

Ashe County Schools

WEEKLY UPDATE



WEEK
ENDING
16
FEBRUARY

Important Upcoming Dates

- ✓ **Feb. 21 & 22** - ELA Adoption Open House
(Annex) 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.
- ✓ **Feb. 23** - ELA Adoption Open House
(Annex) 11:00 - 2:00 p.m.
- ✓ **Feb. 26 - March 1** - Be Pro Be Proud Mobile
Workshop at ACHS
- ✓ **March 1** - ACHS Band Performance 7PM
- ✓ **March 4** - Battle of the Books
Middle school, 8:30 a.m.
Elementary, 12:00 p.m.
- ✓ **March 4** - Monthly Board Meeting
- ✓ **March 6** - WWES School Visit
9:00 - 10:30 a.m.



Stepping Stone to High School

Ashe County High School hosted the 2024 Curriculum Fair on Feb. 16. About 100 families attending. During the event:

- ✓ Counselors conducted parent meetings for families of incoming freshmen.
- ✓ Students and families engaged with teachers and current students to explore available courses and pathways in preparation for the upcoming school year registration.



ACMS Receives Nearly \$2K

Representatives from Carolina West Wireless presented ACMS Principal Dr. Susan Mochen with a check for \$1,988.49 last week. The funds, received biannually, come from CWW's Communication 4 Education program, which donates 3% of participants' monthly bills to the school of their choice.

Join this great program or **renew** your school selection **by March 25, 2024!** It's free money for our schools, at no cost to you! 💰



Be Pro Be Proud Tour to Stop at ACHS

The Be Pro Be Proud NC Tour will be stopping at Ashe County High School Feb. 26 - March 1 for our students to learn about career options in the state of North Carolina! The Mobile Workshop is equivalent to 18 parking spaces wide by two rows deep and features a customized, interactive demonstration space loaded with information, skill challenges and more.

Simulators and virtual reality experiences allow students to step inside different skilled professions virtually, while learning about the careers, job responsibilities, and average statewide wages in a fun and engaging way.

[Learn more](#)



#AsheProud Moments

Henry M., Ashe Early College freshman, addressed the North Carolina Caucus of more than 200 people in Washington, D.C. on Feb. 10, during the 2024 National Association of Counties (NACo) Conference.

Bethany Wilson, 3rd grade teacher at WWES, was among the 27 finalists for the NCCAT 2024 Empower NC Beginning Teacher of the Year Award. Beginning teachers were selected for their dedication, innovation, and ability to inspire students to achieve. Congratulations!



LETRS Spotlight

This **LETRS Weekly News** includes several links to valuable instructional videos and resources like:

- Linnea Ehri
- A Snowy Day comprehension lessons
- Letterland Quick Dash Tips from Stephanie
- Means of Participation video/Greensboro HS Chemistry Class

Note: Unit PD has moved to March 15. Mark your calendars accordingly. Continue to chip away at Unit coursework.

Shout out for NC Ed Corps Tutors!

We're privileged to have nine NC Education Corps tutors in our elementary schools this year. Together, they have logged over **700 sessions** with our students in grades K-6 to date! We are so appreciative of the support they provide our students in reading and math each day. Thank you, ladies, for your exceptional work and dedication to our students!

BRES:

Literacy - Kathy Adams, Jerri Eller
Math - Martha Turner

MVES:

Literacy - Kim Davis, Cindy Rupard
Math - Ellen Pesko

WWES:

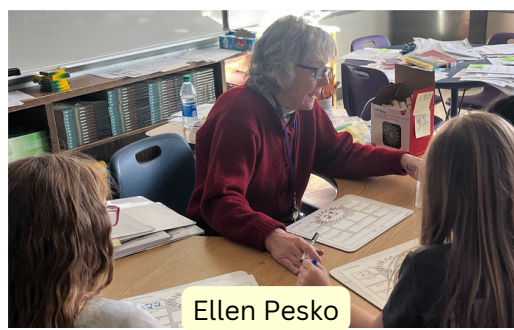
Literacy - Heather Merlet, Julie McGunegle
Math - Jill Lewis

Teaching
is a work
of heart.

@WORKSHOPCLASSTROOM



Kathy Adams



Ellen Pesko



Kim Davis



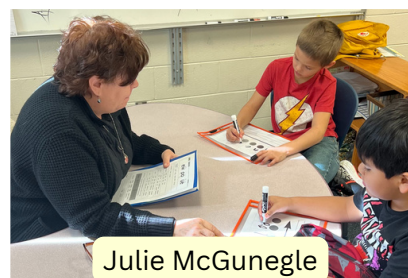
Jerri Eller



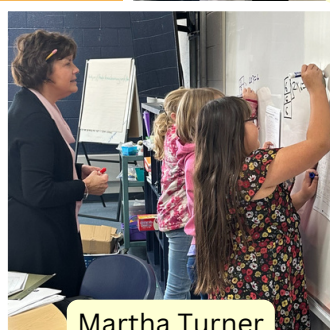
Heather Merlet



Jill Lewis



Julie McGunegle



Martha Turner



Cindy Rupard



School Highlights

Giving Back

In honor of #RandomActsofKindness Day, the Ashe Early College Student Council made cards for the nurses, CNAs and paramedics at Ashe Memorial Hospital. They also delivered a basket of goodies to each nursing station. It was a special way to thank these individuals for their hard work and dedication to our Ashe County community! The gesture was appreciated.



During a recent Food Drive, Mountain View Elementary exceeded their goal of 100 items, with 417 total items collected!



Westwood Elementary Afterschool students shared some love with residents at Forest Ridge Assisted Living. For their Winter Community Project, they made Valentine's cards and pictures.



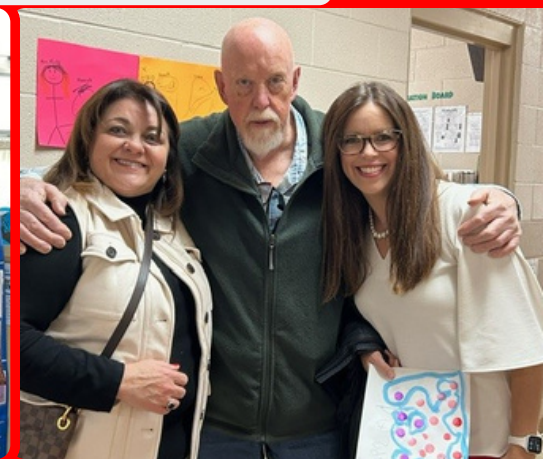
Valentine's Day Fun!



Students and teachers at the Early Learning Center enjoyed a sweet Valentine's Day visit from Ashe County Board of Education Members, Ashe County Commissioner Jerry Powers, Ashe County Manager Adam Stumb, Ashe County Schools Superintendent Dr. Eisa Cox, Central Support Services team members and other community members. Students eagerly interacted with their guests and showed what they're learning.



ELC Director Terry Richardson shared with visitors the importance of Early Childhood and how the curriculum and assessment tool aligns with the K to third grade Early Learning Inventory. She also discussed all the requirements of the North Carolina PreK program.





MORE Valentine's Day Fun!

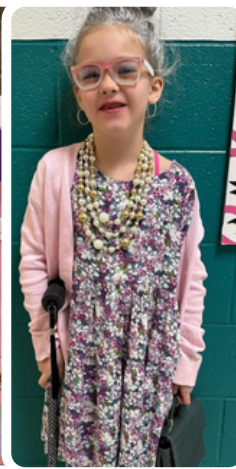


Whether it was arts and crafts, class parties, or even a science project that was all about hearts and the cardiovascular system, our teachers made Valentine's Day learning fun and creative for students!



Celebrating 100 Days Smarter

When the calendar hit 100 days into the school year, ACS students had fun dressing — and acting — the part! These students from the Early Learning Center and MVES were all smiles.



Battle of the Books!

Sponsored by the N.C. School Library Media Association, Battle of the Books Students at participating schools read books from a list established by the state Battle of the Books committees and then compete in quiz-bowl-style tournaments to test their knowledge of these books. ACS elementary and middle school level teams are busy reading and preparing.

When: March 4
Where: ACHS
Time: 8:30 and noon

**Timeline,
book list
and more!**

**Click
Here**

- ✓ 4th grade: 5 students
- ✓ 5th grade: 10 students
- ✓ 6th grade: 6 students

Winners, Winners!

Congratulations to **Jennifer B.** and **David M.** These CTE Culinary students brought home awards from the North Carolina State FCCLA competition, held at Johnson & Wales University in Charlotte last week:

- Jennifer placed second in the state in the Baking & Pastry Competition and earned a spot to compete in the National FCCLA competition in Seattle, Washington this summer!
- David won a silver medal in his culinary competition.



Instructor Debbie Sturgill and ACS faculty member Daisy Finley accompanied the students and said, "What a great way to end FCCLA week and celebrate CTE Month!"

Congratulations! Congratulations! Congratulations!



Johnna Church, ACMS 7th grade ELA and Social Studies teacher, received the local and regional VFW award. Tim Hudak presented the local award and Lonnie Joines, along with Hudak and David Fox, presented the regional award to Church on Feb. 14. We congratulate her on this VFW National Teacher Award win.

Recognitions & Training



In honor of School Bus Driver Appreciation Week last week and Love the Bus Month, we thank our 33 dedicated, hardworking bus drivers who safely transport Ashe County students to and from school daily.

They're part of the 168,000-strong community of school bus drivers nationwide, and they play a crucial role in facilitating the education of young learners.



SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER
APPRECIATION DAY!

We also express our gratitude for the invaluable contributions of the SROs in our schools. These dedicated professionals maintain a safe, secure learning environment and provide support and resources to the entire school community. Thank you to each of our SROs: Officer Blanco, ACHS and Ashe Early College; Officer Farmer, ACMS; Officer Sawyer, BRES; Officer Lanier, MVES; and Officer Johnson, WWES.



Continuing Education



At UNC Charlotte this month and next, ACS Transportation Director Lisa Ashley and Cost Clerk/Administrative Asst. Wendy Baker will attend a three-level training in MARIS — a software used for creating bus routes. The goal is to train, test and certify in mapping concepts, creating new streets, roads and neighborhoods, adding bus turnarounds, creating color-coded auto-street layers and more.

Getting the highest quality food products and services at the best prices is a vital part of feeding ACS students. So is understanding federal and state procurement process and regulations. Child Nutrition Director Tammy Woods and Bookkeeper/Operations Asst. Heather Cox will learn more this month at the “Understanding and Applying Sound Procurement Practices” class in Raleigh.

Pre-K and Kindergarten Screening

See dates and information about Pre-K DIAL Screening below. Applications for the ACS 2024-2025 NC Pre-K Program School Year are available [here](#).

See dates and information about Kindergarten Screening below. Registration opens March 4 for students who will be five years old by Aug. 31.



ASHE COUNTY SCHOOL'S NC PRE-K DIAL SCREENING MARCH 18 – 21, 2024

**CALL 336-846-3221 NOW
TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT**

Applications for the Ashe County Schools 2024-2025 NC Pre-K Program School Year are available now. These are available on the Ashe County Schools web-site or at our Ashe Co. NC Pre-K office – Ashe Early Learning Center, 406 School Ave., West Jefferson, NC 28694. Applications will also be available at any ACS NC Pre-K Site and the Partnership of Ashe.

All students applying for NC Pre-K must turn 4 years old on or before August 31, 2024.

The following documents will be needed to complete the application process and allow us to schedule the required DIAL screening:

- 1 – Completed application
- 2 – Child's certified birth certificate or adoption decree
- 3 – Proof of Income (2023 Tax Return, W-2's, 4 current, consecutive check stubs or signed and dated letter from employer with hours and rate of pay, SSI Statement, Social Security Wages/Benefits Statement, Disability Payment Info., Child Support Info., Direct Sales Income, Veteran Services Benefits, etc..)
- 4 – Proof of Residence





ATTENTION FAMILIES

SAVE THE DATE!

2024 KINDERGARTEN SCREENING

Kindergarten-ready students must be at least 5 years old by August 31, 2024 to enroll for the 2024-25 school year.

REGISTRATION OPENS MARCH 4TH!

Blue Ridge Elementary - April 23
Westwood Elementary - April 24
Mountain View Elementary - April 25



<https://www.asheschools.org/>

Youth Art Exhibit Coming Up!

The Ashe County arts Council will feature a “Young at Art” Youth Art Exhibit March 14 - April 22, 2024. The non-competitive exhibit is open to all Ashe County students from ages 5 to 18. Art must be original and delivered to the Arts Center between 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on either March 11 or March 12. Limit: two submissions per student.

[Get More Details](#)



More School Highlights

On Friday, Feb. 9, Blue Ridge Elementary students who had excellent attendance in the second quarter attended "movie night." The students enjoyed movie snacks (popcorn, candy, and soda) and had a great time! Movies included *The Aristocats* and *The Princess Diaries*.



ACHS is beginning implementation of Leader in Me to help grow student leaders, practice goal-setting, and develop habits that will help students be successful following graduation.



Weekly Update is ONLINE

You can now find the current issue under "District Announcements" on the [ACS home page](#). Past issues will be archived [here](#).

