

# 2024







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 4, 2025 | 10 AM – 7 PM | Arlington Memorial High School Gymnasium



As I reflect on the past year, I am filled with pride and gratitude for all we've achieved together. Guided by our renewed vision—"We are a community that works, learns, and succeeds together"—our schools have become thriving hubs of collaboration, creativity, and commitment.

This year brought the unique opportunity to oversee both Arlington Memorial High School and Fisher Elementary School, strengthening the connection between our schools, students, and staff. Unified leadership has fostered shared learning, cross-grade initiatives, and a seamless experience that benefits all our students.

The unity within our community is inspiring. From academic achievements to extracurricular successes, our students are excelling, supported every step of the way by our incredible staff, families, and partners. Together, we are creating a foundation of excellence that will carry our schools forward for years to come.

Thank you for your unwavering support. I look forward to another year of growth, opportunity, and success for AMHS and Fisher.

With gratitude,

Deanne Lacoste

Principal, Arlington Memorial High School & Fisher Elementary School



# Message from the Board

As the saying goes, "The only constant in life is change." After navigating many years of adjustments due to the impact of COVID-19 on our school operations, our district continues to evolve in ways that affect how we operate our schools.

For the 2024–2025 school year, the Arlington School District introduced a new administrative structure, with one District Principal and two Assistant Principals. Deanne Lacoste, who has served as Principal at Fisher Elementary School for 18 years, will now serve as the District Principal, overseeing both Fisher and AMHS for all grade levels, Pre-K through 12. Alex Borsari, who joined AMHS as a Physical Education and Health teacher in 2021, has transitioned into the role of Assistant Principal at AMHS and we will be welcoming a new Assistant Principal at Fisher for the upcoming school year. We are confident that this new structure will provide a strong support for students throughout their educational journey, while also ensuring the district operates cohesively as a unified system.

With recent announcements of retirements from both the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent, the SVSU will also experience administrative changes next year. The search for a new Superintendent is already underway, and once selected, the new Superintendent will initiate the process of appointing a new Assistant Superintendent. We thank Superintendent Jim Culkeen and

Assistant Superintendent Laura Boudreau for their leadership and dedication to making a meaningful impact on students' lives and public education as a whole.

In addition to local changes, we anticipate significant shifts at the state and federal levels that could have a major impact on public education. While many of these plans are still in preliminary stages, we know that Governor Phil Scott and Secretary of Education Zoe Saunders have announced a proposal for "transformative changes" in Vermont. The Arlington School Board, SVSU administration, and our local legislators will be actively involved in this process and will keep our community informed about how these proposed changes could impact our local schools.

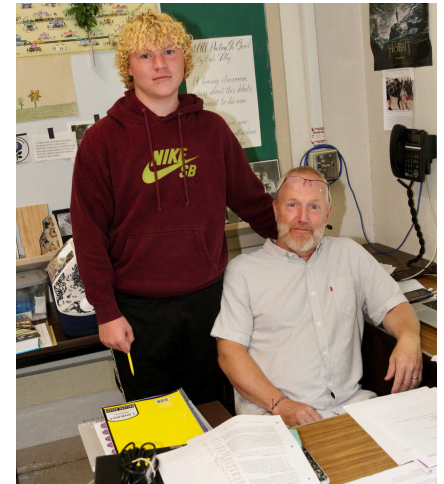
The Administrative team and Board of Directors have worked diligently to propose a responsible budget that maintains a sustainable tax rate. The proposed budget for the 2025 – 2026 school year is \$9,803,830, reflecting an 8.27% increase in spending, with most of those increases coming from salaries and healthcare costs. This results in a projected Education Spending / LTW ADM of \$13,417.92 and an estimated Homestead Tax rate of \$1.6303, which is an increase of \$0.0657 over last year. As we have experienced in recent budgets, Arlington's significantly low Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) continues to make it extremely challenging to maintain educational programs

without impact on tax rates.

As detailed in the Expense Summary document, the total costs to operate the Arlington School District differ from the total budget due to the expenses allocated to the Southwest Tech Center (SW Tech). The announced tuition for SW Tech is \$29,619 per student, amounting to a total of \$213,569 in our district's budget. The resources available to students attending SW Tech offer unique opportunities for personalized learning and educational pathways to expand on their education in our schools. The Arlington School Board will work closely with the SW Tech Board and Administration to better understand their program operations and collaborate on creating educationally strong and cost-effective programs for the future.

Each year, despite the challenges we face or the changes that come our way, the overwhelming support from our community is unyielding. Regardless of the changes at the state or national levels, our focus will remain on what is best for our students, ensuring every student has an equal opportunity to learn and thrive. On behalf of the Arlington School Board, I sincerely thank you for your continued support and for all you do to strengthen our schools.

**Nicol Whalen,**  
**The Arlington School Board Chair**





# Message from the Superintendent

To the Arlington Community:

The Southwest Vermont Supervisory Union is committed to developing lifelong learners who contribute to their community and succeed in a diverse and evolving global society. Thanks to the commitment of our staff, community partners, and student families, we have created an engaging learning environment that is leading to positive outcomes for all students with a balanced focus between social/emotional, behavior, and academic learning.

This past year brought some expected challenges. The expiration of the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds marked the end of a vital resource that supported equitable opportunities for students throughout the pandemic. To continue providing accessible programming, we secured the Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant. This new chapter ensures we can continue meeting the needs of our students connected to afterschool and summer experiences as an extension of the school day. Daily attendance connected to these experiences continues to increase, and the array of opportunities from robotics and theater, to yoga and skiing, has enhanced the diverse opportunities available.

In addition to opportunities for students, we have put an increased effort into supporting current employees to take on leadership roles and provide professional learning to their peers. Passionate staff members have had the opportunity to share their evidence-based expertise, such as in language arts, mathematics, and restorative practices.

The following report offers a snapshot of the financial landscape of the SVSU and its member districts. We encourage you to explore this report and access additional information by visiting our website at [www.svsu.org](http://www.svsu.org).

As we have both announced our retirement, we take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and partnership in this vital work.

**James R. Culkeen**  
**Superintendent of Schools**

**Laura Boudreau**  
**Assistant Superintendent of Schools**





# Running the Numbers

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## Arlington School District Total Expenditures - by Category

Budget Category	FY22 Actual	FY23 Actual	FY24 Actual	FY25 Approved	FY26 Adopted Budget	Variance	% Var
01. Salaries	\$3,401,791	\$3,458,481	\$3,836,784	\$4,365,462	\$4,799,645	\$434,183	9.95%
02. Benefits	\$1,336,888	\$1,251,072	\$1,368,198	\$1,690,479	\$1,995,942	\$305,463	18.07%
03. Contracted Services	\$121,463	\$105,183	\$113,303	\$175,625	\$169,050	-\$6,575	-3.74%
04. Operations	\$481,543	\$404,327	\$387,542	\$503,188	\$484,680	-\$18,508	-3.68%
05. Transportation	\$0	\$0	\$656	\$31,740	\$31,740	\$0	0.00%
06. Tuition	\$211,179	\$156,738	\$175,778	\$186,520	\$237,461	\$50,941	27.31%
07. Supplies	\$240,198	\$243,898	\$254,429	\$282,750	\$321,445	\$38,695	13.69%
08. Equipment	\$9	\$0	\$10,279	\$25,500	\$0	-\$25,500	-100.00%
09. Dues/Fees	\$28,386	\$34,370	\$23,588	\$24,900	\$27,700	\$2,800	11.24%
10. Assessments	\$1,046,595	\$1,246,744	\$1,578,939	\$1,594,535	\$1,568,112	-\$26,423	-1.66%
11. Debt Service	\$167,049	\$164,260	\$182,054	\$174,681	\$168,055	-\$6,626	-3.79%
12. Contingency	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	--
13. Misc / Prior Year	\$18,520	-\$163	\$241	\$0	\$0	\$0	--
14. Transfers	\$200,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	--
15. Food Service	\$55,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	--
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,308,623</b>	<b>\$7,064,909</b>	<b>\$7,931,792</b>	<b>\$9,055,380</b>	<b>\$9,803,830</b>	<b>\$748,451</b>	<b>8.27%</b>
Less:							
On-behalf Tech Center	\$66,069	\$60,276	\$71,129	\$87,170	\$93,458	\$6,288	7.21%
Tech Center Tuition	\$139,739	\$64,294	\$60,292	\$83,894	\$120,111	\$36,217	43.17%
<b>Total to Operate ASD</b>	<b>\$7,102,815</b>	<b>\$6,940,339</b>	<b>\$7,800,371</b>	<b>\$8,884,316</b>	<b>\$9,590,261</b>	<b>\$705,946</b>	<b>7.95%</b>

ASD FY26 Budget - Adopted 01/23/25



Arlington School District  
Revenue

Description	FY22 Actual	FY23 Actual	FY24 Actual	FY25 Approved	FY26 Adopted	Variance	%
Tuition - PreK	\$10,608	\$25,592	\$33,876	\$11,652	\$19,910	\$8,258	70.87%
Tuition - Elementary	\$264,453	\$274,160	\$248,000	\$360,000	\$340,000	-\$20,000	-5.56%
Tuition - Secondary	\$388,290	\$348,897	\$380,000	\$462,000	\$504,000	\$42,000	9.09%
Interest	\$3,328	\$21,347	\$61,208	\$10,000	\$30,000	\$20,000	200.00%
Fund Balance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$321,570	\$352,929	\$31,359	9.75%
<b>Education Funding</b>	<b>\$6,287,641</b>	<b>\$6,615,929</b>	<b>\$7,155,832</b>	<b>\$7,860,658</b>	<b>\$8,527,491</b>	<b>\$666,833</b>	<b>8.48%</b>
ELL Categorical Aid	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$0	0.00%
Tech - State on Behalf	\$66,069	\$60,276	\$71,129	\$0	\$0	\$0	--
Driver's Education Reimbursement	\$0	\$0	\$2,318	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	0.00%
High School Completion	\$3,434	\$890	\$750	\$500	\$500	\$0	0.00%
Refund of Prior Year Expenditure	\$258	\$17,865	\$381	\$0	\$0	\$0	--
Adjustments to Prior Year	\$133,186	\$877	\$8,690	\$0	\$0	\$0	--
Insurance claim	\$35,337	\$2,700	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	--
Miscellaneous	\$256	\$727	\$292	\$0	\$0	\$0	--
Forestry Grant	\$2,750	\$2,824	\$2,790	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0	0.00%
Subgrants - Other	\$3,740	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	--
Contributions/Donations	\$1,828	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	--
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$7,201,178</b>	<b>\$7,386,479</b>	<b>\$7,965,267</b>	<b>\$9,055,380</b>	<b>\$9,803,830</b>	<b>\$748,450</b>	<b>8.27%</b>

ASD FY26 Budget - Adopted 01/23/25

Arlington School District - FY26 Budget (Adopted 01/23/2025)  
Per Pupil Spending & Estimated Homestead Tax Rate Calculation

	ESTIMATED FY26	FY25	Recalculated FY24		FY24	FY23
1 Expenditures	\$9,803,830	\$9,055,380	\$8,142,943		\$8,142,943	\$7,413,793
2 - Offsetting Revenues	\$1,276,339	\$1,194,722	\$915,982		\$915,982	\$737,588
3 Education Spending	\$8,527,491	\$7,860,658	\$7,226,961		\$7,226,961	\$6,676,205
4 LTW ADM (prelim v05 - 01/12/25)	635.53	633.55	551.42	Equalized Pupils	358.1	357.87
5 / Ed Spending / LTW ADM	\$13,417.92	\$12,407.32	\$13,106	Ed Spnd / Eq Pup	\$20,181	\$18,655
6 Est. Property Yield (with SA 72.36%)	\$8,553	\$9,893			\$15,443	\$13,314
Estimated Equalized Homestead						
7 / Rate	\$1.5688	\$1.2542			\$1.3068	\$1.4012
8 2024 CLA	69.63%	80.16%			87.75%	99.72%
CLA with Statewide Adjustment (72.36%)	96.23%					
Actual Homestead Rate						
9 / (estimated)	\$1.6303	\$1.5646			\$1.4892	\$1.4051
change from previous year	\$0.0657 4.2%	\$0.0754 5.1%			\$0.0840	(\$0.0456)
Estimated education tax on assessed home value of:	\$100,000		\$1,630.30			
	increase/(decrease) over FY25:		\$65.74			
	\$200,000		\$3,260.61			
	increase/(decrease) over FY25:		\$131.49			
	\$300,000		\$4,890.91			
	increase/(decrease) over FY25:		\$197.23			

1 The expenditures line is the school district's budget  
2 Offsetting revenues are money the district will bring in to be applied against the total expenditures. (This includes tuitions, surplus, interest, donations, etc.)  
3 Education spending (Ed spending) is the amount needed from the Vermont education fund  
4 Long-term weighted (LTW) average daily membership (ADM) is a two-year weighted average of enrolled students during the census period  
5 Ed spending per LTW ADM determines the education homestead tax rate  
6 Property yield is set annually by the Legislature. Tax Commissioner letter from December 2, 2024 - recommended yield of \$8,553 which has already had the estimated "statewide adjustment" applied (72.36%). (For every \$8,553 a district spends per equalized pupil, it's equalized homestead tax rate will be \$1.00.)  
7 Equalized homestead tax rate is the rate a district would have if all properties were assessed at fair market value.  
8 Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) is the ratio of the town's listed values versus the state's listed value. The state's listed value is comprised of actual sales averaged over three years. The state's fair market value is the equalized education grand list. The CLA is also to be adjusted by the newly introduced "statewide adjustment" (indicated in green text).  
9 Actual homestead rate is the education tax rate seen on a property tax bill of a resident homeowner.



# Running the Numbers

## Arlington School District – FY26 Budget Notes by Category *to accompany FY26 Budget – Adopted 01/23/2025*

*Acronym listing included at end of packet*

### 01. Salaries

- Current staffing/positions with estimated salary adjustments for all (collective bargaining agreements being negotiated)  
Proposed position changes:
  - Reinstate 1.0 FTE Paraprofessional at AMHS (*estimated at ~ \$42,200 with benefits*)
  - Reinstate 1.0 FTE Custodian at Fisher (*estimated at ~ \$76,400 with benefits*)
- 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers grant matching requirements for summer programming at both campuses (*estimated at \$38,000 plus benefit & supply costs*)

### 02. Benefits

- Health Insurance:
  - VEHI (Vermont Education Health Initiative) proposed rate increases:
    - Platinum = 11.3%
    - Gold = 11.5%
    - Gold CDHP = 11.9%
    - Silver CDHP = 11.9%
  - Decrease of 0.5% in employer premium contribution rate for support staff coverage (per the state-wide plan contribution will be at 80% January 1, 2025)
- Benefits budgeted for proposed position changes
- Vermont Municipal Employees' Retirement System (VMERS) increase in employer match of 0.25% for a new total of 7.25%
- Projected increase to Vermont State Teacher Retirement System (VSTRS) new teacher health care assessment (FY25 cost of \$1,542 per teacher for those becoming members on or after July 1, 2015)
- Dental rates flat for FY26
- Decrease HRA budget to 75%

### 03. Contracted Services

*Includes direct instruction, facilities services, mental health, professional /development learning, athletics, etc.*

- Budget for possible student participation with community partner programs (e.g. Sunrise Family Resource Center, The Tutorial Center)
- Adjustments based on prior years expenditures with some reclassification of expenses to supply lines
- Increase for ArbiterPay contracted service for athletics officials

### 04. Operations

*Includes utilities, repairs and maintenance, equipment leases, liability insurance, employee travel reimbursements, printing, advertising, communications, etc.*

- Increases for utilities and rubbish removal
- Projected increases for liability and vehicle insurance premiums

### 05. Transportation

- Level funded for field trips and athletics transportation

### 06. Tuition

- PreK student projection of 6 students to out-of-district PreK programs (\$3,982 each)
- SW Tech tuition and on-behalf costs (based on announced tuition from SW Tech of \$29,619 & 6-semester average FTE from AOE)

*ASD FY26 Budget - Adopted 01/23/2025*

### 07. Supplies

*Includes general supplies, books, computer equipment below capitalization thresholds, online software licenses, custodial supplies, etc.*

- Adjustments for projected software licenses/subscriptions
- Adjustments based on prior years expenditures with some reclassification of expenses from contracted service & equipment lines
- 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers grant matching requirements for summer programming at both campuses (*estimated \$1,500 for supply costs*)

### 08. Equipment

- No planned expenditures for FY26 meeting the capitalization threshold

### 09. Dues/Fees

- Adjustments based on prior years' actual expenses

### 10. Assessments

- Assessments based on approved SVSU budget (12/17/24)

### 11. Debt Service

- Current loan information (to be paid off in FY38 (annual principal amount \$81,659))
- Adjustment for annual tax anticipation borrowing expense based projected rate decrease

### 12. Contingency

- No proposed change budgets

### 13. Miscellaneous / Prior Year

- No proposed change budgets

### 14. Transfers

- No proposed change budgets

### 15. Food Service Subsidy

- No projected need to supplement food service program





## WE ARE ARLINGTON

Fisher and AMHS begin the 2024-25 school year with a renewed vision: "We are a community that works, learns, and succeeds together." This guiding principle fosters a culture of collaboration, innovation, and inclusivity, ensuring that every student is supported and empowered. From classrooms to extracurricular activities, our schools continue to thrive as spaces where curiosity is nurtured, achievements are celebrated, and lifelong learning takes shape. With this vision at our core, Fisher and AMHS are committed to making this school year one of growth, opportunity, and success for all.

## ENROLLMENT

Pre Kindergarten - 43

Kindergarten - 18

1st Grade - 24

2nd Grade - 25

3rd Grade - 27

4th Grade - 28

5th Grade - 35

6th Grade - 32

7th Grade - 31

8th Grade - 25

9th Grade - 23

10th Grade - 25

11th Grade - 34

12th Grade - 28





Fisher kicks off Field Day with a celebratory group photo!



Fisher joins National Walk to School Day, promoting health and community!



Fisher's 5th grade names the Vermont AOT plow truck "Clearapartha."



Fisher's dedicated teachers and staff inspire and support every student's journey.

## FISHER IN FOCUS



4th grade takes a trip back in time with a visit to Medieval Times!



Art Day drew a big crowd, showcasing student artwork and interactive art stations.



# We Are Arlington



## PTG End of Summer Bash

The Fisher PTG continues to play a vital role in supporting student activities and fostering community connections through collaborative events. None was bigger than the 2024 Back-to-School End of Summer Bash, a highly attended evening filled with food, games, prizes, and the ever-popular "Pie Your Teacher" activity. Families gathered on the Fisher lawns to enjoy a night of laughter and excitement, culminating in a stunning fireworks display. This event not only celebrated the transition back to school but also reinforced the spirit of togetherness that defines our community.



## Start With Hello Week

Our district proudly participated in Sandy Hook Promise's Start with Hello Week, a nationwide initiative aimed at fostering a culture of inclusion and kindness. Throughout the week, students and staff engaged in activities designed to promote connectedness, empathy, and a sense of belonging among peers. From interactive workshops to spirit days, the program encouraged everyone to take small but meaningful actions, like reaching out to classmates who may feel isolated or overlooked. By embracing the principles of Start with Hello, we reinforced our commitment to creating a supportive and welcoming school environment where every student feels seen and valued.



## Fire Prevention Day

Fisher and AMHS proudly participated in Fire Prevention Day, an engaging and educational event aimed at teaching students critical fire safety skills. Thanks to the collaboration and dedication of the Arlington Fire Department, students had the opportunity to learn from experienced firefighters, explore fire safety demonstrations, and practice emergency preparedness techniques. The event fostered a greater understanding of fire prevention and reinforced the importance of safety at home, in school, and within the community.





The AMHS team is dedicated to creating a positive, enriching learning environment for all students.



SVL Coaches of the Year: Girls Varsity Coaches Kirk Robinson and Brandon Smith.



AMHS Athletics shine across every season!



Celebrating the Arlington Memorial Class of 2024.

## AMHS AT A GLANCE



AMHS Varsity Theater proudly showcased "Gazebo."



The AMHS Chorus performs for families during a winter concert.



# We Are Arlington



## International Cultures Night

This year, our Chinese Language Club hosted an unforgettable International Cultures Night, celebrating the rich diversity of cultures from around the world. The evening featured an array of international cuisine, live music, Kung Fu demonstrations, cultural dances, arts and crafts, and so much more. Families and community members gathered to experience the vibrant flavors, traditions, and excitement of global cultures all in one place. This family-friendly event not only showcased the hard work and passion of our students but also fostered a deeper understanding and appreciation of the traditions that make our community so beautifully diverse.



## New Leadership at AMHS

AMHS embraced key administrative changes this year, strengthening leadership and fostering a unified vision for student success. Deanne Lacoste stepped into the role of Interim Principal at AMHS while continuing as Fisher Principal, ensuring a smooth transition. Alongside Assistant Principal Alex Borsari, this leadership team has promoted stability, collaboration, and a supportive learning environment. Additionally, the arrival of Athletic Director Kathi Bierwirth has brought new energy and opportunities to student athletics. These changes have strengthened our school community, creating a positive impact on students, staff, and families alike.



## AMHS Language Program Grows

The Arlington Memorial language program continues to stand out for its unique and enriching offerings. Our Chinese Language Program, led by the talented Lei Lui, provides students with the opportunity to immerse themselves in one of the world's most spoken languages. This year, we were also thrilled to welcome Michelle Emery, who brought a French Language Program to AMHS, adding another dynamic dimension to our language studies. Together, these programs offer students diverse and valuable linguistic opportunities, preparing them for a globalized future while enriching the cultural fabric of our school.

## Alumni Notes

### Bhumika Patel, Class of 2014

My time after graduating from AMHS in 2014 has been nothing short of eye-opening and making the most out of life's opportunities. I attended the University of Vermont and reflect daily on my gratitude for the Green & Gold Scholarship that has allowed me to pursue any endeavor that my soul gravitates toward. I would be lying if I said I wasn't confused at UVM—I always had a desire to pursue healthcare in some way, but simultaneously, the state of Western medicine irritated me. It seemed as though we were putting fires out everywhere and I asked myself, "Where is the actual healing? People are surviving, but is their wellness thriving?" I grew up in a household with immigrant parents who viewed healthcare as a way to prevent disease rather than fix a diagnosis. It is MUCH easier to stay healthy rather than fix a health problem or cure a sickness after the fact.

My time at UVM was filled with so much growth. I traveled to Bali to learn about integrative health. I completed my 200-hour yoga teacher training, and taught yoga/meditation for six years. I was the only student representative on the UVM dining committee, and helped bring fresh food to the dining halls—and we were the top in the nation. I made lifelong friends who I'm still so close with now and enjoyed numerous sunsets on Lake Champlain, where I ran into Bernie. Majoring in Microbiology and Nutrition & Food Sciences, I thought I would be a cheesemaker but one day, I realized it was a hobby and not a career. I jumped ship to healthcare, and I became a medical assistant at the Community Health Centers of Burlington where I thrived for three years.

I got to know my patients' stories longitudinally for about three years, including the chaos of COVID-19, and I loved nothing more than to be there for them. Between blood draws and doing EKGs, I connected patients with social resources, including food and housing. For the first time in my life, I could not picture myself anywhere else. My story isn't all rainbows and glitter. I failed the MCAT (entrance exam for medical school, kinda like SATs for college). Yes, I cried and felt hopeless because it was honestly the first time I really failed at something yet studied so much for. After six months of taking a break and continuing to remind myself why I started in the first place, I took the MCAT again with a wildly different study routine—and I applied and got into many medical schools! I eventually went to Western University of Health Sciences, an osteopathic medical school in East Los Angeles. You've likely seen a doctor with a DO after their name—that's going to be me. I needed to scratch the itch of living outside of Vermont, and now that I am in my last year of medical school for family medicine, I am so glad I did this. I learned so much about my own independence, motivation, and ability to get things done. I started my school's Harm Reduction and Addiction Medicine Interest Group, where I worked with the community to spread the word. I even got to speak at a national conference, the Osteopathic Medical Education Conference, which is the largest gathering of osteopathic physicians in the world. This taught me that not only do I want to be a physician, but I want to be a physician leader who makes whole communities better for people's wellbeing and health.



However, once a Northeasterner, always a Northeasterner. I'm coming back to be a doctor and I'm so excited! After medical school, we go through residency training programs (we're basically baby doctors) depending on our specialty so as someone going into family medicine,

I have three years of family-medicine-specific training left. In March 2025, I find out which residency program I will be going to. In May 2025, I will be graduating medical school. I see myself as a family medicine doctor who takes care of whole families, works with other community leaders to make the entire system better for you, focuses on addiction medicine, and just an all-around motivated person who sees a problem and devises a plan to improve it. My time at AMHS made me really comfortable with who I am, especially as one of the only brown-skinned people there. It made me confident in myself and the ideas that I bring to the table because one day, they are going to improve communities and lives. That's what it's about for me—to leave a few corners of the world better than how I found them.



## **Student Spotlight**

### **Star Reeder, Class of 2025**

#### **Committed to Clarkson University**

Arlington Memorial Middle and High School is a small school with a tight-knit community. The students and teachers all know each other and foster a close community. The school being so small allows students to all get to know each other and become friends. The small class sizes make it so each student gets a personalized learning experience, and ensures that each student engages with the material. The students here are proud of where they come from. From sports games, to the classroom, everyone is very supportive of one another.

Even though the school is small, students can have a very personalized learning experience, there are lots of options for different classes, including ones that prepare students for their careers they can take at South West Tech, and different APs. There are a good variety of clubs students can join that take place both during and after school, where students can engage in their interests and socialize with their peers. The school may be small but it still offers its students a plethora of opportunities; here no one fits into one box, everyone can participate in anything and have a place in any activity. In conclusion, AMHS is a little school with a big heart!

## **Alumni Notes**

### **Caleb Hayes, Class of 2015**

Growing up in Arlington, VT, and graduating from Arlington Memorial High School, I always knew this town was special. The friendships I made here weren't just for the moment—they became lifelong bonds that have continued to shape who I am today. From playing on the fields to gathering at local events, the sense of community in Arlington is something truly unique.

Now, as I raise my two sons here, I feel incredibly grateful to be part of the same close-knit town that gave me so much. It's not just about the beautiful landscape or the small-town charm—it's about the people. The neighbors who look out for one another, the teachers who go the extra mile, and the friendships that stand the test of time.

That's why I'm so proud to give back—not only through my business, Hayes Lawn Care, but by raising my family in the very place that raised me. Arlington is more than just home; it's where my roots run deep, where values are passed down, and where friendships turn into family.



# Town Warning

Arlington Town School District Warning FY26

Arlington Town School District Warning FY26

## ANNUAL MEETING OF ARLINGTON TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

The legal voters of the Arlington Town School District being the inhabitants of the Town of Arlington, Vermont, who are qualified to vote in the Town District Meeting, are hereby warned for the **Annual Meeting in the Arlington Memorial High School Gymnasium, Arlington, Vermont on Monday March 3, 2025 at 6:30 o'clock in the evening** or remotely via the Zoom computer application/program utilizing meeting ID: 864 0661 9361 with Passcode: 150253 (a direct link is available on the SVSU website [www.svsu.org](http://www.svsu.org) which also lists numbers to access by phone) to transact the following business from the floor:

- Article 1

To elect a Moderator and Recording Clerk for the Meeting.
- Article 2

To receive the reports of the District Officers for the preceding year.
- Article 3

To fix the compensation to be paid to the Officers of the District for the year beginning July 1, 2025.
- Article 4

To authorize the School Board acting on behalf of the District, to borrow such sums of money in anticipation of taxes as may be necessary to properly finance the affairs of the School District.
- Article 5

To have presented by the School Board its estimates of the expenses of the School District for the ensuing year. This is a public informational hearing regarding the budget and related items (Articles A and B).
- Article 6

To transact any other business found proper when met.

The legal voters of the Arlington Town School District are **further warned to meet on TUESDAY March 4, 2025 at the Arlington Memorial High School Gymnasium** to transact the following business by Australian Ballot. **The polls will be open from 10:00 o'clock in the morning to 7:00 o'clock in the evening.**

- Article A

To elect the following School Director Officers:

School Director	2 year term
School Director	3 year term

- Article B

Shall the voters of the Arlington Town School District approve the school board to expend \$9,803,830, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the 2025-2026 fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in per pupil education spending of \$13,418, which is 8.15% higher than per pupil education spending for the current year.

Dated at Arlington, Vermont this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of January, 2025.

Nicol Whalen, *Chair*

Dan Wood, *Vice Chair*

Teresa Sweet, *Clerk*

Jessica Bachiochi, *Board Member*

Todd Wilkins, *Board Member*

Received for recording this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

Robin Wilcox, *District Clerk*





## Our Mission

Fisher Elementary School aspires to establish an environment where students and faculty can develop a climate of caring and trust. We are committed to creating an instructional process whereby all students can achieve their academic potential. In addition, we at Fisher wish to nurture a sense of school pride that is felt and recognized by students, faculty, and the community.

The Arlington Memorial High School community strives to create a safe, caring, and respectful environment of academic excellence where students are uniquely challenged to reach their potential.

## Arlington School District

529 E Arlington Road  
Arlington, VT 05250

