



West Ashley High School

For Immediate Release

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Media Release

Navy Vice admiral visits WAHS

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Charleston, S.C. - Vice Admiral Karl Thomas of the United States Navy (second in command) visited West Ashley High School to speak with the West Ashley High School NJROTC on November 15, 2024.

Vice Admiral Thomas serves as the deputy chief of naval operations for information warfare and Director of Naval Intelligence. He most recently served as the 53rd commander of the United States Seventh Fleet from 2021 to 2024.

NJROTC cadets and instructors took Thomas on a tour of their facilities, performed a drill team routine, and a special recognition ceremony was held to honor cadets for their achievements.

Led by Jason Constant, NJROTC students at West Ashley compete in drill, flag corps, cybersecurity, rifle, and academic competitions on a national level. They have the opportunity to earn scholarships, and the program is often a cadet's first introduction to military careers. Constant was honored to have Thomas come and speak with students in his popular program.

"We are excited to have VADM Thomas visit West Ashley High School to recognize the achievements of our cadets," said Constant. "This was a rare opportunity for our cadets to ask questions of the Navy's senior leadership."

Principal Andy Brandt said that the leadership skills that West Ashley cadets are developing will ensure their success in high school and beyond.

"We are excited for the opportunity that VADM Thomas' visit will provide for our cadets to learn from a senior flag officer," said Brandt. "We are very proud of our cadets, the work that they do, and the example that they set every day in their school and their community."

For more information, contact Principal Andy Brandt at (843) 573-1201.