

# AAST NEWSLETTER

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

## AAST Seniors in Orlando!



**Jan. 27 - Jan. 31, 2025**

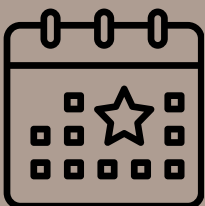


# DISNEY



117 AAST seniors (and 8 brave chaperones) will return on Sunday from Walt Disney World and Universal Studios in Orlando from their senior trip! The students and their chaperones had a wonderful and safe trip!

### Upcoming Events



**SENIOR TRIP**  
JAN 29 - FEB 2

**AAST BLOOD DRIVE - FEB 7**

**AAST OPEN HOUSE**  
FEB 11 6-7PM

**SPRING SPIRIT WEEK**  
FEB 10 - 14

**SCHOOLS CLOSED**  
FEB 17 - 18

**SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT**  
**COUNCIL - FEB 20 @ 5:00 PM**

**ACT EXAM**  
FEB 27



**AAST**  
a stem school ~ realize the possibilities

### OPEN HOUSE

**Tuesday, February 11**

**6:00 - 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.



# New HCS and AAST Cell Phone Policy



On January 22, the Horry County Schools Personal Electronic Device Policy went into effect. Please find the policy linked [here](#). As a result, our school's Personal Electronic Device Policy will be changed as well.

As of January 22, students are required to power off and put away cell phones and electronic devices as they enter the school building. Students are not able to utilize cell phones or personal electronic devices while they are in the building, or from 8:10 through 3:15 p.m. **Students are not able to use cell phones or personal electronic devices during lunches, which is a change from our previous policy.**

The consequences for violating the AAST personal electronic device policy have been changed to align with the HCS Personal Electronic Device Policy. Consequences for violating the personal electronic device policy have been updated in the AAST Student Handbook effective January 22, 2025. Please see the updated consequences below. All violations of this policy will result in confiscation of the device. Cell phones or personal electronic devices that are confiscated will be stored in a secure location until the parent/guardian is able to retrieve it. A parent/guardian must pick up the cell phone or personal electronic device from an AAST administrator.

Disciplinary consequences:

- **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

If a student refuses to give up their cell phone or electronic device, the student will receive a referral for Refusal to Obey and the following consequences will apply:

- **1st violation:** 1 day OSS
- **2nd violation:** 1- 3 days OSS
- **3rd violation:** 3 - 5 days OSS
- **4th violation:** Evidentiary hearing

## Happy Lunar New Year!

Chúc mừng năm mới! The Multicultural Planning Committee handed out red envelopes in the morning on Wednesday. Traditionally, a red envelope is given containing money from older people to younger people. Parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles would give them to all of the children of the family. Because the envelope is not typically shared among peers and it is bad form to give an empty envelope, they have created this way of giving this iconic symbol to their classmates as an educational tool while still respecting the traditions of their culture.





## AAST Student of the Month: Miriam Zaki



We are thrilled to honor Miriam Zaki as our January Student of the Month. As the Student Body President, Miriam exemplifies leadership, responsibility, and dedication to her school community. She recently spearheaded the movement to get a winter formal back to AAST. She is incredibly active in the classroom, consistently engaging in discussions and inspiring her peers to strive for excellence. Miriam's involvement extends beyond academics, as she is a member of several honor societies, demonstrating her commitment to both intellectual growth and community service. What truly sets her apart, however, is her kindness and authenticity. She approaches every interaction with a smile and has a unique ability to make everyone feel valued and included. Whether it's a classmate, teacher, or new student, Miriam is a friend to all, making her an invaluable member of our school. Her blend of leadership, hard work, and genuine warmth makes Miriam Zaki a truly deserving Student of the Month. Congratulations, Miriam! We are proud to have you as a role model for our school community.

## MPC at the MLK Parade

The Multicultural Planning Committee participated in the Myrtle Beach Martin Luther King Jr Parade.



## AAST Open House



On Thursday, AAST hosted a successful Open House. It was very exciting to meet all the potential new koi. See you for our last Open House on February 11th!

**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 koi 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.**