician, I bring a unique prospective to learning/academics. I consider myself a perpetual student who learns something new every day. To that point I already have something in common with the students I hope to represent. I am hoping to give back to the students of Arlington what I had the privilege of experiencing myself.



CHARLES McLEOD

I am the father of 5. I want to ensure equitable educational opportunities for all our children.

I will continue to work with the board and the Superintendent to control indirect costs. I was involved in the development of the Strategic Plan and the Arlington Central School District Mission. I strongly believe in our mission, and believe that my involvement in the Board of Education is one way in which I personally fulfill it.



MARY ANNE MEADEN

I am honored to serve on the Arlington Board of Education, as I believe in the value of excellent

public education. Given another term I would prioritize:

- Building school communities where ALL students feel safe, welcome and reflected in our culture and curriculum.
- Identifying and filling academic and social/emotional gaps created by the pandemic.
- Fiscal responsibility and stewardship of the resources entrusted to us by our hard-working taxpayers.



DR. LARRY JEANNOTTE

I have a demonstrated commitment to and experience with the

Arlington Community both as a teacher and as a parent of 3 (now adult) sons who participated in the academic, athletic, and artistic Arlington experience. A believer in the critical importance of education for the individual and the community, I am seeking an opportunity to be your representative and help assure that Arlington effectively responds to the many challenges it faces.



EDWARD L. McCORMICK

Each year that I serve on the Board of Education, I embrace the challenges of

balancing the needs of students, teachers, support staff and community in the pursuit of educational excellence. However, the future excellence of our school District will also depend on our ability to manage the pandemic recovery while ensuring greater equity. I want to continue to be a part of developing reasonable and rationale solutions to address challenges to the School District.



DR. KARL A. ZIERMANN

Hello Arlington. I am running for the BOE to help ACSD provide the

best opportunities for all of our children. My family and I have lived throughout the state of NY. We decided to move here to provide the best opportunities for our family. I am a proud parent to two elementary aged children in ACSD. I am also a sports medicine physician, father, husband, and team physician for Vassar College.

WE

BELIEVE

that a

community

thrives

when all

members

embrace

their

interdependence

with

compassion

and

empathy.

OUR MISSION IS

to empower
all students
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Larry Licopoli, Ph.D.
Interim Superintendent of Schools

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Peter Bodnar · President
Mark Tornatore · Vice President
Kelly Cahill Chenski
Edward McCormick
Linda Gaines Ed.D.
Dave Goddard
Charles McLeod
Mary Anne Meaden
Marion Quinn
Margie Flynn · Clerk of the Board

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

144 Todd Hill Road
LaGrangeville, NY 12540
845-486-4460

Visit Our District Website at
www.arlingtonschools.org



ARLINGTON CENTRAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT

144 Todd Hill Road
LaGrangeville, NY 12540

Non-Profit Org.
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CAR-RT Pre-sort

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DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!

TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2021 • 6:00 AM – 9:00 PM

KEEPING VOTERS AND POLL WORKERS SAFE

We have developed plans and procedures for keeping voters and poll workers safe during the District Budget Vote on May 18. Working together, we can ensure a safe and healthy voting environment for everyone.

The following steps have been taken to mitigate the risk of COVID-19:

- All voters are required to wear a mask at the polls.
- Please remember to maintain physical distancing.
We will have floor markers spaced six feet apart for those waiting in line at the polls.
- Be patient. Maintenance workers will be wiping down the pens and privacy booths in between each voter.
- Hand sanitizer will be available at each polling location.

VOTER ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to vote, you must be a U.S. citizen, 18 years of age or older, and a resident of the district for 30 days prior to the vote. If you are registered to vote for a general election, you are registered to vote in all school district elections.

VOTING LOCATIONS

Make sure you know where to vote! An Arlington street listing is available on the 2021/2022 Budget Vote page at www.arlingtonschools.org.

District 1 – Arthur S. May School	District 4 – Noxon Road Elementary
District 2 – Traver Road Primary	District 5 – Beekman Elementary
District 3 – Overlook Primary	District 6 – Vail Farm Elementary

TO VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT

Absentee ballots are available to residents who will be out of town or who are unable to go to the polls due to illness or disability. To vote by absentee ballot, you must first fill out an application. Contact the district clerk at 486-4460 ext. 20212.

If you would like an absentee ballot mailed to you, we must receive your application by May 11. If you plan to pick up your ballot, we must receive your application by May 17. The district clerk must receive completed absentee ballots by 5:00 PM on May 18.

QUESTIONS?

If you have questions about the budget or about your voting location, information is available at all district schools, at www.arlingtonschools.org, or by calling 486-4460 ext. 20212.