



I. Welcome (*Dena Porter, ASFS PTA President*)

- Dena welcomed everyone and gave an overview of the agenda.

II. Arlington School Board Presentation and Q&A (*Reid Goldstein, Arlington School Board member and ASFS Liaison*)

- Mr. Goldstein gave an excellent, 30-minute presentation that included:
 - The Arlington School Board 2021-22 Priorities
 - Planning Initiatives
 - Current COVID Status/Policy
 - Upcoming ES Boundary Changes
 - Enrollment Projections
 - Upcoming Superintendent's Proposed Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)
 - Career Center Plan
 - The Upcoming Budget for SY 2022-23
 - SY 2022-2023 Calendar Highlights
 - He introduced new APS Staff
 - Discussed Field Trips for this year
 - New Weather Status Codes.
- The entire presentation can be found [here](#).
- Mr. Goldstein encouraged everyone to stay connected to the school board by signing up to receive the monthly newsletter and agenda updates.
- Mr. Goldstein can be reached for comments or questions by emailing him at reid.goldstein@apsva.us

III. Principal's Report (*Mary Begley, ASFS Principal*)

- Ms. Begley wished everyone a Happy New Year and welcomed them to 2022. She was so happy to see all the kids back in school.
- She thanked families for their understanding as they worked through the week of snow cancellations.
- Ms. Begley and Ms. Jones were excited to welcome 19 new students on Monday. Some students are new to the area, and some returned from the virtual program. Three more new students will be beginning next week.
- We have many exciting things planned, but several events are on hold until we understand when APS will allow in-person events.
- STEM night will be virtual on February 9th. Ms. Lin will present about investigation station.
- Thank you to all the parent volunteers and to Ms. Jones and Dena Porter for continuing to organize outdoor lunch. We are still looking for volunteers for February.
- Ms. Begley encouraged parents to sign up to help as much as possible. We couldn't do what we do without parent volunteers. Please try to volunteer for one thing so that we can continue all our wonderful programs.
- Thank you to Ms. Hall for all her work to plan the PE Winter Olympic Games. This is a fun event for the students as they mimic several of the

Olympic games in their PE classes. Be sure to purchase sweatshirts or T-shirts by Friday.

IV. PTA Business (*Dena Porter, PTA President*)

- Please vote by the end of the day on Wednesday, January 12th to approve the December 7th ASFS PTA Meeting Minutes.
- You must be an active ASFS PTA member for 2021-2022 to vote:
 - To join online, visit: asfspta.com
 - *PTA membership sponsorships are available*
- Principal Appreciation Week: **Thank you, Ms. Begley and Ms. Jones!**
We are so grateful for all you do for our school and students!
- Congratulations, Ms. Oman, ASFS Special Education Teacher, for earning her National Board Certification in the Exceptional Needs Specialist Certificate Area!

V. PTA Updates

- Treasurer Report (*Jay Kaveeshwar, Treasurer*)
 - ASFS had a great first half of the fiscal year - \$42K and counting vs. \$105K goal.
 - Congrats on a successful No-Frills Fundraiser – nearly \$20K was raised!
 - Shifting our focus to the Spring Auction with a goal of \$50K in fundraising. We need more parent volunteers to make this event successful.
- Fundraising (*Olga Kasyan, Fundraising Chair*)
 - Olga introduced the new Auction lead, Nicole Rizzolo and thanked her for stepping up!
 - The ASFS 2021/2022 Auction is coming the end of March 2022. The theme will be 'Come as you are.' Please contact Fundraising@asfspta.com for details on how you can help.
 - Olga again thanked the community for a successful No-Frills Fundraiser – with 44% of families participating, ASFS raised \$19,805!
 - The kindergarten classes had the most participation, with 53%, and won a Pajama Day, Extra recess, and a treat!
- ASFS Community Service & KidsGiving (*Kristen Jeffreys & Amanda Sutton*)
 - Thank you to everyone who supported the *The Animal Welfare League of Arlington (AWLA)*. ASFS donated several stockings full of items to help local animals in need.
 - KidsGiving is supporting *Real Food for Kids (RFFK)* for the month of January. You can support them by donating healthy snack items from their [wishlist](#). These items will be used to make snack bags for local students living in affordable housing developments.
 - Students can also create their own healthy snack recipe that will be shared with KidsGiving members at the end of the month. Recipe templates can be found in the ASFS lobby.
 - Thank you to the 3rd grade team for partnering with RFFK this month!
 - If you aren't a KidsGiving member and would like to be, sign up [here](#).
- No Place for Hate (*ASFS Equity Team*)
 - Thank you to students and families for signing the No Place for Hate pledge. There is a great wall display of these pledges inside ASFS.

- Upcoming ASFS Events
 - Berlitz Spanish Enrichment will begin on Tuesday, January 18th.
 - School Picture Make-up Day was canceled due to snow last week. It is rescheduled for Thursday, February 3rd.
 - Winter Olympics as ASFS: beginning February 3rd, students will participate in events that coincide with the Winter Olympics during their PE classes! To add to the fun, the PE department has designed a special t-shirt and hoodie available for sale. Order by Friday, January 14th (completely optional.) asfsolympics22.itemorder.com
 - Virtual ASFS Family STEM Night – save the date for Wednesday, February 9th 6:00-7:00pm. There will be activities and guest speakers for the entire family to enjoy. Look for details in this Friday’s EFF.
- ASFS PTA Reminders
 - Outdoor Lunch Volunteers – we still have openings in February and need back-up volunteers for January. Please sign up to help out here:
 - January: www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4aa8ab29a4fe3-asfs20
 - February: www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4aa8ab29a4fe3-asfs21
 - New Family Welcome Buddies: If you are new to ASFS or returning from virtual learning, feel free to contact the ASFS Welcome Committee Leads for your child’s grade level. See the ASFS EFF (1/7/22) or visit asfspta.com for the list of leads per grade.
- ASFS Thank You’s:
 - **Book Fair with R.E.A.D.** - Thank you to Michelle Brydges, Ms. Schryver, Pajama Mama and all the book fair volunteers!
 - **Outside the Box Day** – Thank you to Ms. Lin, ASFS teachers and staff, and parent volunteers!
 - **Global Celebration** – Thanks to Ms. Mavity and the Equity Team for all their support with the classroom quilts and to ASFS room parents for providing snacks for students.
 - **Holiday Teacher Appreciation** – Thank you to Liz Mixer and Jay Gunasekera for providing treats for the December staff meeting and to the ASFS families for your generosity to make teachers and staff feel appreciated!
 - **ASFS County Council of PTAs (CCPTA)** – Thanks to Dima Hakura for serving as our ASFS rep this year! We are looking for a new parent lead now that Dima will be serving as VP Policy on the CCPTA Board.

VI. Upcoming ASFS Dates

- Monday, January 17th - NO SCHOOL (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)
- Friday, January 28th - End of 2nd Quarter
- Monday, January 31st - NO SCHOOL (Grade Preparation Day)
- Thursday, February 3rd - School Picture Make-up Day (Rescheduled)
- Tuesday, February 8th - ASFS PTA Meeting, 7:00-8:30pm
- Wednesday, February 9th - EARLY RELEASE (1:26pm Dismissal)
- Wednesday, February 9th - Virtual ASFS Family STEM Night, 6:00-7:30pm
- Monday, February 21st - NO SCHOOL (Presidents Day)