

AAST NEWSLETTER

October 16 - October 20, 2023

a stem school ~ realize the possibilities

UPCOMING EVENTS

PSAT
October 23

Spirit Week
October 25-31

Trunk or Treat
October 26

Leadership Grand
Strand
November 2

School Improvement
Council Meeting
November 9, 5:00pm

Unity and Breast Cancer Awareness Days at AAST



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](#)

The students and faculty at AAST participated in Unity Day on Wednesday by donning orange attire to demonstrate their solidarity against bullying. Their decision to wear orange was a powerful gesture that conveyed their support for creating a safe and inclusive environment in which everyone is treated with respect and kindness. Then, on Friday, both students and faculty came together again to demonstrate their solidarity and raise awareness for breast cancer by wearing pink. The sea of pink clothing created a powerful visual statement that reminds everyone of the importance of breast cancer awareness.

AAST on the Web!
Stay Connected!



Guest Speaker: AAST Alumni, Drake Rhodes



AAST Pre-Med alumni, Drake Rhodes, visited Mrs. Watson's Pharmacology classes and spoke about his current experiences as a retail pharmacy technician, his pre-pharmacy coursework at the College of Charleston, balancing college classes with a job, what he did to prepare for the Pharmacy Tech National Exam and preparing for a career in healthcare.

Pharmacy Technician Day at AAST



Tuesday, October 17th, was Pharmacy Technician Day. Students in Mrs. Watson's Pharmacology for Medical Careers Honors courses celebrated the day with the following activities: Sending thank you cards to local pharmacy technicians (both in the hospital and retail settings), providing career information about pharmacy technicians to AAST scholars on the morning announcements, decorating the bulletin board and classroom, and enjoying refreshments. We thank all of our pharmacy technicians for what they do every day to help keep us, and our medications, safe!

New HOSA Officer Team

AAST's new HOSA officer team has been elected and sworn in. From left to right are Junior Officers (1st row): Olivia Sayers, Elizabeth ("Nikki") Johnson and Hailey Goodman. Senior Officers (2nd row): Harper Morgan, Mikayla Nutting, Aspyn Whittington and Aryana Henry. These ladies have been busy planning several fundraising activities in preparation for our travel to the State Leadership Conference in North Charleston in March 2024.



Biomed Students Practice Electrophoresis



The junior class members of the Biomedical Science major have been busy learning about DNA extraction and identifying the sources of DNA samples. Students ran DNA gel electrophoresis to determine which persons of interest were responsible for the blood left behind at the mock crime scene.

Informatics Students Present to Web and Digital Communications

Mrs. Penn's Informatics seniors presented their work on integrating MySQL and PHP with HTML. Using Notepad, the students built a movie ticketing website which integrates all three languages together. In the future, they hope to collaborate with Web and Digital Communications students on building a well-designed front-end interface.



USC and State Fair Field Trip



On Friday, October 13th, students majoring in Advanced Art, Computer Science, Entertainment Technology, Global Logistics, and Web and Digital Communications explored the University of South Carolina's Columbia campus. Following the campus tour, the students visited the SC State Fair. During their visit, they could admire the artwork their fellow students created on display at the SC State Fair Student Art Show.



AAST Alumni Spotlight: Stephanie Grissett Johnson, Pre-Medicine

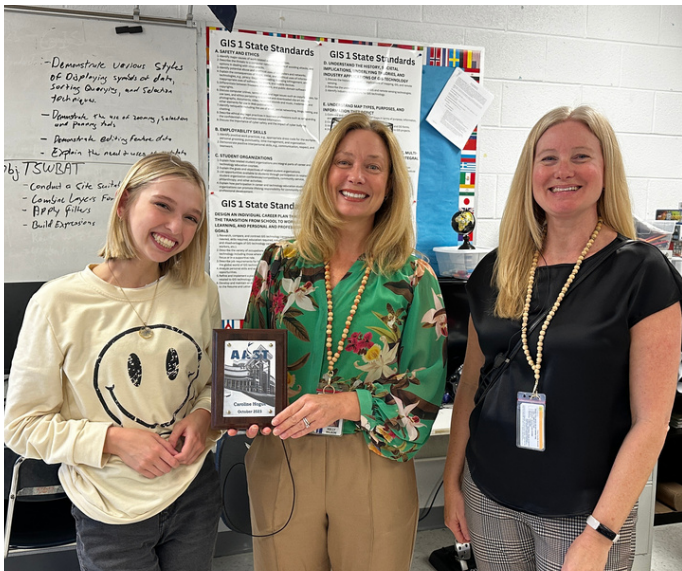
Stephanie Grissett Johnson (AAST Class of '03) is a writer, educator, and mental health professional with years of experience working with children and families. Born in Texas and raised in South Carolina, Stephanie received her Bachelor's of Arts in Journalism and Mass Communication then later moved back to Texas where she earned her teaching certification. While teaching, Stephanie satisfied her writer's itch by penning song lyrics, articles for local publications, and blogging for her alma mater, Lamar University, where she received her M.Ed. in School Counseling. After 5 years of School Counseling, Stephanie expanded her talents by applying for her license to work as a professional counselor. Today, Stephanie enjoys working as a part-time elementary school counselor, full-time LPC-A, author, and public speaker. Stephanie recently visited AAST to speak to our senior Pre-Medicine students.

Flying Kites in Aerospace



The Aerospace Engineering juniors finished building their kites this week. On Monday, students experimented with controlling the kite's angle of attack to maximize lift. Students could then test their kites in outdoor flights. They are hoping to refine their designs and reach new heights in future flights.

AAST October Student of the Month: Caroline Hogue



Caroline Hogue, AAST's October Student of the month, is an exceptional student in the Global Logistics program at AAST. Caroline's commitment to her studies and her active involvement in AAST's community has made a significant impact. Caroline is a member of the Spanish National Honor Society, HOSA, and other clubs at AAST. As a Global Logistics major, Caroline has excelled academically and gone above and beyond in her extracurricular activities. Her contributions to the Advisory Board have provided student-centered insights and guidance. Likewise, Caroline's commitment to fostering a sense of community is evident through her involvement in open houses and her role in planning various school events. Her enthusiasm and dedication have helped create engaging and informative experiences for prospective students that showcase the exciting opportunities available at AAST. Her interests, combined with her exceptional organizational skills and genuine desire to help others, make her an invaluable asset to AAST and an inspiration to her peers.

Guest Speaker: AAST Alumni, Ryan Durkin

Global Logistics students recently hosted guest speaker Ryan Durkin, a 2023 graduate of AAST's Global Logistics Program.

Ryan shared his experiences during his first year at the University of Notre Dame. During his talk, Ryan discussed the transition from high school to college, acknowledging that it can be challenging at first. Ryan is majoring in Strategic Management with aspirations of going into the field of sports management. He is currently interning with the operations department of the Notre Dame football team.



AAST Visits Coastal for Cinderella Production



Students from the AAST Technical Theatre and English classes attended a performance of Rogers and Hammerstein's *Cinderella* at Coastal Carolina University. Theatre students had the opportunity to meet student theatre technicians and learn about the educational opportunities available in the CCU Design Production BFA program. English students analyzed how texts and media allude to themes and archetypes from historical and cultural traditions, such as theatre and fairy tales.

NEED TO KNOW @ AAST

ATTENDANCE RECOVERY

Attendance Recover will take place in the media center. Sessions are weekly Tuesday and Thursday after school. Students are allowed 5 unexcused absences per semester class and only 3 unexcused absences in a quarter class (Gov/Econ). If you have any questions contact Connie Grant in the AAST attendance office. (cgrant@horrycountyschools.net)

Guidance Information

For up to date scholarship information, [click here!](#) You can also find this link on your grade level Google Classroom!

It is time to schedule your student's Senior Individual Graduation Plan (IGP) meeting! During this meeting, we will discuss college applications, post-secondary plans, scholarships, and remaining graduation requirements. The meeting should last no longer than 30 minutes. Please contact your student's school counselor to schedule a meeting. You can also contact Ms. Moore at the front desk to schedule an appointment.



Parents and Students:

Help the yearbook staff!! Upload your own school-appropriate pictures to our yearbook photo pool through Josten's ReplayIt using this QR code.

Upload as many as you want—just make sure they are school appropriate and that they only show AAST students. This code will be open until April 2024. Questions? See Mrs. Rielly in room 602. Thanks!

COVID-19 Information

If your child tests positive for Covid-19, please call the school nurse to inform her of your child's illness. Please take a photo of your positive test result and fill out the Covid home test form and email both to the school nurse at sknight001@horrycountyschools.net

If you have a doctor's excuse, please forward the excuse to cgrant@horrycountyschools.net, with the expected date of return. Please remember that the CDC requires 5 days quarantine from the beginning of symptoms and return to school on the 6th day, or next business day after.

Example: If a student tested positive on Tuesday, the student would return to school on the following Monday. Please call Ms. Susan Knight, AAST school nurse at 843-903-8470 if you have any questions.

NEW @ THE AAST LIBRARY

Highly Suspicious and Unfairly Cute by Talia Hibbert

Bradley Graeme is pretty much perfect. He's a star football player, manages his OCD well (enough), and comes out on top in all his classes . . . except the ones he shares with his ex-best friend, Celine.

Celine Bangura is conspiracy-theory-obsessed. Social media followers eat up her takes on everything from UFOs to holiday overconsumption—yet, she's still not cool enough for the popular kids' table. Which is why Brad abandoned her for the in-crowd years ago. (At least, that's how Celine sees it.)

These days, there's nothing between them other than petty insults and academic rivalry. So when Celine signs up for a survival course in the woods, she's surprised to find Brad right beside her.

Forced to work as a team for the chance to win a grand prize, these two teens must trudge through not just mud and dirt but their messy past. And as this adventure brings them closer together, they begin to remember the good bits of their history. But has too much time passed . . . or just enough to spark a whole new kind of relationship?

