

*Monthly Newsletter*



**SPOTLIGHT- SCHIRLEY SOTO CUBILLOS**

Schirley Soto Cubillos is originally from Colombia and a product of Arlington! She graduated from Washington-Lee High School and started working with Arlington Public Schools in 2002. She has had the opportunity to work with various departments while at APS. She is currently enjoying her work as the Administrative Specialist with the Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion.

During her free time, she enjoys spending time with her kids, family, and friends. She is passionate about DEI and enjoys being a part of the much needed changes and work that is happening.

Favorite quote: The beauty of the world lies in the diversity of its people. - Unknown

**IMPORTANT DATES**

- Arab-American Heritage Month
- Autism Awareness Month
- Celebrate Diversity Month
- Earth Month

- National Child Abuse Prevention Month
- National Volunteer Month
- Month of the Military Child

- World Autism Awareness Day - April 2
- Passover begins - April 5

International Day of Sport for Development of Peace - April 7

World Health Day - April 7

Good Friday - April 7

Easter - April 9/10

Passover ends - April 18

National Day of Silence - April 14

Laylat-al-Qadar - April 17

Yom Hashoah - April 18

Start of Ridvan - April 20

Eid-al-Fitr/End of Ramadan - April 21

Earth Day - April 22

World Immunization Week - April 24-30

International Girls in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) day - April 27

World day for Safety and Health at Work - April 28

International Jazz Day - April 30

**AROUND NOVA**

**Earth Day Every Day Festival  
on Langston Boulevard**

April 23 - 11:00am-5:00pm

at Lee Heights Shops

4500-4550 Lee Highway Arlington, VA

This free, family-friendly festival features music, children's activities, food and drink, environmental booths, raffle, and more! More information at LBA Earth Day ([earthdayonlangston.com](http://earthdayonlangston.com))

Contact us at [DEI@apsva.us](mailto:DEI@apsva.us)

**SPOTLIGHT: CORVÉ WILCHER**

Corvé Wilcher is the Executive Administrative Specialist for the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) department working directly with the Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in English/Liberal Arts from Lincoln University in Pennsylvania. She has many years as an educator in Prince George's County (PGC), Maryland. While in PGC, Corvé taught 7th grade Language Arts for middle school students as well as 9th grade Language Arts for high school students for almost a decade.

Corvé switched careers and transitioned from the classroom to work directly with executive leaders as an Executive Assistant in Prince William County Public Schools. She worked side by side with executive leaders of Division Counsel and the School Board as well as all stakeholders to provide excellent educational services to all. Corvé values education and believes everyone should be treated fairly and with respect. She is an advocate for students and families and believes that all students and families should have equitable access to resources to meet his/her individual needs. Corvé is excited about the work of diversity, equity, and inclusion in Arlington Public Schools.

**IN THE CLASSROOM**

**Culturally Responsive Teaching and Equitable Practices**

**Indicator 5.** Analyzes, selects, and integrates texts, materials, and classroom resources that reflect cultural inclusivity and the needs of all students, including for gender, race, ethnicity, gender identity and expression, English Language Learners, and students with disabilities.

**Teacher Practices:**

- Teacher has identified omissions from the curriculum, selected and utilized materials that reflect cultural inclusivity and the needs of all students.
- Teacher integrates contemporary materials and resources to supplement/complement existing curriculum.
- Teacher encourages students to incorporate their lives and identities into their learning.

**WHAT WE'RE READING**

Please use this [link](#) to share your thoughts on what we're reading and offer suggestions to expand our library and collective knowledge.

**Inclusion on Purpose: An Intersectional Approach to Creating a Culture of Belonging at Work**  
*Ruchika Tulshyan*

Our office's professional library of resources - click [here](#) to access.

**TERM OF THE MONTH**

"Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a neurological and developmental disorder that affects how people interact with others, communicate, learn, and behave."  
(National Institute of Mental Health, 2023)

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