

## Abingdon Elementary School

3035 South Abingdon Street, Arlington, Virginia 22206

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[www.apsva.us/abingdon](http://www.apsva.us/abingdon)

*This school is accredited through the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.*



Abingdon's instructional program is consistent with the Arlington Public Schools goal to teach all students a broad body of knowledge, effective communication skills, a rational system of thought, and to use their creativity. Our instructional program is

unique in its design by the emphasis on personalizing instruction to the individual, music instruction for all students, a broad array of after school enrichment activities and a collaborative model among staff for instruction.

Project GIFT, Gaining Instruction, Fostering Talents, provides the school focus for **Abingdon** to increase student achievement and community engagement by implementing instructional practices guided by the framework of Multiple Intelligences Theory.

Multiple Intelligences Theory was articulated by Howard Gardner in 1983. The theory is a description of how human intelligence is organized. Gardner has identified at least eight intelligences including linguistic, mathematical-logical, bodily kinesthetic, musical, visual-spatial, naturalist, interpersonal and intrapersonal. This theory supports **Abingdon's** primary objective to ensure that all children experience academic achievement.

**Abingdon** has eliminated most early release Wednesdays. All **Abingdon** students attend school five full days. This increases instructional time for our students by approximately three weeks.

All fourth-grade students receive violin instruction using the Suzuki method and play in the school orchestra. Students in the fifth-grade elect to continue studying the violin or begin a wood, brass or percussion instrument. Third-grade students learn to play the recorder and students in grades K-5 receive music using the Orff instructional technique.

A math instructional resource teacher assists staff in developing math units that require students to use higher level thinking skills to solve math problems using a variety of math materials. All students also participate in experiments in **Abingdon's** science lab. Students learn to think about problems using their science knowledge and learn to make observations and record in interactive notebooks.

**Abingdon** students are instructed in an architecture class that allows them to employ multiple intelligences in their quest to solve real-world, hands-on architecture-related problems. Finally, **Abingdon's** students take a communications class in which students learn to communicate through video technology, claymation, movement, pantomime and tableau.

## Goals

*All of our schools set annual goals. Our school's goals are listed here.*

- Abingdon Elementary School's curriculum will be designed to ensure that every student participates successfully in a rich and rigorous curriculum.
- Abingdon staff will build knowledge on ways of achieving success in the classroom by balancing content, pedagogy and relationships.
- Increase student achievement as measured by SOL assessment results.

## Instructional Highlights\*

*All Arlington elementary schools teach the adopted curricula and offer gifted services, special education services, reading support and English language support to those students who qualify. Yet each school's program is a little different. These are some of the instructional features of our school's program.*

- Claymation Studio
- Project GO
- Higher Order Thinking Skills (HOTS)
- Integration model for Special Education and ESOL/HILT students
- School Yard Gardening Project
- History Alive training + implementation
- Word Study course for all staff
- Emphasis on interdisciplinary units
- Site-based Summer School
- Teacher Expectations-Student Achievement (TESA)
- Participation in Kennedy Center's Changing Education Through the Arts Program
- Virginia Pre School Initiative (VPI) classes
- Mini courses with gifted resource teacher
- Kinko's Partnership for Success
- Fifth-grade Overnight, Outdoor Lab
- Video Journalism
- Suzuki Violin Instruction, all fourth-graders
- Orff Music Instruction
- Science Lab
- Math Lab
- Library Nights
- Recorder Instruction, third-grade
- Instrumental Music Instruction, fifth-grade
- Fourth and fifth-grade enrichment field trips
- School-wide staff development with Julie Viens (Harvard's Project Zero)

## **Awards and Recognition\***

*We're proud of the accomplishments of our students and staff. Here are some of their accomplishments.*

- Making Annual Yearly Progress (AYP)
- Fully Accredited
- Violinists performed at Strathmore Hall
- Solo and ensemble performance awards
- National Board Certified Teachers
- Math Dice Competition
- Presentations at state conferences
- Grant winners
- Reflections contest winners.
- "Gilbert Scores for Schools" participant

## **Special Activities and Community Service**

*Our students participate in many activities, clubs and programs that support their academics and challenge them to learn and grow outside the classroom.*

- Cardinal Club: a service organization for students in grades one-five
- Chorus
- Band and Orchestra
- After School Enrichment Classes
- YES Club
- Safety Patrols
- Schoolwide Arts Performance
- Cultural celebrations
- Book Fair
- Cardinal Shop (school store)
- Holiday Shop
- Clothing Exchange
- Fall Festival
- Pyramid Band
- Extended Day Program
- African Drumming Class
- Math Night
- Honor Roll recognition
- Child Help Program
- Homework Club
- Market Day
- SOL enrichment
- Reading celebrations
- Cardinal News Network
- Spirit days
- Career Day
- Community service activities
- Movie nights
- Wheel nights
- Reflections
- Student Council
- Let's Go exercise club
- Naturalist Club
- "A Peaceful World Starts Here" concert

## **Opportunities for Parental Involvement**

- Parent Teacher Association
- School Board advisory groups
- Parent classroom helpers
- Room Parents
- Parent chaperones
- Tutoring
- Chat & Coffee with parents
- After-school enrichment classes
- Parent workshops
- Schoolyard Gardening Project
- Read Across America Day
- Career Day
- Title I Reading Nights
- Library Nights
- Family Night at Air and Space Museum
- Meet and Greet
- PESA (Parent Expectations: Student Achievement)
- Volunteer opportunities for community members

## **Technology\***

*Student access to technology is an Arlington priority. All of our schools have state-of-the-art computer labs, teacher voice mail, access to the Internet and a school home page. While students have access to some older computers for backup or overflow, the number of new and mid-level stations used for instruction and testing are reported below.*

Number of computers in labs and classrooms: 133  
Student Stations: 83  
Teacher Stations: 50  
Number of computer labs: 1

## **School Safety**

*To effectively promote the learning and teaching needed to achieve our high academic goals, we believe it is important to provide a safe school that is free of disruption.*

Fire Drills Per Year: 12  
School Bus Drills Per Year: 2  
Safety Assemblies: yes  
Youth Resource Officer: on call  
Student Safety Patrols: yes

## **Transportation**

67% ride the bus and live more than one mile from school  
29% live within the one mile walking zone  
4% Other

## **School Population**

Total Student Enrollment, Pre K-5: 349  
Students who receive English as a second language support, K-5: 168  
Asian/Pacific Islander, K-5: 13.7%  
Black, K-5: 15.9%  
Hispanic, K-5: 44.5%  
White, K-5: 23.4%  
American Indian/Alaskan Native, K-5: 0.3%  
Unspecified, K-5: 2.2%  
Total Teaching Faculty: 48  
Total Administrators: 2  
Teachers with a master's degree or beyond: 31  
Average Years of Teaching Experience in Arlington: 12.5  
Total Average Years of Teaching Experience: 13.5

## **2006-07 Test Results**

Virginia State Accreditation Status: Fully Accredited  
Adequate Yearly Progress (according to federal NCLB guidelines): No  
More detailed information about testing results is available at:  
[www2.apsva.us/testscores](http://www2.apsva.us/testscores)  
Virginia School Report Cards at: [www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/src](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/src)

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Each of Arlington's schools is unique and this report is intended to give you a brief description of your child's school and its programs. It also highlights the achievements of the school in a variety of areas that are important to your child's education.  
\*Indicates 2006-07 data.