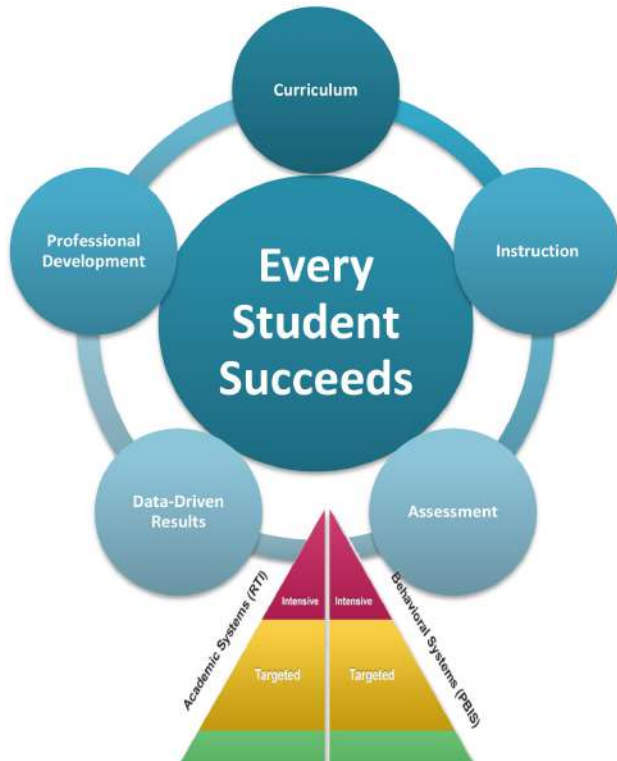


ACPS Teaching and Learning Model

The goal of ACPS is to ensure that *every student succeeds!* Teaching and learning in ACPS involves a rigorous curriculum, effective planning, balanced assessment, proven instructional strategies, and relationships with students that communicate high expectations and a commitment to student success.



ACPS uses a staff-developed 21st-century curriculum focused on helping students become critical thinkers and problem solvers. All classrooms should be interactive, engaging, and structured to promote student communication and collaboration. More information on the ACPS curriculum can be found at www.acps.k12.va.us.

Effective Assessment and Progress Monitoring

Student data provides feedback about what students are learning and what they still need to learn. Data collected informally on a daily basis and formally at the end of units and specific milestones throughout the year help to guide learning and teaching. This data includes:

- Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL) Assessments
- Daily teacher observation and formative assessment
- Daily student work products
- End-of-unit assessments
- Nationally normed screening instruments, including Think Through Math (TTM)
- Reading assessments such as running records and Reading Inventories (RI)
- Common assessments in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies
- Transfer tasks and other forms of performance assessment and projects that emphasize student transfer of learning to real-life settings and problems



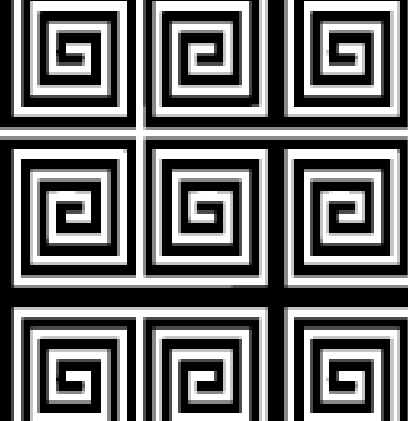
What Can I Expect for My Child in the 4th Grade?

The mission of Alexandria City Public Schools is: *"Every student succeeds: Educating lifelong learners and inspiring civic responsibility."* Our vision is: *"Our students achieve at high levels, are well-rounded, critical thinkers, and have a passion to learn."*

Principles

- We Believe in Educational Excellence
- We Believe in High Achievement for All
- We Believe in a Culture of Collaboration
- We Believe in Continuous Improvement and Accountability
- We Believe in Environmental Stewardship





For More Information:

ACPS Department of Curriculum and Instruction
1340 Braddock Place, 4th Floor
Alexandria, Va. 22314
Tel: 703-619-8020



Some of the Learning in Which Your Child Will Be Engaged Includes:

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS*

- Speaking and Writing with Clarity
- Investigating and Writing Personal Research Topics
- Studying Cause and Effect in Realistic Fiction
- Making Inferences in Historical Fiction
- Reading and Writing Literary Essays
- Using Poetry to Express Thoughts and Opinions

- SCIENCE**
- Analyzing Force and Motion
 - Exploring Electricity
 - Investigating Earth, Moon, and Sun
 - Predicting Weather
 - Evaluating Ecosystems and Interactions of Living Organisms

- SOCIAL STUDIES**
- Investigating Virginia: The Land and Its People
 - Understanding Life in Colonial Virginia
 - Analyzing Revolutionary Virginia and the New Nation
 - Understanding the Civil War Era and Reconstruction
 - Understanding Virginia Today

- THE ARTS**
- Performance and

- Production
- Cultural Context and Music Theory
- Judgment and Criticism
- Aesthetics

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- Sequences and Dances
- Basic Game Strategies
- Using Pedometers and Heart-Rate Monitors
- Sport and Culture

* ACPS K-5 Literacy Guidelines call for all students to receive 60 minutes daily of explicit reading instruction on their instructional levels. If your child is reading above grade level, he or she will receive instruction above grade level. If your child is reading below grade level, ACPS will provide accelerated instruction at his or her level to rapidly close the gap. Students may be regrouped during the reading block.

Helpful Resources

Alexandria City Public Schools

Web Resources:

www.acps.k12.va.us

Through this website, you can access information about the following:

- ACPS Strategic Plan
- Registration Forms
- School Academic Calendars
- School Addresses, Hours and Websites
- Student Guidelines

- English Learner Office (703) 619-8022
- Family and Community Engagement (703) 619-8055
- Specialized Instruction Services (703) 619-1717
- Talented and Gifted Program (703) 619-8020
- Title 1 (703) 619-1729