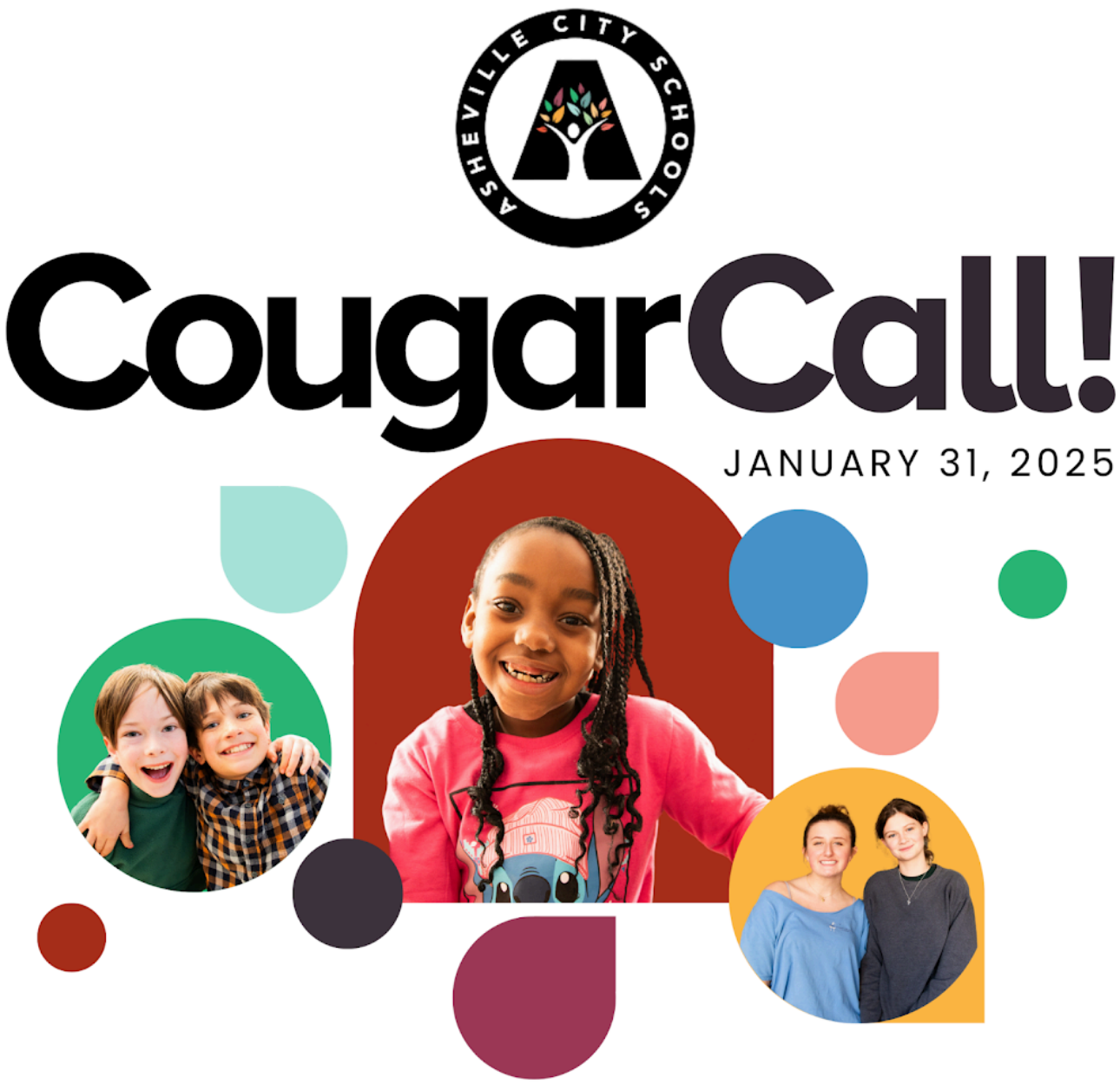
ASHEVILLE CITY SCHOOLS
Learn. Discover. Thrive.

Marilee Woodard <marilee.woodard@acsgmail.net>

COUGAR CALL! Friday, January 31st

Marilee Woodard <marilee.woodard@acsgmail.net> Fri, Jan 31, 2025 at 5:25 PM
To: ACS ALL-STAFF <acsall-staff@acsgmail.net>



Happy Friday, Cougars! There are so many wonderful things happening in Asheville City Schools. From staff and educators engaging students in challenging and relevant material, to our students demonstrating leadership through compassion and creativity, we're proud of our community's commitment to the promise and value of public education. We can't wait to share with you what has been happening in our schools, but before we dive in, let's hear a message from Superintendent, Dr. Maggie Fehrman!



Click here or above to hear from Superintendent, Dr. Maggie Fehrman.



Strategic Planning Community Launch

FEBRUARY 1, ASHEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

Become a part of something bigger! Asheville City Schools is embarking on a journey to create a shared vision for our community: a strategic plan rooted in the strengths and passions of our students and the resources around us.

Join us tomorrow for Asheville City Schools Strategic Planning Community Launch. On this day, the first day of Black Heritage month, we will be screening Black in Asheville, a documentary that brings together Asheville residents and historians to recount Asheville's Black history. This film, directed by Todd Gragg, takes us back to the Antebellum Period and demonstrates in accurate fashion what life was like for slaves in Asheville during the Civil War and through their transition to the Postbellum Period of Reconstruction, Jim Crow, and Black Code. The film will be followed by a Listening Session and Discussion. This event will take place in Asheville High's Little Theater near the back of campus. Attendees are encouraged to park in the upper student parking lot.

This is our opportunity to create something different. Let's come together to invest in the students, educators, and future of Asheville City Schools. Click the link below to RSVP. If you'd like to learn more about our Strategic Plan, please visit our website.

Asheville City Schools 2025 Strategic Plan Community Launch: February 1st



Board of Education Work Session

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3

The ACS Board of Education will hold a Work Session this coming Monday, February 3rd, at 5:00PM. Work, Regular, and Open Session Board Meetings will have a Spanish Speaking Interpreter. The following topics are a summary of what our board plans to discuss and deliberate. For an all-inclusive list of agenda topics, please click the "view the agenda" button below. To view the recording of the meeting, click the "watch the livestream" button below.

POSSIBLE ACTION/CONSENT ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING:

- Board Response to Consolidation Feasibility Study
- Board Norms
- Committee Assignments
- Part II of Required Board Member Training
- CPC- *Free Lunches in ACS*
- 2025-2026 Board Meeting Calendar
- Budget Amendment and Expenditure Report
- Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Outlook
- Policies Second Read

INFORMATION ITEMS:

- Contracts/MOUS
- Policies First Read

CLOSED SESSION:

The Board of Education will conclude Monday's meeting with a closed session to prevent the disclosure of privileged and confidential personnel information, and to discuss matters protected by the attorney-client privilege.









New Leadership at William Randolph Campus

Asheville City Schools is pleased to announce the appointment of Carrie Buchanan as the new Executive Director of Learning Pathways at the William Randolph Campus replacing Dr. Darwin Carter. Carrie has over 26 years of experience in education, and proven track record of success in improving student achievement, instructional leadership, teacher retention, community building, and student-focused initiatives. Previously, Buchanan served as the principal at Hall Fletcher Elementary School.

"We are excited to welcome Carrie Buchanan to the William Randolph Campus," said Dr. Maggie Fehrman, Superintendent. "Her deep relationships in our community along with her proven experience as a building leader, passion for education, and commitment to student success make her the ideal candidate to lead the campus into its next chapter."



School Counselor Appreciation Week

Join us in celebrating School Counselor Appreciation Week beginning Monday, February 3rd! Our school counselors play a vital role in supporting our students' academic, social, and emotional well-being. The positive impact they make day-to-day in our schools is truly invaluable. In recognition of the amazing work they do, be sure to thank your school's counselor next week. Their tireless efforts, compassion, and commitment to nurturing the potential in every student does not go unnoticed. We are incredibly fortunate to have such a wonderful team of School Counselors within Asheville City Schools. Thank you for making a lasting difference in the lives of our students.



Employee Spotlight : Shauntey Jives

We have so many amazing staff and educators serving in Asheville City Schools, we want to take a moment to highlight someone who has made a lasting impact in our community, Shauntey Jives! An Asheville High alumna, Shauntey's dedication to our education community continues long after graduation. As the School Social Worker for both Hall Fletcher and Lucy S. Herring Elementary, she excels at building strong relationships, creating a sense of belonging, and making every second count.

"Ms. Shauntey's dedication goes far beyond the role she has been assigned. She guides students and families through problem-solving and ensures every child feels seen, supported, and valued. We love her at Hall Fletcher Elementary!"

-Principal Carrie Buchanan

If you would like to nominate a fellow Cougar Crew Member who goes above and beyond, please click here!



Marvelous Math Club National Recognition

The Marvelous Math Club (MMC), a powerful partnership between the Housing Authority of the City of Asheville (HACA), UNC Asheville, and Asheville City Schools is gaining national recognition for its innovative approach to math education. Highlighted by the Public and Affordable Housing Research Corporation, MMC is one of many programs across the country making a difference in advancing racial equity. Since 2016, this collaboration at Pisgah View Apartments has blossomed from a small homework support program into a thriving community of "Math Leaders" and "Math Champions." Through asset-based language and engaging activities, MMC fosters confidence, problem-solving skills, and a love for math, empowering students to discover the joy and power of mathematics. To read more about this study and Marvelous Math Club, please refer to page 43 of the report found here.



Educators Exceeding Growth!

Last week, our Curriculum and Instruction Team recognized teachers whose students had excelled in academic growth the previous year. The team went to each of our schools and dropped off certificates and a small gift to celebrate their teaching achievements. We are so proud these educators and their students' academic growth!

CONGRATULATIONS EDUCATORS!

Brian Schultz, *Asheville High School*
Heidi Freeman, *Asheville High School*
Tessa Talarico, *Asheville High School*
Elzy Lindsey, *Asheville High School*
Ariel Robinson, *SILSA*
Jessica Norris, *Asheville Middle School*
Victoria Allen, *Asheville Middle School*
Katherine Gooding, *Asheville Middle School*
Chelsea Fischer, *Asheville Middle School*
Paula Martinez, *Ira B. Jones Elementary*
Patti Evans, *Isaac Dickson Elementary*
Mitzi Levering, *Lucy S. Herring Elementary*
Lacovia Jackson, *Lucy S. Herring Elementary*



Thank you, Leading with Literature!

Earlier this month, Asheville City Schools received a generous donation of new and gently used books from Leading with Literature, a student-led initiative distributing books to areas impacted by natural disasters. This incredible donation includes over 1,300 books that ACS students can take home to keep and range from K-8th grade reading levels. The Leading with Literature initiative was started by Sam Evans, a 16-year-old Florida high school student who possesses a love for reading and the network has since expanded to include high school volunteers across more than 10 states as well as four time zones.

“The hurricanes devastated many schools and libraries, and our hope is that restoring books to these damaged areas will help the children cope with what’s happened and also inspire them to make positive changes as leaders in their own communities,” said Sam.

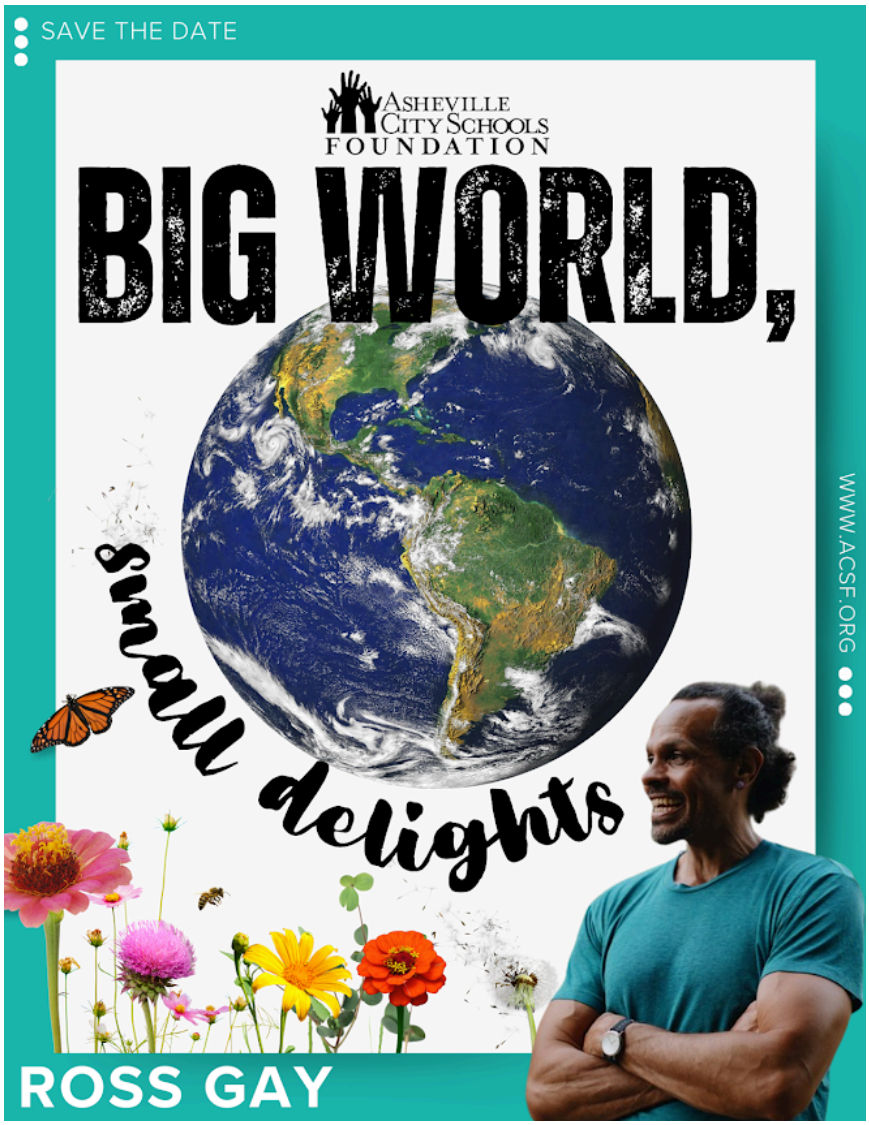
We are incredibly grateful for this book donation that is sure to spark the imagination and curiosity of students in Asheville City Schools for years to come.

ASHEVILLE CITY SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

ANNUAL EVENT FEATURING ROSS GAY
FEBRUARY 27

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the Asheville City Schools Foundation's annual event featuring Ross Gay! This event will coincide with a student writing and art contest that is sure to inspire.

Tickets are on sale now! Click the link below to get yours today!



Click here to get your tickets!

Thanks for reading, Cougars! We hope you have a wonderful weekend!





2 attachments



image
208K


Our Promise
YOU BELONG HERE
CHALLENGING AND RELEVANT
EVERY SECOND COUNTS

image
130K