

# AAST NEWSLETTER

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

## Sidewalk Chalk Day



**Apr. 14 - Apr. 18, 2025**

On Thursday, Advanced Art held their annual Sidewalk Chalk Day! Students worked hard as a team to make their amazing creations. Winners will be announced after spring break!



### Upcoming Events



**SPRING BREAK  
SCHOOLS CLOSED  
APRIL 18 TO APRIL 27**

**PALMETTO'S FINEST  
ANNOUNCEMENT  
APRIL 30**

**AAST SPRING GALA  
MAY 2**

**SENIOR EXAMS  
MAY 19, 20**

**NEW JUNIOR ORIENTATION  
MAY 20**

**SENIOR DAY  
MAY 22**

**SENIOR AWARDS  
MAY 22**

**JUNIOR AWARDS  
MAY 23**

**AAST SENIOR CEREMONY  
MAY 27**

**US HISTORY EOCT  
JUNE 3**

**JUNIOR EXAMS  
JUNE 5, 6**



# Teddy Bear Clinic

On Thursday, kindergartners from Waccamaw Elementary visited AAST for the spring Teddy Bear Clinic! The Pre-Medicine major taught the kindergartners how to treat their teddy bears with kindness and maintain the best health and safety practices. Thank you to those who helped make this wonderful event possible!



## Earth Day at the Bay



Science National Honor Society had a blast tie dyeing shirts at the Earth Day at the Bay Celebration! Tashawna Campbell, Caleb Benton, and Kail Davis also won 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in the poster contest. Get outside and celebrate our planet this Earth Day (4/22) and Every Day! It's the only one we've got.

**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](#)



# HCS Tech Fair



## AAST Student of the Month: Maggie McLeod



We are proud to recognize Maggie McLeod as our Student of the Month for April. Over the past two years, Maggie has exemplified what it means to be a leader both in and out of the classroom. Her dedication to excellence, service, and school spirit makes her an invaluable member of the AAST community.

Maggie has been a constant and enthusiastic representative of AAST, serving on every student panel and playing a vital role in our recruitment efforts. She has been the face and voice of the Entertainment Technology program, advocating for its growth and success while also acting as a true ambassador for the school.

As a mentor to new juniors in the ET major, Maggie has helped guide and support her peers with compassion and wisdom. Her leadership will continue as she prepares to speak to the upcoming junior class at orientation on May 20th—an opportunity she embraces with her trademark enthusiasm and grace.

Maggie's kindness is matched only by her willingness to give back. Whether it's assisting her classmates, volunteering at school events, or recently cohosting the Beta Club Talent Show, Maggie is always ready to step up and support her school community.

She truly embodies #KoiPride in everything she does. Congratulations, Maggie, and thank you for being a shining example of what it means to be part of the AAST family.



The 16<sup>th</sup> annual HCS Tech Fair was held on Wednesday of this week, and AAST was well represented. Winners will be announced after spring break!

## National Technical Honor Society Donations for the NMB Animal Shelter



National Technical Honor Society recently completed a collection of items to help support the North Myrtle Beach Animal Shelter. Students' efforts yielded a total of 78 items that were donated to support the shelter.



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY**  
OF NORTH MYRTLE BEACH  
A WARM HEART FOR A LOVING HOME!



## STEM Day with the MB Pelicans



To shine a light on STEM students, AAST partnered with the SC Department of Employment and Workforce and Myrtle Beach Pelicans to hold a STEM Day for grades K-12 during the game. Students set up interactive STEM projects in the stadium concourse.

## AAST Students Taking Part in CCU Research



Clean Energy and Aerospace Engineering students participated in a CCU Burroughs and Chapin Center for Marine and Wetland Studies Smart Reef Cruise near the Ron McManus and Jim Caudle Reefs off the coast of North Myrtle Beach. The CCU students' goal for this semester is to do a complete sonar habitat map to compare to the previous geophysical survey conducted 20 years ago. This essential/critical fish habitat moves over time, and the new data will help calculate a rate of change. In addition, a remotely operated vehicle (ROV) will be used to gather photomosaics to create a 3D simulation of the reef to track successful growth of encrusting communities. What an amazing learning opportunity for our students to be a part of!















**DO YOU LOVE TO READ? JOIN THE 25-26 HCS BATTLE OF THE BOOKS!**



**JOIN TODAY WITH YOUR SCHOOL MEDIA SPECIALIST!**



## Purple Up Day at AAST



While we celebrate the Month of the Military Child all throughout April, today is Purple Up Day! AAST students and faculty wore purple to celebrate military kids!

Purple references the joint environment of the military, encompassing all service branches, Active Duty, Reserve, National Guard, and Veterans. Purple combines each branch's colors into one: the Air Force, Navy, and Coast Guard all use shades of blue, the Army uses green, and the Marines use red.

## Ambulance Education



Mrs. Zanelli's Clinical Studies students learned about the new McLeod ambulances that will be used to assist in transporting critically ill patients between McLeod facilities. The students were able to tour the inside of the ambulances and speak with administrators about how this important asset will positively impact our community.

## Administrative Assistant Day

We celebrated our front office staff for Administrative Assistant Day! Thank you to Ms. Jackson, Ms. Bean, Ms. Moore, Ms. Rau, and Ms. Grant. They enjoyed a nice lunch as well as breakfast treats from the Student Council. We appreciate all they do for our AAST family!



## Aerospace Juniors Testing Their Flying Skills

The Aerospace Juniors are applying the skills they've learned this year to build radio-controlled airplanes. They had their first plane take flight the day before spring break and are looking forward to many more successful flights this spring.





## Palmetto Cyber Defense Competition

On Saturday April 12th, AAST competed at the Palmetto Cyber Defense Competition on the campus of Trident Technical College in North Charleston, SC.

PCDC is an event for the promotion of Cyber Security education and awareness. Competition energizes local high schools and colleges to develop invigorating and focused curriculum for the technical skills needed in today's fast-paced and challenging cyber environment.

Each team must work together as a real company would to defend their network from red team attacks while maintaining crucial business services and responding to customer and administrative demands. Winners are the most successful at thwarting the effects of hackers while keeping their businesses online and functioning.

Our team finished the competition placing 4th out of 10 teams from around the state of South Carolina.



## National Bus Driver Appreciation Week

At AAST, our students ride busses from neighborhoods all around Horry County. Thank you to all of the bus drivers who drive so many miles each day and get our students safely to and from school!



## Exam Review in Algebra 2

Ms. Bonaccorso's Algebra 2 honors class played Review Jenga to get ready for their final exam. Students pulled a Jenga piece and if it had a number on it, they would have to complete that problem on their worksheet. Each student took a chance to pull a piece. If a piece didn't have a number on it, then they didn't have to worry about answering anything. This went on until the tower fell over.



## Guest Speaker:

### Anthony Natale, AAST Alumni

Alumni Anthony Natale visited AAST this week and extended an invitation to our students to attend the senior showcase for the Digital Arts program at HGTC. Anthony provided our students with insightful information regarding the benefits of the two-year program at HGTC. Thanks for visiting!

