

# AAST NEWSLETTER

[AAST.HORRYCOUNTYSCHOOLS.NET](http://AAST.HORRYCOUNTYSCHOOLS.NET)

## Clean Energy Pyrolysis and Solar Panels

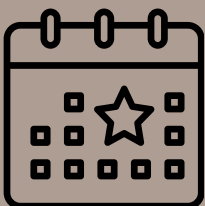
Ms. Johnson's Clean Energy seniors are testing their pyrolysis stoves! The goal of this project is to generate heat in a low oxygen environment, creating biochar that will be used later as a soil amendment. The production of biochar as opposed to ashes means that the carbon remains in the biomass and is not converted to carbon dioxide = clean energy!



Environmental engineering juniors finished building their solar panels this week and did their final tests outside in the sunshine. Students used a compass, protractor and multimeter to find the solar elevation and azimuth angles that produced the most voltage. They graphed their results to analyze the role angles play in solar panel efficiency.



### Upcoming Events



USH & BIO ECOT  
JAN 14

EXAMS JAN 16 & 17

EARLY RELEASE  
JAN 17, 12:10PM

SCHOOLS CLOSED  
JAN 20-21

SECOND SEMESTER  
START  
JAN 22

SENIOR TRIP  
JAN 29 - FEB 2



## OPEN HOUSE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 2025 | 6:00PM TO 7:00PM  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2025 | 6:00PM TO 7:00PM

Applications will open on January 22, 2025. You may apply on the Horry County Schools or AAST website. Application deadline is February 14, 2025.

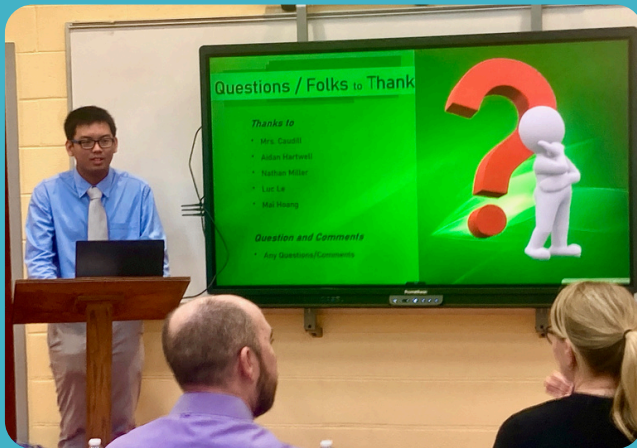


## Aerospace Designing Remotely Operated Vehicles



Seniors in Aerospace Engineering are working on designing and building an underwater Remotely Operated Vehicle, or ROV. This is to simulate the forces that would be applied to an object in outer space, as well as having to control the device. This week, students have worked on dimensioning the PVC and choosing the correct connection pieces, soldering the circuit boards, connecting the camera to maneuver the device, and wiring the power source! We are ready to get the propellers hooked up next week!

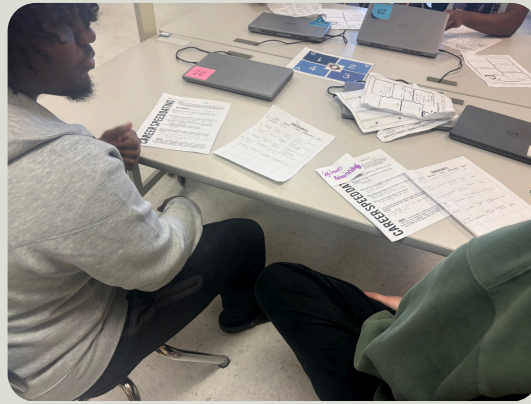
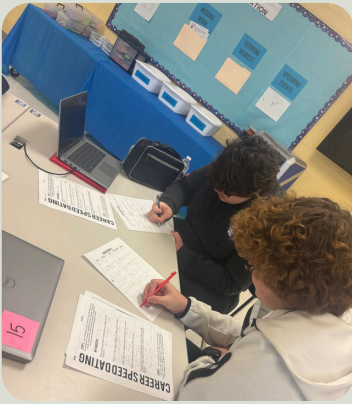
## Computer Science Senior Masteries



Senior Mastery season kicked off with an awesome start in Computer Science. Thank you to all of the amazing panelists and community members who came out to support our CompSci Koi. Congratulations, also, to those students for working so hard and presenting your research in such an engaging and interesting way!



## Computer Science Career "Speed Dating"



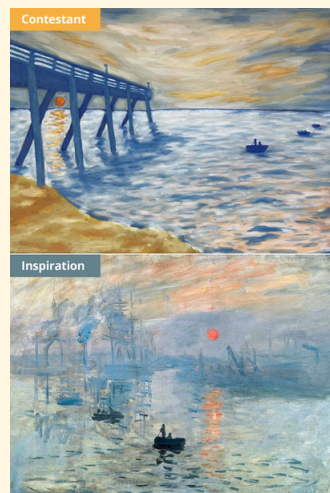
Computer Science students are taking the role of a randomly assigned IT Career and participating in "Speed Dating" to learn about other IT career opportunities — learning about skills needed, required education, and work environment are some of the concepts they are discussing.

## Advanced Art News

We had a wonderful opportunity this week with our alumni visiting to review and critique the Mid-Point Senior Mastery Presentations. Their insights were invaluable in evaluating our students on their presentation skills and research connections based on the four essential components of a Senior Exhibition of Mastery: Process, Product, Presentation, and Research.



Additionally, our Advanced Art Major students are showcasing their creativity by competing in the Myrtle Beach International Airport Art Competition. The theme is "Travel through art history" where students are tasked with recreating a famous painting from anywhere in the world and adding their personal touches to make it unique.



We invite you to cast your vote for our talented art students participating in the Myrtle Beach International Airport Student Art Contest.

**VOTE HERE**



## Major Spotlight

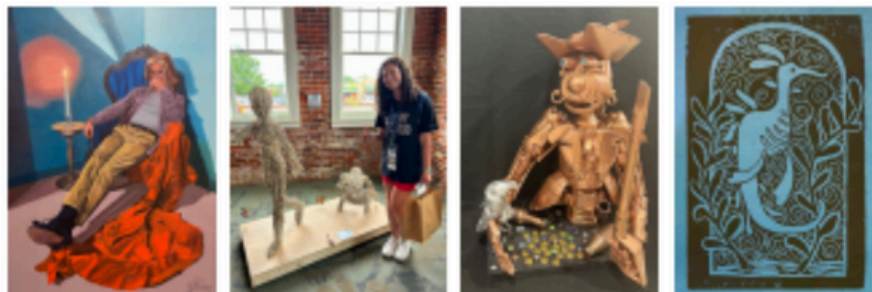
# Advanced Art

The **Advanced Art Major** is a two year program designed for juniors and seniors interested in studying art at an advanced level. While in this program, students will produce art in one of the largest and best art studios in the state. They will be introduced to varying artistic styles as well as relevant contemporary and historical artists. Students will learn to interpret, analyze, evaluate, and discuss their own work. They will develop the ability to adapt and apply skills while recognizing the important influence of the visual arts in our daily lives.

This major program provides students with the skills needed to work as art professionals or pursue a college degree in the visual arts. The program is designed to promote in students the skills necessary for producing visual art pieces that are creative, well crafted, convey content and meaning through compositional choices, and effectively use the elements and principles of art. Students will engage in all stages of the artistic process while conducting a sustained investigation into the topics, mediums, and techniques that interest them. They will create a professional-quality digital portfolio of their artwork and develop soft skills such as communication, organization, and presentation of self.



Over the course of their junior and senior year, students in the Advanced Art Major will discover and develop their own artistic strengths, which will allow them to create and develop their Senior Exhibition of Mastery - a collection of 24 original works of art, accompanied by relevant research and artist's statements, formally presented as the capstone of their senior year.



Students in this program of study are afforded many unique opportunities, including entry into local and regional art competitions, tours of the arts facilities of several colleges and universities, National Art Honor Society membership (for qualifying students), potential mentorships by professional artists and business professionals, and field experiences relating to the creation and exhibition of the visual arts.

### Career Pathways

Median Salary

Art Director	\$97,270
Craft Artist	\$35,180
Designer	\$63,750
Fashion Designer	\$75,810
Fine Artist (Painter, Sculptor, Illustrator)	\$52,340



## CyberPatriot Team Advances to State Semi-Final Round

This year there were two teams that competed in the CyberPatriot competition which had a total number of 59 teams competing from the State of South Carolina. One team finished 6th in the State overall and 4th in the Platinum Tier after 3 qualifying rounds. A second team finished 9th in the State overall and 4th in the Gold Tier after 3 qualifying rounds. The Gold Tier Team finished high enough in the standings to advance to the State Semi-Final Round.



## Thank You for Keeping Us Safe!



AAST celebrated National School Resource and Security Officer Appreciation Day! Thanks for all that our security officers do to keep our students, staff, and community safe!

### New HCS Electronic Device Policy

Please review the AAST Student Handbook linked below:  
[AAST Student Handbook](#)

### SAFETY FIRST

Click the links below to learn more about AAST's plans to keep our kids safe!  
[Standard Response Protocol for Parents \(English\)](#)  
[Standard Response Protocol for Parents \(Spanish\)](#)  
[School Safety Poster](#)

### Parents of Seniors - Scholarships

Please make sure your students are checking the scholarship information posted in the Senior Schoology page and on the website. They should also check their base school for scholarships.

### GUIDANCE INFO

**Attention:**  
Junior IGP meetings will start after winter break.

### ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES ARE PROHIBITED FROM 8:10 TO 3:15.

DEVICES MUST BE TURNED OFF AND IN BOOKBAGS THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE SCHOOL DAY.



PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES SUCH AS CELL PHONES, EARBUDS, AND SMART WATCHES ARE NOT PERMITTED DURING THE SCHOOL DAY.

#### DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

- 1ST VIOLATION: WARNING
- 2ND VIOLATION: 1 DAY ISS
- 3RD VIOLATION: 2 DAYS ISS
- 4TH VIOLATION: 1 DAY OSS
- 5TH VIOLATION: 3 DAYS OSS
- 6TH VIOLATION: 5 DAYS OSS
- 7TH VIOLATION: EVIDENTIARY HEARING

ALL VIOLATIONS WILL RESULT IN CONFISCATION OF THE DEVICE.  
A PARENT IS REQUIRED TO PICK UP THE DEVICE BEFORE OR AFTER SCHOOL.



### Final Exam Schedule

#### January 16, 2025

- 1st Block - 8:15 to 9:00 AM
- 2nd Block Exam - 9:05 - 11:00 AM
- Advisory - No change
- 3rd Block Exam - 11:55 to 1:50 PM
- 4th Block - 1:55 to 2:40 PM

#### January 17, 2025

- 1st Block Exam - 8:15 to 10:10 AM
- 4th Block Exam - 10:15 to 12:10 PM

**\*Jan. 17th:** Grab & Go Lunch on the way to 4th block (stations in the 400 hallway, rotunda, and 500/600 hallway). *All bus riders will be dismissed at 12:10 PM. We will make an announcement to dismiss car drivers and car riders. The times will be dependent upon the departure of our buses.*



**Congratulations to  
our December  
Advisory Door  
Challenge winners!**

**11th Grade Winner - Mr. Hernandez  
12th Grade Winner - Tie: Mr. Cyganiewicz and Ms. Caudill  
Top Overall - Tie: Ms. Hewitt and Ms. Watson  
Honorable Mention - Mr. Vanasse and Ms. Lewis**

