



AAST NEWSLETTER



December 4 - December 8, 2023

a stem school ~ realize the possibilities



UPCOMING EVENTS

Senior Trip Parent Meeting
December 13
5:30pm

December 14
ASVAB

December 15
Teddy Bear Clinic

December 20 to January 1
Holiday Break

January 9
US History EOCT



Spirit week

- Tues Dec 12. Sweater day**
Ugly sweaters are a staple of holiday, so show off your best (or worst) holiday sweater!
- Weds Dec 13. Red vs. Green**
Juniors wear green, and Seniors wear red to spread holiday cheer!
(Teachers can wear either or both)
- Thurs Dec 14. Sock day**
Wear your most festive pair of socks!
- Fri Dec 15. Polar express day**
Get ready to board the Polar Express by dressing up as a character from the classic, or wear your best PJ!
- Mon Dec 18 Winter wonderland**
Celebrate a winter wonderland by dressing all-white, or with outfits inspired by various forms of snow, from snowmen to snowflakes.
- Tues Dec 19. Holiday character day**
Dress like your favorite winter holiday character/figure!



AAST Open House

It was great meeting all the families who visited AAST during Thursday's Open House! Thank you to all who attended and to all of our teachers and student ambassadors who made the night a success! If you know a rising junior interested in joining our Koi Family, please encourage them to see what AAST offers! Our remaining Open House events are January 4th and January 23rd, from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Applications open January 5th!

AAST on the Web!
Stay Connected!



Guest Speaker: Sim Hood, Grand Strand Medical Center



Sim Hood, MSN-Ed, RN, CPN, Pediatric ICU Manager at Grand Strand Medical Center, visited Mrs. Watson's Pharmacology for Medical Careers Honors classes and spoke about the different forms of diabetes, the proper use of insulin and various other diabetes medications. Students practiced mixing, drawing, and injecting "insulins" into fruit. Mrs. Hood is an AAST Advisory Board member, assists with the Teddy Bear Clinic, and is the proud mom of AAST Alum Grace Hains.

Arson Investigation in Forensic Science

In Mr. Davenport's and Mr. Poland's forensic science classes, students became arson investigators this week. They worked in teams to construct houses and develop a narrative around them. With supervision, they then assumed the role of an "arsonist" and deliberately set fire to the structures they built. Throughout this process, they carefully documented the events leading up to, during, and after the burn. The purpose of this exercise was to enable them to analyze the video footage and their notes later, wearing their investigator hat, to determine the exact location of the fire's origin and the substance used to accelerate it.



Guest Speaker: Maddie Kauffman, CCU's Conway Medical Center College of Health & Human Performance



Maddie Kauffman, a representative from the CCU's Conway Medical Center College of Health and Human Performance, visited students in the Pre-Medicine major to tell them about the educational and career pathways that are available to them as Health Science majors at CCU. Chants up!



You're invited to learn more about our exciting STEM career pathways!
Open House Dates:

Thursday, December 7, 2023 6:00pm to 7:00pm
Thursday, January 4, 2024 6:00pm to 7:00pm
Tuesday, January 23, 2024 6:00pm to 7:00pm

Applications will open on January 5th, 2024. You may apply on the Horry County Schools or AAST website. Application deadline is February 2nd, 2024.

For more information about what we offer at AAST visit our school webpage, social media pages (@hcsaast) and explore the following links!

Arts and

Entertainment

- Advanced Art
- Entertainment Technology

Health Science

- Biomedical Science
- Pre-Medicine
- Public Health

Engineering

- Aerospace Engineering
- Clean Energy with Environmental Engineering
- Innovations in STEM with Core Engineering

Information Technology

- Computer Science
- Global Logistics and Supply Chain Management
- Informatics
- Networking with Cybersecurity
- Web and Digital Communications

AAST Informational Brochure

Want to Join Our Koi Family?

Major Spotlight

Environmental Engineering with Clean Energy

Environmental Engineering with Clean Energy Technology is a diverse and exciting major at AAST. Students who love **hands-on projects**, being **outside**, and have a desire to **preserve our planet's resources** for future generations will love this major. No prior knowledge is necessary, just a can-do attitude! Students work in teams and use the engineering design process to create a prototype with the purpose of solving a **real-world problem**. Example projects include building a **solar panel** to power a device in a developing country where people may not be connected to a power grid, designing more efficient **wind turbine blades**, and creating a **pyrolysis stove** to cook food with waste biomass while reducing emissions. Students conduct an energy audit of their home to discover how their family can reduce energy use and save money on their electricity bills. The projects in this major are ever-changing and adapt to the interests of students. Last year, students were interested in gardening and won grants to design, build, and install both a **pollinator garden** and a **vegetable garden** on campus. We have many **guest speakers** and take **field trips** to explore the variety of careers relating to solving environmental problems and preserving natural resources. We are a close-knit group and develop life-long friendships while taking the four courses in the major.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Green Careers are projected to grow in the future. Environmentally focused occupations range from environmental engineers (Median wage \$96,820/yr) and environmental scientists (\$76,530) that require a bachelor's degree to wind turbine service technicians (\$56,260) and solar photovoltaic installers (\$47,670) that do not require advanced degrees. Additional green careers include occupations relating to energy efficiency, agriculture/forestry, environmental protection, construction, manufacturing, recycling and waste reduction, transportation, governmental and regulatory administration as well as renewable energy generation. Regardless of their career path, students in the Clean Energy major gain valuable 21st century skills such as critical thinking, problem solving, communication, collaboration, and perseverance that will prepare them for a successful future in any field.



Clean Energy students visiting the CCU Sustainability Fair

For more information and pictures, check out our Instagram [@enviro_stem](#), and contact the instructor, Annie Johnson, at ajohnson013@horrycountyschools.net with any questions.

Clean Energy Students Building Solar Panels



Pictured above: Clean Energy students practicing their soldering skills to assemble their solar panels.



NEED TO KNOW @ AAST

12 Days of Christmas



AAST teachers and staff have been celebrating the holiday with a different sweet treat or gift every day of the week! Thank you for all that you do!



Safety Information



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](#)

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 Junior 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.

NEW @ THE AAST LIBRARY

I Loved You In Another Life by David Arnold

Evan Taft has plans. Take a gap year in Alaska, make sure his little brother and single mother are taken care of, and continue therapy to process his father's departure. But after his mom's unexpected diagnosis, as Evan's plans begin to fade, he hears something: a song no one else can hear, the voice of a mysterious singer . . .

Shosh Bell has dreams. A high school theater legend, she's headed to performing arts college in LA, a star on the rise. But when a drunk driver takes her sister's life, that star fades to black. All that remains is a void—and a soft voice singing in her ear . . .

Over it all, transcending time and space, a celestial bird brings strangers together: from an escaped murderer in 19th century Paris, to a Norwegian kosmonaut in low-earth orbit, something is happening that began long ago, and will long outlast Evan and Shosh. With lyrical prose and original songs (written and recorded by the author), I LOVED YOU IN ANOTHER LIFE explores the history of love, and how some souls are meant for each other—yesterday, today, forever.

