ASHEVILLE CITY SCHOOLS
Learn. Discover. Thrive.

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COUGAR CALL! Friday, November 15

Marilee Woodard <marilee.woodard@acsgmail.net> Fri, Nov 15, 2024 at 6:34 PM
To: ACS ALL-STAFF <acsall-staff@acsgmail.net>



Happy Friday Cougar Crew! There are incredible things happening in Asheville City Schools. From talented educators working together to support our broader community, to student successes and educational achievements, YOU BELONG in Asheville City Schools. Below are just a few of the spectacular things happening in our schools. **GO COUGARS!**



Open Enrollment for 2025-2026 School Year!

It’s that time of year! We are so excited for our Elementary Magnet Open Enrollment Events taking place this month and next. Students and families can attend our school open houses to learn about all ACS has to offer for Kindergarten - 12th grade. Asheville City Schools open enrollment dates are Monday, December 2nd to Friday, February 28th. Please help spread the word that open enrollment starts early this year. We can't wait to welcome our new Cougar Class!

Asheville City Schools Enrollment



Cougar Academy for Leadership and Learning

Dr. Fehrman is thrilled to launch the Cougar Academy for Leadership and Learning (CALL). CALL is a leadership development academy open to each and every staff member in ACS. No matter your role in ACS, this is an opportunity to invest in your growth as a leader. If you are interested in building your leadership skills and gaining a deeper understanding of district-level operations, don't wait to apply!

The inaugural cohort will be capped at 15 learners. We will explore critical topics such as leadership fundamentals, district and school finance, human resources, equity initiatives, community partnerships, best practices in teaching and learning, and operational excellence.

Don't miss this chance to accelerate your career growth! **Apply Now** to secure your spot in this transformative program. Applications are due by Friday, December 6th.



National School Psychologist Week

This week is National School Psychologist Week so we want to take a moment to recognize and thank our amazing school psychologists who work tirelessly to support the mental health and academic success of our students. Our school psychologists serve as an extra layer of support, bringing their invaluable expertise, and creating a safety net for students to ensure they feel safe, supported and understood. From individual counseling to crisis intervention, they are true heroes in so many of our students' lives.

THANK YOU Jamie Justice, Kelly Weller, Jeff Kilpatrick and Dr. Candrice Thul!!!!!



Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day

On Thursday, November 14th, Lucy S. Herring hosted a ‘Ruby Bridges: Walk to School Day’ that is a national day of commemoration to Ruby Bridges, the first African-American child to attend an all-white elementary school in the south. In partnership with Safe Routes for School, Land of Sky, and several ACS staff and volunteers, this day was filled with dialogue centered around unity, cultivating a sense of belonging, and anti-bullying. Students learned valuable skills they can use in their own lives and at school to advocate for anti-discrimination. Ms. Casey Jones Jeter ended the day with an incredible performance as Ruby Bridges, telling her courageous story. Thank you, Principal Jamerson and everyone who worked hard to make this day possible. As a cougar crew, let’s remind ourselves of the power of unity and continue to create a strong sense of belonging for everyone.



Asheville City Schools Board of Education

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH MEETING

Asheville City Schools Board of Education held a regular meeting on Tuesday, November 12th. The following topics are what our school board discussed during this meeting.

POSSIBLE ACTION/CONSENT ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING:

Student Releases to Buncombe County 2024-2025 - *Tanya Presha, Director of Enrollment,*

Student Records, and Alumni Relations

The naming of facilities at 90 Montford Ave. - *Dr. Darwin Carter, Innovative Program Director*

Personelle Report - November

Contracts/MOUs - *Dr. Dechant, Chief of Staff*

Helene Bonuses

INFORMATION ITEMS:

Wellness Policy and Student Mental Health Plan

McKinney Vento Report 2024

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Good News Presentation - Dr. Dechant, Chief of Staff

Claxton Elementary Presentation - *Sarah Wright, former Claxton Principal, with 5th grade student, Morgan Cunningham*

Click here to review the complete agenda







Caverns of Gold Compilation Benefit Album

Our staff give back! Asheville Middle School teacher, Joe Hooten, has been a leading organizer for ‘Caverns of Gold’, a compilation album featuring over 250 bands and musical artists to raise money for Hurricane Relief in Western North Carolina. 100% of the proceeds from the sale of this album will benefit Beloved Asheville, a local nonprofit dedicated to providing relief and long term support for the community. **The album has raised over $15,000 so far** and artists range from local musicians to world-recognized bands like R.E.M!

In the aftermath of the Hurricane, Mr. Hooten spent his time volunteering with Beloved Asheville, delivering essential supplies to ACS students and families who had limited transportation. “Music has a unique ability to heal and connect people, and we hope this album can provide some comfort and support to those impacted by the hurricane,” said Mr. Hooten, in an interview with WNCW radio. Thank you, Mr. Hooten for tapping into the vast musical talent that exists in Asheville and beyond and for leveraging your passion for music to give back. You can purchase the album for only $10.00 by clicking the link below!

Caverns of Gold Benefit Compilation Album



‘Sock it to Me Santa’ Band 5K Fundraiser

Lace up your running shoes and support Asheville City Schools Band Program! Every step you take brings us closer to providing our middle and high school students with incredible musical opportunities, like masterclasses and private lessons. This annual ‘Sock it to me Santa’ 5K Fundraiser will take place December 14th at 9:00AM at Asheville Middle School and the venture through downtown Asheville. Get into the holiday spirit while supporting our students’ musical ambitions! You can register for this fun-filled event by clicking the link below!

Sock it to Me Santa Band Fundraiser Registration



River Arts District Ceramic Fundraiser

Asheville High School Ceramic Teacher, Mindy McCormick has organized a Cougar Crew bird-making fundraiser to benefit artists in the River Arts District who have been impacted by Hurricane Helene. Staff and students had a great time after school on Wednesday, November 13th molding and shaping the hollow birds to be glazed and decorated. Our staff's creativity soared, with birds sporting chicken-like features and top hats! The next ceramic bird-making session will take place from 4:00-5:00PM on Wednesday, November 20th in the ceramic room at Asheville High. If you'd like to attend to glaze and decorate, please RSVP to mindy.mccormick@acsgmail.net .Thank you, Mindy, for organizing and leading this therapeutic arts experience that supports our local community!



AHS Cross Country Wins State Championship!

Asheville High School Cross Country students, Sofi Alexander and Michael Haskin won the North Carolina High School Athletic Association's Cross Country State Championship on Saturday, November 2nd! Sofi completed the 5,000 meter run in just 18 minutes and 1 second and Michael completed in 15 minutes and 21 seconds, an extraordinary feat for running just over 3 miles in distance!

Both of these ACS athletes ran the fastest times of the day, showcasing their exceptional talent and remarkable dedication. Congratulations, Sofi Alexander and Michael Haskin on this well deserved victory that will be remembered for years to come. We are so proud of these student athletes!

If you would like to lift up the awesome things happening at your school or in your classroom, please email marilee.woodard@acsgmail.net.

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


Our Promise
YOU BELONG HERE
CHALLENGING AND RELEVANT
EVERY SECOND COUNTS