

Arlington School District

Annual Report

Arlington Memorial High School & Fisher Elementary School

2021





There is no deadline to register to vote.

You can register ahead of time or at the polls on the day of the vote.



Voting Day



Tuesday, March 1, 2022 | 10 AM - 7 PM | Arlington Memorial High School Gymnasium



While the year may have looked different to our school community, we appreciate your patience and willingness to follow the state's mandates and continuously evolving guidance. We had successes and some challenges, yet despite all, we continued onward with the work that has to be done to ensure our students' safety and educational needs. We want to thank our hard-working and caring faculty, staff, and nurses who have made an enormous difference for our students and community. Their commitment to Test to Stay and preparing for what could be has been outstanding. In addition, our school community has remained diligent in its commitment to keeping our schools open; with an open mind and a flexible plan, we will get through to the other side of this pandemic.

Sincerely,

William Bayzk, Superintendant, Arlington School District
Sarah Pickering, Principal, Arlington Memorial High School
Deanne Lacoste, Principal, Fisher Elementary School

Message from the Board

It has been a year of incredible challenges. From the pandemic continuing to have a major effect on how we operate our schools to the additional work needed to ensure a successful transition to the Southwest Vermont Supervisory Union. Words cannot express the Arlington School District Board's appreciation for our administration, nurses, teachers, support staff, and everyone who played a role in operating our schools. These people have stepped up during these trying times to provide our children a safe place to learn each day. They have come to work and faced incredible challenges without complaint. They adjusted on the fly as rules and guidelines changed, sometimes overnight, yet continued to make our students their top priority. They put the needs of our students above their own and proved just how incredible they all are. We truly are blessed to have such amazing people in our schools.

We are also extremely grateful for the tremendous support our community continues to give our schools. We recognize this year, you all have faced significant challenges as well, from having to take time away from work due to quarantines or other COVID-related requirements and adjusting at a moment's notice. None of this has been easy, but the Arlington Community has proven to be a leader in how people can support each other and persevere through any challenge.

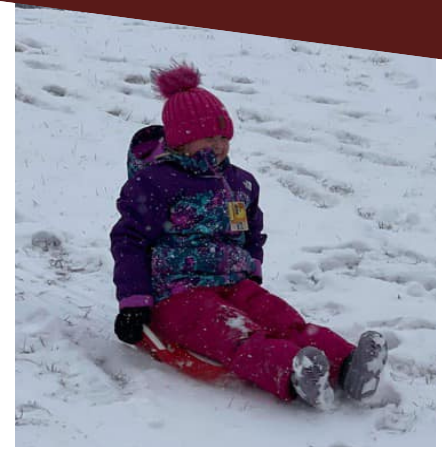
Despite these challenges, we have seen great success with our students. They have also proven they can face any obstacle and excel. We have seen our students continue to be successful academically and in their extracurricular activities. Our students also deserve many thanks for how well they have handled these challenges.

Once again, the Arlington School District Administrative team and Board of Directors have worked hard to provide a responsible budget while keeping the tax rate sustainable. As a result, the proposed Arlington School District budget reflects a 3.79% overall increase in spending with a projected spending per equalized pupil of \$18,655.39, which is a 4.54% increase in spending from SY2021/2022.

SY2022/2023 is the first year the Arlington School District will receive a full assessment from the SVSU. We see a significant increase in our supervisory union assessment compared to when we were a part of the Battenkill Valley Supervisory Union. Most notable is an increase in technology and curriculum services. Despite this, we are still projecting a slight decrease in the Homestead Tax Rate. We continue to see a decrease in the tax rate over the past 5 years: FY19- 1.5686, FY20- 1.5286, FY21- 1.5001, FY22- 1.4507, and FY23-1.4460. This gives us a five-year average of 1.4988.

We are hopeful this coming year will bring us positive signs of recovery from these unprecedented challenges and allow our students to thrive. Once again, The Arlington School Board thanks everyone for their tremendous support; we truly are grateful.

Todd Wilkins, Chair, Arlington School District Board



Message from the Superintendent

The Southwest Vermont Supervisory Union is in a period of transition, with the addition of our new schools in Arlington. As your Superintendent, I am excited for this new challenge. We are committed to widening our community and bringing equitable resources to all of our schools. I look forward to continuing to foster meaningful partnerships.

A large part of this transition process focuses on joining forces with vital school functions: curriculum, technology, and safety. The SVSU Safety and Security Coordinator, Vic Milani, has already visited the two Arlington schools, assisting Principal Lacoste and Principal Pickering with creating updated and cohesive emergency plans. He will continue to be a friendly face in Arlington, as safety is one of our top priorities.

As the technology department within the SVSU transitions to include management from our new contracted partner - Suzor IT - we are looking forward to expanding support into the two Arlington campuses. Coordination of student information systems, as it is required for the Statewide Longitudinal Data System, will continue to be coordinated by local technology staff.

In working towards a coordinated curriculum for all SVSU schools and programs, we are committed to meeting the needs of all learners through curriculum, instruction, and assessment. We are looking forward to continuing to provide extensive professional learning opportunities to faculty and staff at all levels. For over ten years we have been able to offer professional learning through our partnership with Castleton University. education.

We are proud to have been able to bring trauma informed practices into our schools, including creative outlets such as trauma drumming. All SVSU teachers - including those based in Arlington - will receive the support of our district level curriculum coaches and English Language Learners. The SVSU will continue to organize required state testing and sharing of state-level trainings (Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium, Vermont Science Assessment, World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment). We believe that our resources will help all communities within the SVSU feel supported as their learners receive an extraordinary education.

As we look to the future of the SVSU, I can't help but feel proud of the work we've done this past year. Our dedication to creating an inclusive school and work environment led us to raising the Pride Flag during LGBTQ+ History Month in October and the Black Lives Matter Flag during Black History Month in February. We have hosted a successful Equity Speaker Series every month as a professional learning opportunity for our staff, which includes Arlington staff, allowing for diverse voices to hold ground in our buildings.

Creating this community and engaging the voices of historically marginalized people has, I believe, revitalized a mission of learning for our staff. I see them collaborating in new and exciting ways, sharing ideas and working together to bring new life to our schools. I see our students, across all SVSU schools, enter classrooms with newfound enthusiasm, ready to learn, move, and problem solve with their classmates.

Please read through our 2021 Annual Report. This snapshot of our year will, hopefully, fill you with the same excitement that I feel, as we celebrate our progress and look towards our future as an expanded, connected Southwest Vermont Supervisory Union. As always, I encourage you to visit our website www.svsu.org for more information on our schools.

Imagine the Possibilities,

James R. Culkeen
Superintendent of Schools
Southwest Vermont Supervisory Union



Our School Community

- Fisher names participated in the state Name a Plow Program. The winning name was "Snowday Reaper," submitted from Mrs. Edmund's class.
- Fire Prevention Week at Fisher Elementary.
- AMHS students prepare for bridge builder competition.

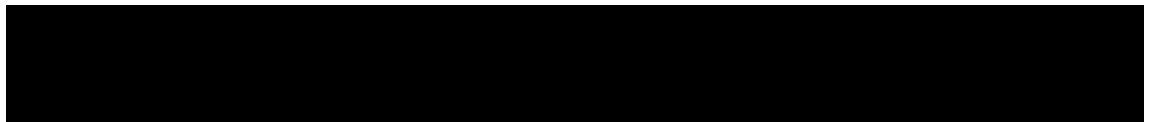


- Fisher students enjoying some fun at recess.
- Fisher and AMHS welcome 8 new staff members.
- Arlington Memorial 2021 Commencement Exercises.

- Arlington Memorial students Addie Lentzner and Maria O'Dea were selected as Vermont Presidential Scholars to recognize their exceptional SAT scores.
- Arlington Memorial celebrates spirit week.
- Arlington Memorial Chinese language students present a Chinese New Year.



- AMHS art students present self-portraits.
- Fisher participates in Walk to School Day.
- AMHS Girls Varsity Soccer participates in State Championship vs. Proctor.
- AMHS National Honor Society induction.



Arlington School District Total Expenditures - by Category

Budget Category	FY19 Actual	FY20 Actual	FY21 Actual	FY22 Budget	FY23 Proposed	Variance	% Var
01. Salaries	\$3,314,416	\$3,339,347	\$3,299,729	\$3,363,442	\$3,490,530	\$127,088	3.78%
02. Benefits	\$1,328,796	\$1,122,673	\$1,166,937	\$1,364,885	\$1,427,000	\$62,115	4.55%
03. Contracted Services	\$170,941	\$154,388	\$157,143	\$171,108	\$171,108	\$0	0.00%
04. Operations	\$327,204	\$355,630	\$366,524	\$431,613	\$391,613	-\$40,000	-9.27%
05. Food Service Subsidy	\$45,320	\$55,000	\$115,000	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$0	0.00%
06. Tuition	\$66,279	\$122,212	\$183,541	\$108,524	\$65,769	-\$42,755	-39.40%
07. Supplies	\$173,698	\$212,010	\$156,059	\$218,030	\$218,030	\$0	0.00%
08. Equipment	\$34,893	\$21,934	\$89,705	\$34,650	\$34,650	\$0	0.00%
09. Dues/Fees	\$42,589	\$41,073	\$35,804	\$54,693	\$54,693	\$0	0.00%
10. Assessments	\$973,984	\$1,013,290	\$968,400	\$1,072,607	\$1,246,742	\$174,135	16.23%
11. Debt Service	\$187,402	\$304,288	\$261,060	\$168,477	\$158,658	-\$9,819	-5.83%
12. Contingency	\$5,000	\$0	\$12,781	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0	0.00%
13. Miscellaneous	\$5,091	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	--
14. Transfers	\$81,659	\$0	\$5,881	\$0	\$0	\$0	--
Total	\$6,757,272	\$6,741,845	\$6,818,565	\$7,143,029	\$7,413,793	\$270,765	3.79%

FINAL FY23 Budget - 01/19/2022

Where are they now?

Arlington Memorial students embark on diverse life paths after graduation. Many of our graduates attend college and universities throughout the country, some join the workforce, and others begin their journey in skilled trade careers. We are proud of the education and experiences at Arlington Memorial which prepare them for whichever path they choose!



Enrollment by Grade

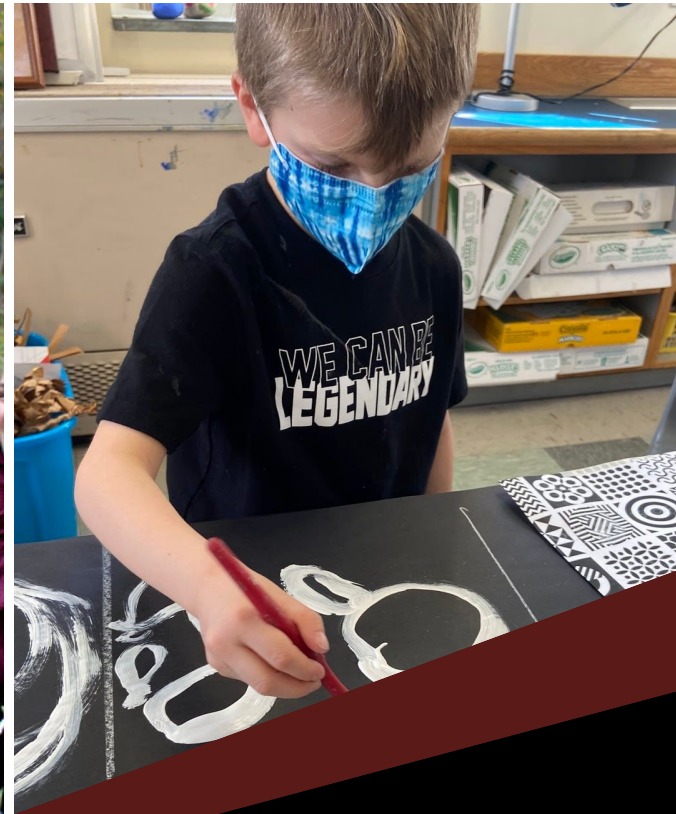
Pre Kindergarten - 34
 Kindergarten - 30
 1st Grade - 27
 2nd Grade - 35
 3rd Grade - 30
 4th Grade - 29
 5th Grade - 23
 6th Grade - 26
 7th Grade - 30
 8th Grade - 35
 9th Grade - 30
 10th Grade - 34
 11th Grade - 14
 12th Grade - 36

Our Mission

The Battenkill Valley Supervisory Union and the Arlington School District mission is to create a safe, caring, and respectful environment of academic excellence where students are uniquely challenged to reach their potential at the Pre-K – 5, 6-8 and 9-12 levels.

Arlington School District

529 E Arlington Road
Arlington, VT 05250



Complete budget, overview, and more information can be found here.

SCAN ME

SVSU.ORG

802.375.1547

