



ARLINGTON TRADITIONAL (ELEMENTARY) SCHOOL

A Countywide School

855 North Edison Street, Arlington, Virginia 22205

Holly Hawthorne, Principal

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www.apsva.us/ats

This school is fully accredited by the State of Virginia and through the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Visit www.apsva.us and click on "About Us" for information about test results and the school population.

Governor's Award for Educational Excellence 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011

National Schools of Character finalist 2007, 2008

National PTA Parent Involvement School of Excellence 2006

Principal of the Year!

Distinguished Educational Leadership Award 2005-06

National No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon School 2004

Sister School, Arlington Academy of Hope, Uganda, Africa, 2004

"On Purpose: How Great Schools Form Strong Character,"

by Samuel Casey Carter, 2011

Arlington Traditional School has been a unique countywide elementary school since 1978 and serves preschool through grade five students from all of Arlington's neighborhoods. Families follow specific application procedures and students are selected by lottery to be admitted into the school. Free bus transportation is provided for students who need it. A member of the ATS community understands that a shared commitment to learning and good character in a structured, engaging environment with traditions leads to successful students and citizens. ATS is noted for the high academic performance and good character of its students. It is also noted for its consistent adherence to a traditional philosophy of education that includes:

- Teacher-guided instruction in self-contained classrooms
- Emphasis on basic education in the core academic areas
- Regular homework assigned at all grade levels
- Weekly written summary of student progress
- Promotion based on grade level mastery
- Behavior, dress, and grooming standards
- Weekly assembly

Our school colors, blue and gold, signify the importance of individual achievement and the Golden Rule. We show our school spirit on Fridays by wearing blue and gold colors or our school shirts. The **ABC's of Success** – **A**cademics, **B**ehavior and **C**haracter (trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship) – are embedded in our philosophy and program. We hold high expectations and encourage all students to achieve their full potential as students and good citizens. Our program and students are supported by a strong and collaborative partnership with parents and our community. Together we celebrate our children's academic achievement and accomplishments in the arts and sciences. We believe all students must **learn to read**, so they can **read to learn!**

Our students are the school's biggest fans. Says one, "My school is great because the teachers make learning fun! It's a great place to be!"

GOALS

The ATS Management Plan includes continuous school improvement. Our focus is student achievement, responsive education, and effective relationships. We want each student to reach his/her full potential and to become a life-long learner.

INSTRUCTIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Excellent Extended Day Program
- Safety Patrols – every fifth grader
- Student Council
- Peer Mediation
- ESL Homework Club
- Shooting Stars – SOL preparation
- Mentoring- staff/students and student/student

Reading/Language Arts

- Phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, comprehension-systematic explicit phonics teaching in kindergarten and primary grades
- Theme-based Summer Reading Challenge and Reading Carnival Day
- *Page and Pen* Literary Magazine

Mathematics

- Numbers and number sense; computation and estimation; measurement and geometry; probability and statistics; patterns, functions and algebra
- Family Math Day
- Math League contests, grades 2-5

Science

- Emphasis on "hands-on" and scientific method
- Family Science and Technology Day
- Science Fair projects required
- Courtyard Garden

Social Studies

- History, geography, civics, economics
- Use of Social Studies Alive! Techniques
- National Geography Bee – grades 4 and 5

Arts

- Instrumental Music – all fourth and fifth graders
- Orchestra, Band, Chorus, Recorders, Recital
- Class Plays – every student is a star on stage every year
- Art enrichment and field trips

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Sister School, Arlington Academy of Hope, in Uganda, Africa
- Kiwanis Kids Club

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

- Parent Teacher Association (PTA)
- Extensive PTA after-school enrichment classes
- PTA sponsored publications-monthly newsletter, Calendar & Handbook, Directory, Literary Magazine, Yearbook
- JuniorGreatBooks