

AGENDA

General Membership Meeting
Tuesday, October 8, 2024. 6:15pm - 7:15pm
School Cafeteria (*enter through door 7*) or
ZOOM (Join Online): <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85337786090>
Meeting ID: 853 3778 6090

- I. Call To Order
- II. Adopt Agenda
- III. Approval of September 2024 General Membership Meeting Minutes
- IV. Approval of By-Laws
- V. Monthly Financial Report
- VI. Q&A with Principal Hairston
- VII. Upcoming Events
 - A. Fall Appeal Kick-Off
 - B. Reflections Art Contest
 - C. Turkey Trot
 - D. Restaurant Nights
- VIII. Appy Hour
- IX. New Business
- X. Adjourn

2024-25 BOARD MEMBERS

President

Katie Brossy

Executive Vice President

Sara Boyce

Treasurer

Jay Hallen

Secretary & VP, Outreach

Devon Tutak

VP, Communication

Adam Branch

VP, Fundraising

Amy Hillis

Past President & VP, Programs

Michele Dixey



PTA Membership

AGENDA

Asamblea General de Miembros
Tuesday, October 8, 2024. 6:15pm - 7:15pm
Cafe (entrar por la puerta 1) / En línea

ZOOM (Únete en línea) <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/853337786090>

ID de reunión: 853 3778 6090

- I. Llamar al orden
- II. Adoptar la agenda
- III. Aprobación del Acta de la Asamblea General de Miembros de septiembre de 2024
- IV. Aprobación de Estatutos
- V. Informe financiero mensual
- VI. Preguntas y respuestas con el director Hairston
- VII. Próximos eventos
 - A. Inicio de la campaña de recaudación de fondos de otoño
 - B. Concurso de Arte Reflexiones
 - C. Carrera del Pavo 1943
 - D. Noites em restaurantes
- √III. Appy Hour (demostración de aplicación móvil)
- IX. Nuevo negocio
- X. Aplazar

2024-25 BOARD MEMBERS

Presidenta

Katie Bross y

Vice Presidenta ejecutiva

Sara Boyce

Tesorero

Jay Hallen

Secretaria & VP, Divulgação

Devon Tutak

VP, Comunicaçã

Adam Branch

VP, Arrecadação de fundos

Amy Hillis

Ex-Presidenta &

VP, Programas

Michele Dixey



Membresía de la PTA

Douglas MacArthur Elementary School PTA

General Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 8, 2024 @ 6:15pm (Hybrid)

Attendance: Quorum achieved (~10 in person, ~13 virtual)

- I. **Call to order.** The meeting was called to order by [Katie Brossy, PTA President](#) at 6:15pm

- II. **Principal Presentation.** Principal Penny Hairston presented an update on school performance and priorities. Full presentation available here. Some highlights:
 - A. Douglas MacArthur Elementary School is one of 13 ACPS elementary schools, with 668 students from Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 5.
 1. Student population is: 40% Free and Reduced Meals (FARM); 15% Limited English Proficiency; 7% Advanced Academic Services, and 11% Students with Disabilities.
 2. K-5 student population is: 42% White, 20% Hispanic/Latino, 24% Black/African American, 7.5% Multi-Racial, 5.5% Asian/Pacific Islander, and 1% American Indian.
 - B. Accreditation status as of October 1 ([full detail available on VDOE site](#))
 1. Majority Level 1 ratings, including academic achievement, narrowing achievement gaps, and chronic absenteeism
 - a) Gains shown in all categories, including non-white students and economically disadvantaged students
 2. Only Level 2 rating is for students with disabilities
 - a) Improved from Level 3 rating last year
 - b) Reflects addition of [Social Emotional Learning \(SEL\)](#) program last year
 3. Academic achievement in English improved to 90% from 89% last year
 4. State rates based on progress from previous year, so goal is for continuous improvement
 5. School leadership meets regularly with professional learning communities to ensure progress

C. September was [National Absentee Awareness Month](#)

1. 9.1% of DMES students are chronically absent
2. Popsicle party offered for students with September perfect attendance
3. Please don't send students to school if they are sick
4. Please plan vacations around [school calendar](#)

D. Curriculum Updates

1. Reminder that testing for Virginia Standards of Learning (SOLs) is cumulative for 5th grade, covering all previous years' curriculum
2. Social Studies
 - a) 2024-2025 is a crosswalk year to begin using the [revised 2023 SOLs](#)
 - (1) Full implementation will be in 2025-2026
 - (2) Expecting VDOE to provide additional information and resources about the revised standards in the upcoming year
 - (3) VDOE required tests (including Virginia Studies) will continue to use the 2015 standards for this year
 - (4) [Grade level specific updates](#)
 - b) ACPS inquiry-based resource pilot with DMES 5th graders
3. Science & Math
 - a) Limited Science curriculum changes to provide teachers with some consistency in the midst of other subject changes
 - (1) New math standards & textbooks in August 2024
 - (2) New literacy standards & training requirements in August 2024
 - b) [2025 Science standard drafts](#) will be released October 24, 2024
 - (1) Crosswalk will be January - June 2025
4. Math
 - a) New [2023 Mathematics Standards of Learning](#)
 - b) New textbook - [Math Forward](#) - adopted by ACPS and most other Virginia districts
 - (1) All classes across grade levels are aced the same for consistent curriculum and preparation
 - c) [New math resource: Savvas Envision Math](#)
5. Literacy
 - a) [Virginia Literacy Act](#) ensures all teachers have and use evidence-based literacy curriculum resources for the entire literacy block

- b) Mandatory training for teachers to be completed throughout the school year
- c) ACPS Literacy Block
 - (1) 30 minutes for writing/ELA Block, 45 minutes for Core Reading, 45 minutes for intervention enrichment (IET) workshops
- d) [VALLS](#) replacing PALS assessment for PreK-3
- e) Lexia
 - (1) Key digital resource during virtual learning - testing data is showing its impact
 - (2) Levels students and teaches them where they're at to support improvement

E. School Board Technology Policy

- 1. No cell phones during school hours
 - a) May be in students' backpacks but must be turned off/school mode as of 7:40am
 - b) Watches are allowed if not disruptive

F. Q&A from Attendees

- 1. How are teachers evaluated?
 - a) Administration meets with teachers every Tuesday and with School Support Team every Monday
 - b) Coaches ensure training and implementation of curriculum
 - c) Interventionists work with students who need additional support
 - d) Administration supports the growth of school professionals across staffing levels
- 2. What quality indicators is the school measured on?
 - a) See [VDOE](#)
- 3. Should DMES families be concerned about recent School Board discussion about redistricting, especially in light of overcrowding at Polk and Patrick Henry schools?
 - a) DMES has physical space but not enough staff to support additional students, especially Encore teachers
 - b) DMES wants to welcome all students but can't accept additional programs giving staffing limitations (e.g. currently sharing one PE teacher with Samuel Tucker)
 - c) Would also have an impact on transportation services, which are already not performing to standard this year (delayed buses, route sharing, wrong bus stops)

4. Request from parent to keep us informed of opportunities to voice perspective re: redistricting, program changes, etc., with School Board or City Council.
5. What is the current nursing situation?
 - a) Do not anticipate Nurse returning from maternity leave
 - b) Interviewing three candidates on October 9th
 - c) Currently have an aid (Thursday and Fridays) and Principal/Assistant Principals are covering as needed

III. **PTA Business** (by [Devon Tutak, PTA Secretary](#))

- A. Approval of September 2024 General Membership Meeting Minutes
- B. Approval of By-Laws

IV. **Monthly Financial Report** (Presented by [Jay Hallen, Treasurer](#) and [Amy Hillis, VP of Fundraising](#))

- A. Sponsorships: \$2,500 pledged to date
- B. Partnerships: \$815 to date (Noodles, Panera, Minted)
- C. Fall Appeal: October 8 - November 8 (goal of \$16,000)
 1. Request from parent for QR code and/or link to share with friends and family
 2. Additional promotion across PTA social media and newsletter in coming weeks
 3. Counterpart is [Alexandria Spring2Action](#)
 - a) Critical for covering end-of-year PTA activities (e.g. 4th grade Jamestown trip, school dance, 5th grade graduation celebration)
- D. Membership Dues: \$1,560 to date (compared to \$2,200 for FY 23-24)
- E. Book Fair: estimating \$3,000 in profit

V. **Upcoming Events**. Presented by [Amy Hillis, VP of Fundraising](#) and [Michele Dixey, Past President & VP Programs](#))

- A. Winter Read-a-thon
 1. Potential for students to raise money based on academic skills (# of books read, minutes read)
 - a) Target goal is \$30/student
 2. Opportunities for local sponsors to set up matching support
 - a) Could help with equity for students who can't raise funds
- B. Fall Appeal Kick-Off
 1. Individual/Family Donation Drive
 2. No Donation is Too Small for the PTA

3. Target goal is \$30/student
4. Support from sponsors:
 - a) Chris Upham, Compass Realtor
 - b) Allied Title & Escrow
 - c) Sarah Bennett Aesthetics
 - d) Goldfish Swimming
 - e) MB Bakery
5. Please spread the word to potential sponsors and/or share leads w/ Amy Hillis (vp.fundraising@dmacpta.org)

C. Reflections Art Contest

1. DMES Art Teacher, Mr. Murphy, will collect physical entries and printed forms (click [here](#) for fillable PDF) through 10/23/2024.
2. Online submissions (to include uploaded electronic documents including literature entries, photography, photos of visual art, videos, and audio files) using the [Local School Form](#) may be submitted through 10/30/2024.
3. Local judges will evaluate the DMES submissions in November and our first place winners in each category will advance to the City level competition.
4. Please contact DMES Reflections Chair, Krista Ludwig Poretz, at kristamludwig@gmail.com, with questions regarding the program or if you would like to volunteer to support the program

D. Turkey Trot

1. Saturday, November 16 at Chinquapin Park (3210 King Street)
 - a) Parking at Alexandria City High School (3330 King Street)
2. Thank you to co-chairs Laura and Dave O'Hara and faculty liaison Mrs. Piniero
3. More details coming soon

E. Restaurant Nights - remember to mention the PTA when you order!

1. Monday, October 14 - Friday, October 18: [Frank Pepe Pizzeria Napoletana](#) (3131 Duke Street - Alexandria Commons)
2. Tuesday, November 5: [& Pizza](#) (3690L King Street - Bradlee Shopping Center)

VI. Appy Hour (Presentation by [Gerson Paniagua, Assistant Director, School Engagement and Community Partnerships, ACPS Office of Community Partnerships & Engagement](#))

- A. You must establish an ACPS account with PowerSchool at <https://acpsva.powerschool.com/public>

1. Link your child(ren) using the 'Access ID' and 'Access Password'

2. Letters containing student IDs and passwords mailed in August
 3. If you have issues with PowerSchool access, use the Parent Access Help Form (<https://shorturl.at/GwlpQ>)
- B. [ParentSquare](#)
1. ACPS families with children in grades K-12
 2. Allows families to communicate with teachers, receive absence notifications, sign permission slips, schedule parent-teacher conferences, and more
 3. Receive notification in the app, via SMS text, and/or email, instantly or in digest form (sent daily at 6pm)
 4. Select the language of your choice and send two-way texts with automated translation
- C. Question from parent re: issues with access to newly enrolled families (e.g. Kindergarten, transfers) because of back-to-school forms/PowerSchool timing
1. [FACE](#) is looking to improve pull of data, but confirmed that ParentSquare syncs with PowerSchool nightly to activate/transfer data
 2. PTA offered support to FACE in communicating with new families to ensure awareness and activation of ParentSquare
- D. Question re: revisiting opt-in language for family directory in PowerSchool back-to-school forms to avoid confusion
1. FACE happy to consider revisions; questions and comments should be sent to parentsquare@acps.k12.va.us

VII. Upcoming Community Meetings

- A. Tuesday, November 12th, 6:15pm (Hybrid)
- B. Tuesday, December 10th, 6:15pm (Virtual)

Meeting concluded at 7:35pm.

APPENDICES

- PTA Slide Deck
- Principal Hairston Slides

Douglas MacArthur PTA
October 2024
Community Meeting

Tuesday, October 8, 2024



AGENDA

- PTA Business
 - Adopt Agenda
 - Approval of September 2024 General Membership Meeting Minutes
 - Approval of By-Laws
 - Monthly Financial Report
- Q&A with Principal Hairston
- Upcoming Events
 - Fall Appeal Fundraising Kick-Off
 - Reflections Art Contest
 - Turkey Trot
 - Restaurant Nights
- Appy Hour
- New Business

PTA BUSINESS

- Adopt Agenda
- Approval of September 2024 General Membership Meeting Minutes
- Approval of By-Laws

PTA BUSINESS

- Monthly Financial Report
 - Revenue:
 - Sponsorships: \$2500 pledged to date
 - Partnerships: \$815 to date (Noodles, Panera, Minted)
 - Fall Appeal: Starts today through Nov. 8: goal of \$16K
 - Membership Dues: \$1560 date (\$2200 for FY 23-24)
 - Book Fair:
 - Over \$17K in sales, but still in process of confirming our net profit with Scholastic - likely around \$3K

PRINCIPAL Q&A

Virtual

Please use the Q&A function in Zoom to submit your questions. We will alternate between in-person and virtual questions



In-Person

Please raise your hand to ask a question or submit your question to a PTA officer using one of the index cards at your table.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Fall Appeal Kick-Off
- Reflections Art Contest
- Turkey Trot
- Restaurant Nights

FALL APPEAL

Individual/Family Donation Drive Oct 8 - Nov 8

- No Donation is Too Small for the PTA
- Hoping to raise ~\$30 per kid (at least) during the Fall Appeal

Off to a Good Start w/Sponsors (\$2,500 so far)

- Chris Upham, Compass Realtor
- Allied Title & Escrow
- Sarah Bennett Aesthetics
- Goldfish
- MB Bakery

Please spread the word to potential sponsors and/or share leads w/ Amy Hillis (vp.fundraising@dmacpta.org)



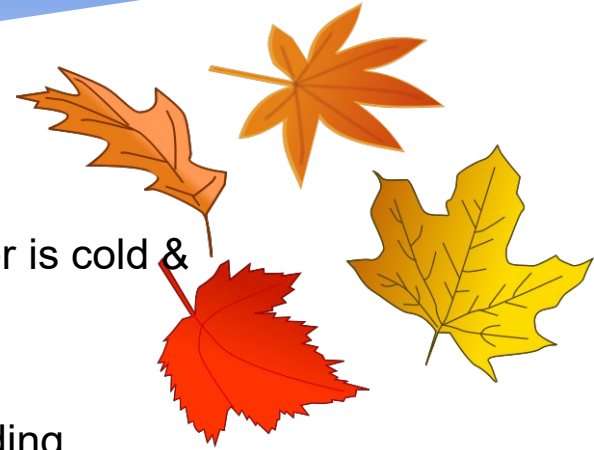
FALL APPEAL

NEW THIS YEAR: Winter Read-A-Thon!

Our target time is the post-holiday doldrums, when the weather is cold & kids can curl up with some good books

- We hope each student can raise ~\$30 for reading!
- Students will be sponsored by friends/family for their reading
- The intent is to incentivize students to be actively involved in using their academic skills to support school activities!

Final Fundraising Push is the Alexandria Spring2Action (to cover the PTA's final expenses)





Reflections Art Contest Reminders

- Students in Pre-K through grade 12 are invited to create theme-based artwork in the categories of dance choreography, film production, literature, musical composition, photography or visual arts.
- DMES Art Teacher, Mr. Murphy, will collect physical entries and printed forms (click [here](#) for fillable PDF) through 10/23/2024.
- Online submissions (to include uploaded electronic documents including literature entries, photography, photos of visual art, videos, and audio files) using the [Local School Form](#) may be submitted through 10/30/2024.
- Local judges will evaluate the DMES submissions in November and our first place winners in each category will advance to the City level competition.
- Please contact DMES Reflections Chair, Krista Ludwig Poretz, at kristamludwig@gmail.com, with questions regarding the program or if you would like to co-chair, be a judge, sponsor, or volunteer to support this program.

TURKEY TROT



- Saturday, November 16
- Chinquapin Park (3210 King Street)
- Please park at Alexandria City High School (3330 King Street)
- Thank you to co-chairs Laura and Dave O'Hara and faculty liaison Mrs. Piniero
- More details coming soon!

RESTAURANT NIGHTS

Monday, October 14 - Friday, October 18

Frank Pepe Pizzeria Napoletana

- 3131 Duke Street (Alexandria Commons)
- Remember to mention the PTA when you order!



Tuesday, November 5 (ELECTION DAY!)

& Pizza

- 3690L King Street (Bradlee Shopping Center)

&pizza

**Follow Douglas MacArthur PTA
for reminders and details!**



facebook.com/DMacPTA



instagram.com/macarthurpta



“APPY HOUR”



ParentSquare



EDULOG

“APPY HOUR”

IMPORTANT FIRST STEP

- You must establish an ACPS account with PowerSchool at <https://acpsva.powerschool.com/public>
 - Link your child(ren) using the ‘Access ID’ and ‘Access Password’
 - Letters containing student IDs and passwords were mailed to families in August
- If you have issues with PowerSchool access, use the Parent Access Help Form (<https://shorturl.at/GwlpQ>)

“APPY HOUR”



PowerSchool

Who is it for?

ACPS families with children in grades K-12

What can you do?

Complete back to school forms, access academic records, track attendance, review transportation information, check class schedule, and more

“APPY HOUR”



ParentSquare

Translation

Select the language of your choice and send two-way texts with automated translation!

ParentSquare

Who is it for?

ACPS families with children in grades K-12

What can you do?

Communicate with teachers, receive absence notifications, sign permission slips, schedule parent-teacher conferences, and more.

Notifications

You can receive notification in the app, via SMS text, and/or email, instantly or in daily digest form.

“APPY HOUR”



EduLog

Who is it for?

ACPS families whose children use ACPS transportation

What can you do?

Check bus schedule, receive notifications about bus arrival/departure, track bus via GPS

“APPY HOUR”



SchoolCafe

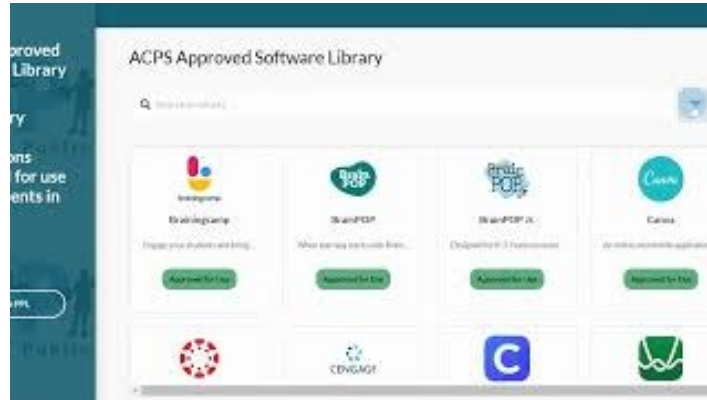
Who is it for?

ACPS families whose children purchase meals at school

What can you do?

Load funds onto student accounts, monitor meal purchases, set purchase restrictions, and more.

“APPY HOUR”



For an overview of ACPS-approved software for classroom use, visit
<https://www.acps.k12.va.us/departments/technology-services/student-parent-information/learn-platform>

“APPY HOUR”

Have More Questions?

Stick around after the meeting for peer guidance on using these apps/sites.

Connect with:

- [ACPS Family and Community Engagement Center \(FACE\)](#)
- [ACPS Technology Services](#)
- Your student’s teachers (re: in class apps)

NEW BUSINESS

- New business/Q&A

ADJOURN

Save the dates for our remaining 2024 Community Meetings

Tuesday, November 12th, 6:15pm (Hybrid)

Tuesday, December 10th, 6:15pm (Virtual)

Douglas MacArthur Elementary School



"Would
recommend."

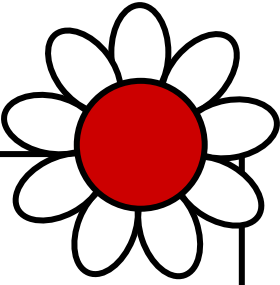


PTA MEETING

OCTOBER 2024



In My MacArthur Era



Taylor Mood Meter



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9



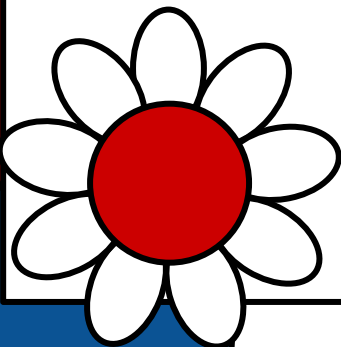
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11



12



Who is MacArthur?



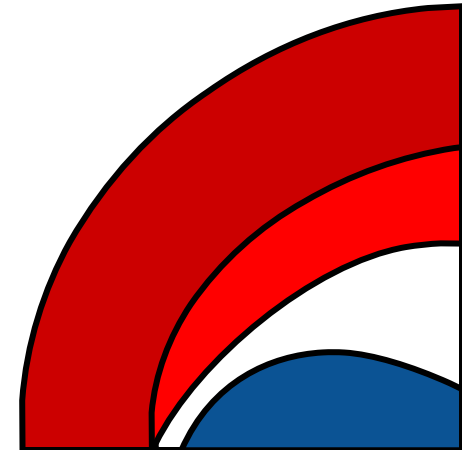
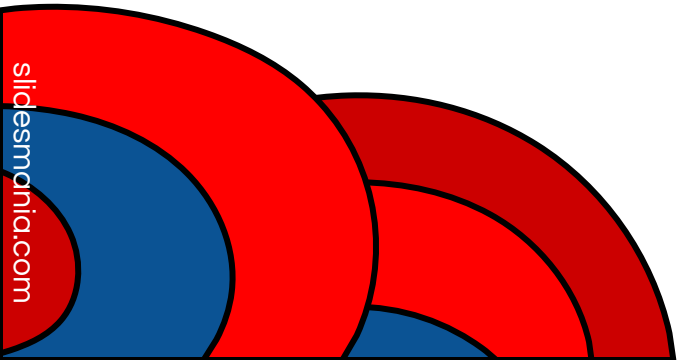
Douglas MacArthur Elementary School is one of thirteen elementary schools within the Alexandria City Public Schools District. Currently, the highly qualified staff at Douglas MacArthur supports **668 students** from Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 5.

The ethnic makeup of the students in **Kindergarten- Grade 5** is as follows: 42% White, 20% Hispanic/Latino, 24% Black/African American, 7.5% Multi-Racial, 5.5% Asian/Pacific Islander, and 1% American Indian.

The student population is 40% Free and Reduced Meals (FARM); 15% Limited English Proficiency; 7% Advanced Academic Services, and 11% Students with Disabilities.

Douglas MacArthur

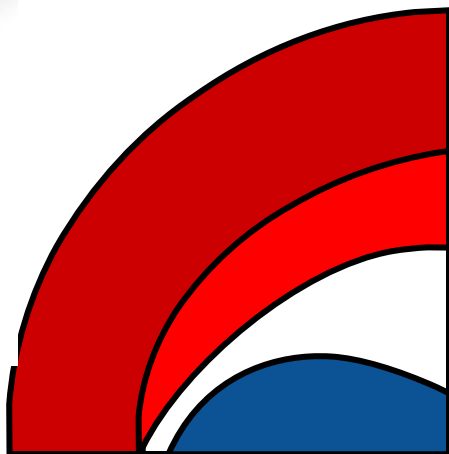
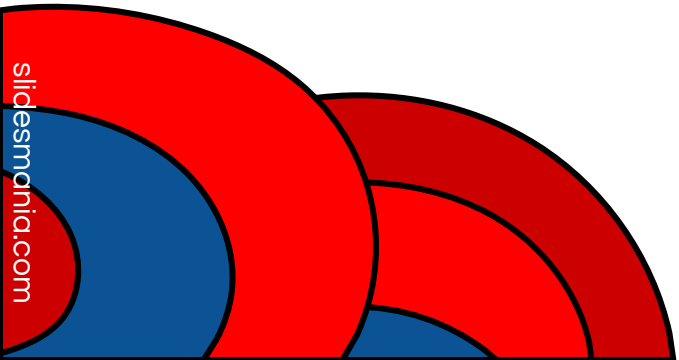
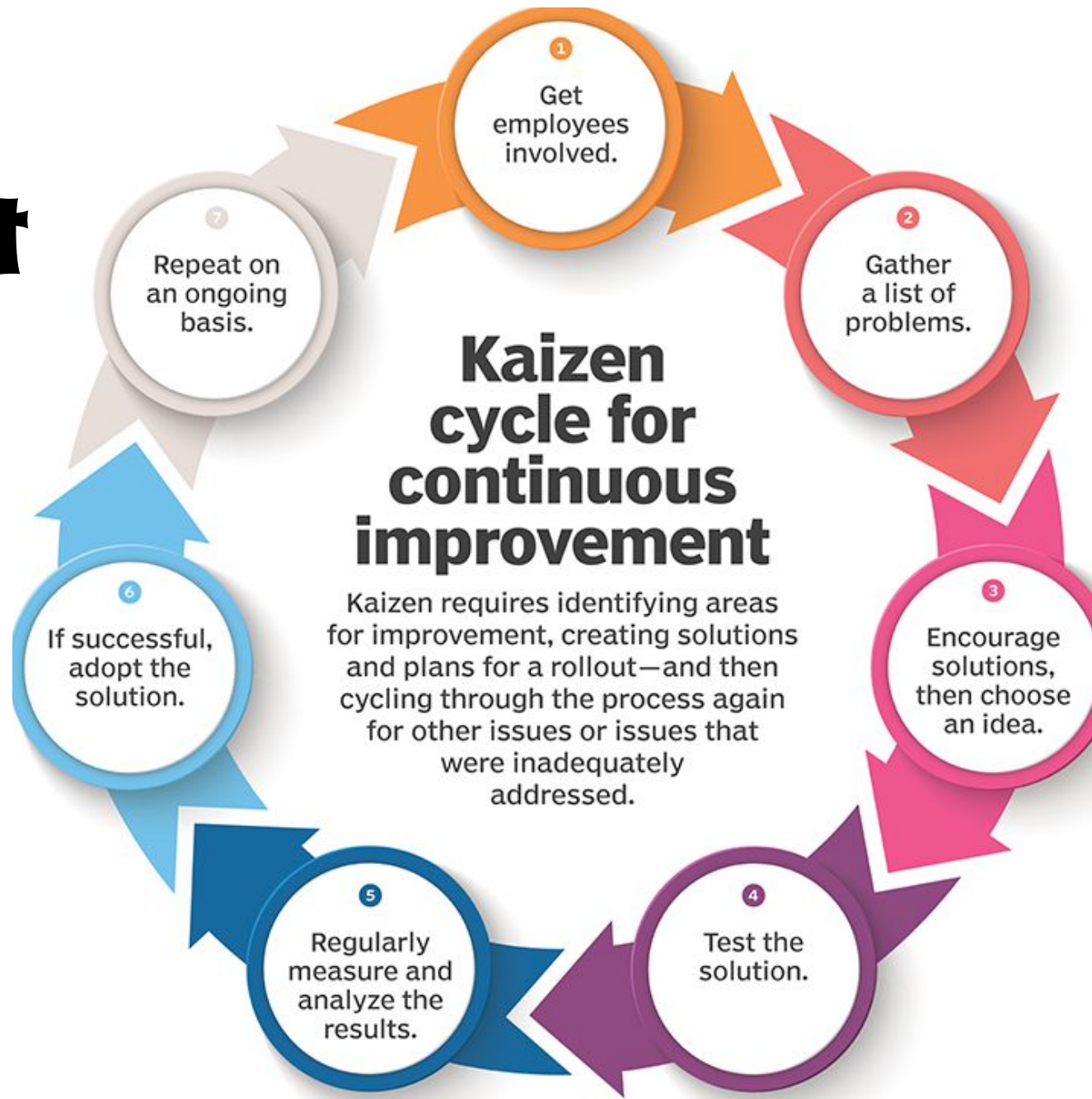
Accreditation STATUS

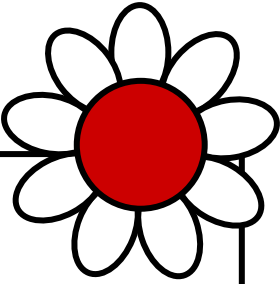


Continuous Improvement

Kaizen is a daily process, the purpose of which goes beyond simple productivity improvement.

It is also a process that, when done correctly, humanizes the workplace, eliminates overly hard work, and teaches people how to perform experiments on their work using the and how to learn to spot and eliminate waste in business processes.





2024-2025

Curriculum & Instruction

SOCIAL STUDIES UPDATES

Standards of Learning:

- 2024-2025 is a crosswalk year to begin using the revised 2023 SOLs. Full implementation will be in 2025-2026. In Canvas, there are references to both the 2015 and 2023 standards.
- We are expecting VDOE to provide additional information and resources about the revised standards in the upcoming year.
- VDOE required tests (including Virginia Studies) will continue to use the **2015 standards for this year.**
- Grade level specific updates [here](#)

Inquiry Journeys Pilot: (5th Grade)

- ACPS is piloting an inquiry-based resource this year. Schools may opt into the pilot by grade level.
- These rich resources are engaging, help our students build literacy and communication skills, and bring real-world connections to our social studies standards.

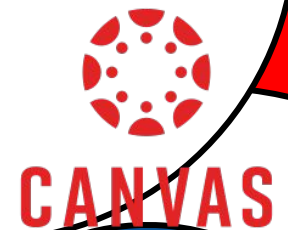
SCIENCE UPDATES

There was a **strategic decision** to limit K-5 Science Canvas curriculum changes for August 2024 to provide teachers with some **consistency** in the midst of many elementary changes:

- new math standards & textbooks in August 2024
- new literacy standards & training requirements in August 2024
- 2025 Science standard drafts will be released October 24, 2024
- new science standards crosswalk will be January - June 2025

Our focus this year for K-5 Science improvement will be on:

1. Student experience & engagement
2. Rigor & the development of student reasoning skills
3. Authentic, embedded assessment



MATHEMATICS UPDATES

- New 2023 Mathematics Standards of Learning
 - Revision documents to see what was added/deleted from your grade level
- Math Forward pacing in VA - most districts are using the same pacing
- Unit 1 for each grade level is posted on Canvas
- New math resource : Savvas Envision Math
 - Teacher guides and student workbooks forthcoming, however you can begin the year using the online platform.
- Updated assessments to address new standards
- Continue use of Braining Camp for online manipulatives - supported by Savvas
- Half-day PD on Thursday for all things math!



Math
enVision Mathematics 2024
Grade 1



Math
enVision Mathematics 2024
Grade 2



Math
enVision Mathematics 2024
Grade 3



Math
enVision Mathematics 2024
Grade 4



Math
enVision Mathematics 2024
Grade 5

[View All Programs](#)



LITERACY UPDATES

- Virginia Literacy Act: Ensure all teachers have and use evidence-based literacy curriculum resources for the entire literacy block.
- Mandatory training for teachers to be completed throughout the school year.
- ACPS Literacy Block:
 - 30 min: Writing ELA Block
 - 45 min: Core Reading Block
 - 45 min: IET Workshop (must use approved curriculum)
- VALLS in place of PALS for PreK-3. Training to be done next week. Make sure you can log into your VALLS account beforehand.
- More Bookworms shared reading books coming! We heard you!
- Student reading plans for students in the at risk band



CANVAS

School Board Policy - Technology

2020-2025 STRATEGIC PLAN: EQUITY FOR ALL



RESULTS-DRIVEN

Technology / Cell Phones

IIBEA_GAB - Responsible Computer System Use

IIBEA-R3 - Student Use of Personal Mobile Devices

- Updates the digital citizenship curriculum
- Prohibits installing or using any application developed by ByteDance or Tencent Holdings
 - TikTok
 - WeChat
- Provides governance when using ACPS technology outside the US
- Establishes governance around the student use of personal mobile devices
- All staff who use technology should familiarise themselves with the policies

Douglas MacArthur Cell Phone Policy

Douglas MacArthur Cell Phone and Smart-Watch Policy

Cell phones should be off and away during the school day, including the morning arrival time after students get to school starting at 7:40 a.m. Smart watches should be off during the same time except to show the time per regular watch function.

All students and parents/guardians must follow established communication protocols during the school day. For example, a parent/guardian wishing to get information to their student must contact the school staff directly. Similarly, if a student at school does not feel well, that student must let their teacher know and see the school nurse. The school nurse then contacts the parents/guardians.

Students and/or families who violate this policy will be given one warning, including parent/guardian contact. If there is a second violation with a smart watch, the student will no longer be allowed to wear the watch at school during school hours. Following the initial warning, cell phones and smart watches will be confiscated by school administration and held for a parent/guardian to pick up.

Thanks for coming!

