## **School Talk**

## **December 21, 2018**

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**OUR PROGRAM’S NAME REVISION**

Principal Catharina Genove and ACMPTA President, Kia Haynes, presented the Montessori Naming Committee’s choice of “Arlington County Montessori School” to the School Board on Thursday, December 6, 2018. However, the committee received feedback from the School Board that led them to reconvene one more time and revisit the name choice. The two major suggestions were to replace “county” with the word “public” to better let people know that our program is a part of the public school system. The other suggestion was to consider adding a proper name to the title.

Taking into consideration the suggestions, and not wanting to come up with completely new names *(which would require another survey and an extension of the naming process)* the committee decided to modify our second proposed choice “Montessori School of Arlington County” to **Montessori Public School of Arlington**. The committee added “public” as was requested, but felt that no proper name was needed as “Montessori” is more than just an educational philosophy, but is the name of the founder, Dr. Maria Montessori. The committee’s second choice is **Maria Montessori Public School of Arlington**.

Principal Genove and Ms. Haynes will present the new name choices at the January 10, 2018 School Board meeting. For the sake of time, the School Board has made it both an information and action item which means they will hear the presentation and render a decision in the same meeting.

**PROGRAM NEWS**

**-The deadline for Middle School transfers is January 18th**. This includes applications for the H-B Woodlawn lottery. Go to <https://www.apsva.us/school-options/middle-school-choices/request-a-transfer/> for more information and to the link to the online application portal.

**WHO DO WE PAY?!**

There are two programs that run two different events and activities, however, some of those activities may be shared. So who do you pay? Who do checks get made out to? Here’s your key!

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **If it's for….** | **….then you pay to the order of:** |
| Montessori tuition | Arlington County Montessori Program |
| Field trips/Classroom fees & activities | Arlington County Montessori Program |
| School meals account | Drew Model School |
| Pictures/Yearbook | Drew Model School |
| School Library | Drew Model School |
| Safety Patrols | Drew Model School |
| Choir/Etiquette/YES Club | Drew Model School |
| Extended Day | Arlington County Public Schools |
| Instrumental Music/Band | Arlington County Public Schools |

**PTA NEWS**

**-Your last minute shopping and New Year’s deals make for some nice $ for the PTA!** Please sign up for Amazon Smile and choose Arlington County Montessori PTA as your charity! To make it easier, direct your browser to <https://tinyurl.com/MontessoriSmile>. Every time you shop, we earn money, so please remember to sign up and ask your friends and family to sign up as well.

**UPCOMING DATES**

* Monday, December 24 – January 4th: Winter Break

**LINKS**

* Arlington Montessori Program on APS: <https://drew.apsva.us/the-montessori-program/>
* Principal Genove on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/CSGenove>
* Engage with APS https://www.apsva.us/engage/
* Lunch Menus: https://apsva.nutrislice.com/menus-eula-splash
* Arlington Montessori PTA: <https://acmpta.com/>.

**A MONTESSORI MOMENT**

**This week we will share with you a classic Ukrainian children’s story that has been told and acted out in many of our Primary Montessori classrooms. It’s a fun tale that the children really enjoy. We hope you have fun reading the story with your child(ren)!**

**The Mitten**

*A Ukrainian Children’s Story as told by Lavender Blue Homeschool*

Once upon a time there was a boy named Nikki who lived with his grandmother. On cold winter days they would sit by the fire and warm their hands just so.  Outside the world was covered with snow, beautiful glittering snow all around on the ground, in the trees, and on the rooftops.  The whole world was white with snow.  And Nikki told his grandmother, "I would like some mittens as white as the snow."  His grandmother laughed and told him that he was sure to lose a mitten if it were the same color as the snow!  But Nikki said "Please, Grandmother, please make me mittens as white as the shimmering snow!"

So his grandmother agreed, and she gathered her balls of white yarn and her needles and soon she had made him the mittens.  He whooped with joy when they were finished and he quickly dressed in his coat and hat, his warm boots and his soft and beautiful new white mittens and he ran outside to play.  It was a crisp clear day and the sun sparkled on the snow and Nikki ran and jumped and made snowballs to throw against the trees.  He walked along the top of the stone walls and jumped into the soft snow and then he ran up hills and rolled back down.  He started to climb a tree but it was too difficult with his mittens on so he tucked them into a pocket.  And what do you suppose?  One of those mittens fell down into the snow!  Nikki didn't notice and he went right on running and playing and shouting all the wonderful afternoon.

Pretty soon a little mole came tunneling up through the ground near the mitten.  She was curious so she burrowed inside the mitten and found it to be cozy and warm.  Then a squirrel scampered by and thought that the mitten looked like a nice place to nest so he cozied inside as well.  Next a badger trundled along and decided that she could use a rest in that warm mitten.  A fox trotted up to the mitten and sniffed it.  He decided it must be warm inside so he stuffed himself in, and by now the mitten was becoming quite stretched out!  Now a bear lumbered by and though she was big and the mitten was crowded, she did not want to be the only one left out in the cold.  So she turned her tail and scootched herself into that mitten!  A mouse scurried by and squeaked in surprise to see a white mitten all stretched out with a mole, a squirrel, a badger, a fox and a bear all snuggled together inside!  She wanted to try it too so she jumped up on the bear's nose.  Those little mouse paws made the bear  “Ahh....Ahhhh...AAACCHHHooooo!!!!”  The bear sneezed!  And all the animals went tumbling out into the soft snow, and the mitten went flying up into the air!

Nikki had finished playing and was looking everywhere for his mitten when much to his surprise he saw it flying through the air!  Nikki caught his mitten with a "Whoop!" and ran back inside to warm up by the fire.  He showed his mittens to his grandmother.  "See, Grandma, I have both my mittens!"  And grandmother laughed and laughed, for one mitten was the size of Nikki's hand, but the other mitten was the size of Nikki!

***This newsletter will be back Friday, January 11th. See you next year!***