

M&M's - It's All About the Greeting



- Find someone you don't know or don't know well
- Introduce yourself and then.....
- Pick one color and discuss the following with one person:
 - **Red** - Besides family, what's something you can't live without
 - **Brown** - Your current favorite movie
 - **Purple** - A favorite memory
 - **Orange** - What are your hopes for ACTL this year?
 - **Blue** - Your current favorite book or podcast
 - **Green** - If you didn't have your current job, what would you do?
- Find a different person

Advisory Council on Teaching and Learning (ACTL)

Meeting

September 10, 2025

Objectives

- Review the work of ACTL.
- Gain an understanding of the new history requirements, how APS is approaching the changes, and how to communicate to your community the changes.
- Learn about, ask questions, and communicate with your community about the proposed changes and work of the School Board Advisory Work Group Committee.
- Brainstorm different ways to engage your community and gather feedback.

Agenda

- Board introductions
- Review of ACTL Focus
- ACTL Spotlight: History Curriculum
- School Board Advisory Work Group Committee
- Engaging with your community



ACTL Attendance

Board Introductions



Kathleen Clark, APS Board
Liaison

ACTL's Work

The Council's work includes:

1. **Reviewing and making recommendations** to improve policies and policy implementation procedures, curriculum content, curriculum delivery, and student outcomes;
2. Making recommendations for and **providing input into the development of new programs and practices** ;
3. **Assisting the School Board in providing** the community with **information concerning academic programs;** and
4. **Reviewing instructional topics** from time to time as determined by the School Board.

Meetings, minutes, emails, communications, etc. are subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)



ACTL Leadership

Jill Abbott, Chair

Ginnie Gordon, Vice-Chair

Mike Cieslak, Vice-Chair Subcommittees

Heather Toronjo, Co-Secretary

Sasha McNickle, Co-Secretary

History Curriculum

Christine Joy
Arlington Public Schools
Social Studies Supervisor

School Board Advisory Work Group Discussion



Jonathan Turrisi

Arlington Public Schools

Director of Accountability, Evaluation and Strategic
Planning

Jenny Roahen Rizzo

Chair, School Board Advisory Committee Working Group

Engaging Our Communities



School Community Engagement

Small Group Brainstorming



Identify at least 3 different engagement strategies to try with your communities



TRY IT!

Commit to try at least 1 of the engagement strategies before the October meeting!

Next Month Preview

- October 8
- ACTL Spotlight: Literacy
- Standards of Accreditation and Results