

## October 2025 News

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AEF Seeks a Stratton School Representative

STARs Shine Bright this Fall and Winter!



Menotomy Preschool social worker Elena Knightly demonstrates 3D creations made possible by AEF

## [3D Printer Brings Learning to Life for APS's Youngest](#)

When you are about to lose your cool in a situation, what do you do?

First, it might be helpful to identify what you are feeling and why. Then, you might need to draw upon some tools — some moments of deep breathing, for example — to help calm yourself down.

Such abstract concepts can be difficult for adults to wrap their heads around, let alone 3- and 4-year-olds. But teachers and staff at Menotomy Preschool are employing creative ways to help their young students understand these ideas and much more, and they are utilizing funds from an Arlington Education Foundation grant to do it. [READ MORE HERE](#)

"We are developing skills and we are connecting objects we make with the curriculum. We are here to teach people, and we are here to teach all the people. We are really excited we got the grant."

- Sif Ferranti  
Menotomy Preschool Teacher



Gibbs School principal Andrew Ahmadi and counselor Katie Miller reflect on Collaborative Problem-Solving

## [Collaborative Problem Solving Across Arlington's Schools](#)

"People's success is about skill, not will," says Katie Miller.

A school counselor at the Gibbs School, Miller grows animated as she discusses an approach to discipline called Collaborative Problem Solving (CPS), in which she and colleagues across the district received summer training. She says

herself what skills the student may be missing and how she, the teacher and the student can collaborate to build that skill. "People do well if they can," she adds.

The CPS summer training, funded in part by a \$32,000 District Investment grant from the Arlington Education Foundation, is part of a district-wide initiative to align disciplinary approaches at the town's three secondary schools. [READ MORE HERE](#)

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## Get involved with AEF

Calling Stratton-area families: The AEF board is seeking a Stratton School Representative for 2025-2026. The volunteer will be the liaison between Stratton and AEF, sharing info with the staff about grant opportunities, guiding them through the application process, and communicating with the school community about our grants, events, and fundraisers.

Email [lferreira@aefma.org](mailto:lferreira@aefma.org) to learn more.

The AEF [STARS campaign](#) is underway! Purchase a star before December 7 to honor a teacher or staff member and support innovation in all Arlington's schools. STARS can be purchased for anyone at APS, not just your child's current teacher. Specials teachers, custodians, nurses, administrative assistants and lunch staff can all receive STARS!

### Become a Business Sponsor

Do you own or work for a local business? Want to connect with the community, while supporting the Arlington Public Schools? Then consider becoming a sponsor today! [Learn more here.](#)

This month, we'd like to thank our GOLD sponsors: Consigli, HMFH Architects, John's Landscape Service, the Russian School of Mathematics, Steve McKenna and the Home Advantage Team, Winchester Savings Bank, and Zipwall.

We also celebrate our PLATINUM Sponsors: Arlington Orthodontics, Belmont Orthodontics, and Belmont Pediatric Dentistry. Thank you for your ongoing support!



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