

AAST NEWSLETTER

August 28th - September 1st, 2023

a stem school ~ realize the possibilities

UPCOMING EVENTS

Labor Day Weekend
No School
September 4

SIC Meeting
September 21
5:00pm - 7:00pm

College Application
Day
September 22

Senior Makeup
Picture Day
September 26

Safety Info



Click the links below to learn more about AAST's plans to keep our koi safe!

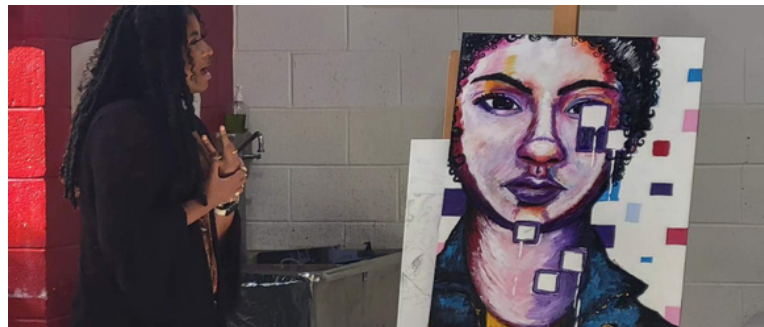
[Standard Response Protocol for Parents \(English\)](#)

[Standard Response Protocol for Parents \(Spanish\)](#)
[School Safety Poster](#)

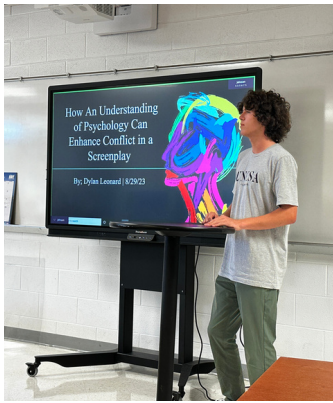
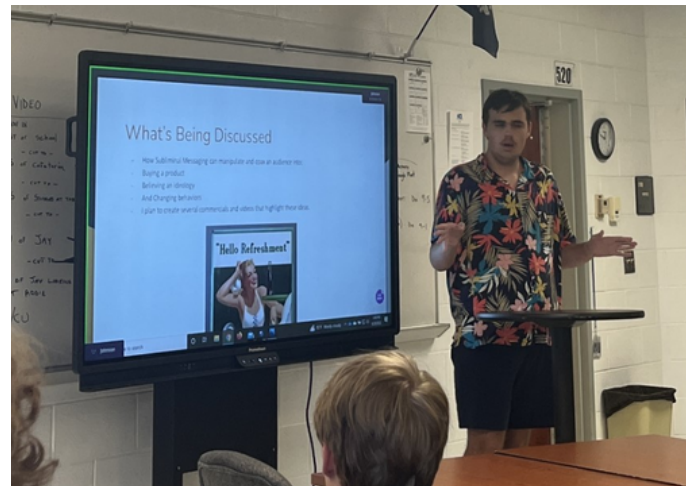
AAST on the Web!
Stay Connected!



Art Students Present Their Summer Works



The Advanced Art Seniors showcased their summer artwork to their fellow classmates. These artistic creations serve a dual purpose as both examples of their breadth and as a demonstration of their potential mastery in the field of art. This presentation allowed the seniors to share their diverse range of artistic skills and techniques with their peers. Additionally, it provided an opportunity for the students to receive feedback and appreciation for their hard work and talent.



Entertainment Technology Students Present Senior Master Proposals

The AAST Seniors showcased their Senior Exhibition of Mastery Proposals during the Entertainment Technology Major class with Mr. Johnson. Each student in the class had the opportunity to present their unique project ideas to their peers, Mr. Johnson and other teachers and admin. The presentations included detailed plans of how the students intend to apply their skills and knowledge in the field of entertainment technology to their mastery research and student films. It was an exciting and informative session that highlighted the creativity and expertise of the AAST ET major students.



A Pickle of an Autopsy

Mr. Sodano's Anatomy and Physiology Honors classes participated in a peculiar autopsy...

There was a pickling plant explosion and some of the workers were DOA. The objective of the lab was to be able to identify body cavities and the main organs that reside within them. The students used scalpels and tweezers to find anomalies that didn't seem to fit or created internal distress (Internal Bleeding, etc). The students had to find the cause of death and relate that back to the anatomical terms while respecting the Pickles. They named them and gave them a proper burial after the autopsy.

Parent Involvement @ AAST

AAST has a core group of parents, students, business partners, and community members that serve as an advisory council to the principal and school. The AAST **School Improvement Council (SIC)** meets monthly to discuss ways to improve our practices at AAST. Our meeting times alternate between 10:00am and 5:00pm on weekdays to accommodate the schedules of most stakeholders.

In addition to the SIC, parents can participate in our **Parent Involvement Committee**. AAST Parent Involvement Committee functions much like a PTO supporting our teachers and students by hosting events and celebrations throughout the year. Our first SIC meeting is September 21 from 5:00 - 7:00. Dinner will be served.

If you are interested in serving our school on either committee, please contact **Lavonia Jackson** at ljackson@horrycountyschools.net

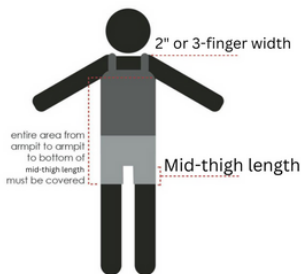
AAST ANNOUNCEMENTS

Need to Know @ AAST

AAST DRESS CODE

- Hats, hoods, and sunglasses are prohibited inside school buildings.
- The possession of all gang related bandanas and beads are prohibited at AAST.
- Blankets, full body suits, pajamas and bedroom slippers are not allowed.
- Tops must have straps of no less than two inches in width (3-finger width).
- Clothing should be worn so underwear is not visible. Pants and shirt must overlap at all times.
- Shoes are to be worn at all times at school.
- Attire (includes clothing, face coverings, hats, shoes, jewelry, emblems, badges, symbols, signs) should not interfere with the educational process, cause disruption, or damage school property.
- The entire area from the armpit to the mid thigh must be covered in the front and the back of the body.
- Clothing promoting alcohol, drugs, weapons, sexual behavior, clothing with sexual innuendos, and/or ethnic derogatories is not allowed.
- Items such as spiked jewelry (including body piercing), padlocks, chains, and metal heel plates are not allowed.

- Consequences for violating Dress Code may include the following:**
 - Students may call parents to bring appropriate clothing.
 - If no alternative clothing is available, student will go to ISS.
 - Absence or tardy due to dress code violation will be unexcused.



Student dress should be confined to clothing that is reasonable, practical and in good taste for school. School attire should reflect proper decorum, cleanliness, and comfort. The school will make judgments and decisions as needed to preserve the health, safety, and propriety of students. Student cooperation is expected even during Spirit Week and other school related events.

AAST held its first Fire Drill and Intruder Drill this past week. Students, teachers, and staff practiced evacuating the building during the Fire Drill on Tuesday. Everyone also participated in the practice Intruder Drill on Friday. Both drills went smoothly, and everyone was prepared to Lockdown quickly. AAST will hold at least one Fire Drill monthly and at least one Intruder Drill per quarter. Thank you to all of our students and staff for executing the safety protocols quickly and efficiently. We are looking forward to a safe and fun-filled school year at AAST.

Gifted and Talented Identification

Gifted and Talented (GT) Identification Testing is about to begin. If you would like your student tested to identify whether he or she is able to be designated as Gifted and Talented, please read Screening & Identification Process and complete the Parent-Guardian Referral Form, both of which can be found on the [Gifted and Talented Resources page](#). Referral forms must be received September 13, 2023, to be included in this cycle of evaluation.

From the AAST Attendance Office:

- Please report your child's absence to Mrs. Grant (cgrant@horrycountyschools.net)
- For Early Dismissals: Parent Notes must be turned in to Mrs. Grant in the morning. No students will be dismissed early from school after 2:00 PM. This procedure is in place to prevent continual disruptions during the last instructional block.
- Excused absences: Documentation should be brought upon return to school. Give to Mrs. Grant at the front desk in the morning or put in the attendance mailbox outside the office.
- Parent notes for absences are unexcused. Absences can only be excused with medical, bereavement or legal documentation.
- Students must sign in when late to school and must sign out when leaving early. This is a required school policy.
- Parents can access attendance records through PowerSchool under the AAST tab.
- Truancy is a state law and states any student under the age of 17 with 3 consecutive unexcused absences or 5 total unexcused all-day absences for the school year will be considered truant and an attendance plan will need to be completed.

Attention: Click here for the new advisory schedule

Click here for more info!



Lowes Foods gives back to our school through the Cart 2 Class Program. If you shop at Lowes Foods, consider linking your card to AAST. For every private label purchase made, Lowes Foods donates a percentage of those sales to AAST. If you have participated in the Cart 2 Class Program before, you will need to re-link your card every year. It only takes a minute, and you can click here to enter your FreshRewards Card number. You can choose up to 3 schools. Each school gets the same percentage. If you want to enroll for the first time, you can click the link on the left to sign up for the program. Over the past 6 years, we have earned \$4,700 from this program. We hope you will continue to support AAST by re-enrolling in the Cart 2 Class Program with Lowes Foods.