

Ashe County Schools

WEEKLY UPDATE



Cat in the Hat, with Thing 1 and Thing 2, got a jumpstart on Dr. Seuss's birthday at WWES. (L-R): Technology Specialist Marty Norris, Literacy Specialist Lindsey Hagel and Early Literacy Specialist Stephanie Baker.



Important Upcoming Dates

- ✓ **March 10** - Winter Athletic Awards
- ✓ **March 11** - BOE Budget Work Session
11:00 a.m.
- ✓ **March 12 & 13** - ELA Adoption Open House
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- ✓ **March 14** - ELA Adoption Open House
4:00 - 7:00 p.m. (Annex)
- ✓ **March 14** - Early Release
- ✓ **March 15** - Teacher Workday
- ✓ **March 14 - April 22** - Young at Art Exhibit at
Ashe County Arts Council
- ✓ **March 18-20** - WWES Play, 6:00 p.m. nightly
- ✓ **March 21** - Rock Your Socks for World Down
Syndrome Day
- ✓ **March 28** - ACMS Career Day (Gymnasium)
8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- ✓ **March 29 - April 5** - Good Friday Holiday/
Spring Break

WEEK
ENDING
8
MARCH



BOARD NOTES



BOE Meeting Highlights

- ✓ New Middle School Updates and \$12 Million Grant
- ✓ 2024-25 School Calendar
- ✓ Other Grants/Partnerships
- ✓ Carolina West Donation
- ✓ Transportation Update
- ✓ Silver Bell Award
- ✓ Portrait of a Graduate

BOARD
MEETING
HELD
04
MARCH



SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

\$12 Million Grant for New Middle School

A \$12 million Public School Capital Fund Grant to build our new middle school brings the total grant funding to \$52M. The new middle school will support grades 6-8 and have an auxiliary gymnasium, wrestling room, and collaborative spaces. Thank you to Catherine Truitt, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Ralph Hise, NC Senate, and Ray Pickett, NC House for the grant funding.



2024-25 Calendar



[See Full Calendar](#)

Board Award



Board of Education members received the Silver Bell Award for whole-board training — training and commitment to excellence during the 2022-2023 NCSBA Academy Year.

Partnerships for the Overall Good of Students



Collaboration brings many opportunities that benefit ACS students. The Board of Education recently gave the green light to three current ones.

- ✓ ACS is teaming up with the Research Triangle Institute (RTI) for the CDC's National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, application entitled, "**Demonstration Projects to Research and Evaluate Strategies Aligned with CDC's What Works in Schools Approach**" for a proposed period of up to 60 months.

ACS will work within this team to provide educational support for students and meet their needs, while aligning with the goals of the grant. All parties will be experts in their area, with the goal of helping students succeed.



- ✓ In an opportunity with RTI, International, AppHealth and Ashe Memorial Hospital, ACS will partner on a grant to create "**Systems-Level Risk Detection and Interventions to Reduce Suicide, Ideation, and Behaviors in Youth from Underserved Populations.**"

As a community team, we will work to better address how suicidal youth are treated and case managed to ensure a higher level of care. The award has the potential for \$2.5 million over the period of 5 years.

- ✓ ACS will also apply for an Accelerate grant to assist with tutoring students. The **Call to Effective Action (CEA)** program will provide personalized instruction in reading and/or math to students during next year's school days and potentially in afterschool.

It will help deliver cost-effective services on a large scale, improving outcomes for students — particularly those in historically underserved communities.

More benefits for ACS students

Thanks to a new agreement between ACS and Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute, students enrolled in Early Childhood Education will receive appropriate clinical learning experiences to help them and their future students succeed.



Carolina West Wireless representatives presented ACS with a check for \$11,656.54 at the March Board Meeting. The funds come from CWW's Communication 4 Education program, which donates 3% of participants' monthly bills to the school of their choice.

Reminder: Youth Art Exhibit Opening



This non-competitive exhibit is open to all Ashe County students, 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. The exhibit opens March 14!

[Get More Details](#)



ACS Transportation: What it Takes

See what's new and what it takes to keep ACS transportation running smoothly, from buses and fleet vehicles to technology, personnel and day-to-day tasks. Click below.



WILKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE ASHE CAMPUS

APRIL 4-5 2024

SPRING BREAK WORKSHOPS

7th and 8th public school students in Wilkes, Ashe, or Alleghany counties are eligible to apply.
Limit of one course per student.
Lunch will be provided.

FREE!

APRIL 4 10AM-2PM **BECOME A BEAUTY QUEEN!** Pamper yourself with a day at the Wilkes Community Cosmetology program on the Ashe Campus! Learn about manicures, pedicures, and hair styles while receiving the services too!

APRIL 5 10AM-2PM **CAN YOU DIG IT?** Learn how to plant and take care of your own blooming flower that you can take home at the end of class!

APRIL 5 10AM-2PM **CREATE YOUR OWN STAR!** Learn soldering techniques to assemble your very own colorful flashing star with 20 flashing LED lights! Your star will light up in brilliant changing colors and create a random pattern. Take your star home with you at the end of class!

GEAR UP NC Appalachian Partnership

REGISTER HERE:

CONTACT FOR MORE INFO:

GEAR UP Coordinator: Lacey Kilby
lkilby157@wilkescc.edu



What: *FREE workshops*

- *Cosmetology*
- *Horticulture*
- *Electronics*

Where: *WCC Ashe campus*

Who: *7th & 8th graders*

When: *April 4 & 5,
10 am - 2 pm*

Register Here by March 22



ADAPTABILITY



COLLABORATION



COMMUNICATION



CRITICAL
THINKING



EMPATHY



LEARNER'S
MINDSET



PERSONAL
RESPONSIBILITY

Portrait of a Graduate

The K-12 system bears the responsibility of preparing students for the 3 Es — Enrollment, Employment, Enlistment. That's why the North Carolina Board of Education adopted the **Portrait of a Graduate** in 2022.

It's a vision for the knowledge, skills and characteristics of the ideal graduate of the state's public schools. The program is being implemented in all North Carolina state schools over the next 2-3 years.

By meeting the following goals, ACS schools will graduate students ready to thrive and lead in the modern world.



Improve communication skills

Provide more opportunities for students to practice presentations, debates, and group discussions.



Foster creativity and innovation

Encourage creative problem solving through design thinking exercises and open-ended projects.



Prepare students for the 21st century workforce

Teach collaboration, critical thinking, and other essential skills needed for future careers.



congratulations

Comings and Goings

*BEST
WASHERS*



Congratulations to ACHS Assistant Principal Jerry Graybeal. He has been selected as the new Principal of Mountain View Elementary, effective this June.

ACS job openings

Know someone who would be a great fit for ACS? Share [this link](#) with them.



ACHS Guidance Secretary Linda Sloan retired in February after 21 years with Ashe County Schools. At a going away party, colleagues, friends and family were on hand to celebrate and wish her well. (Above): Linda with her husband, Don, and their son and daughter-in-law, Andy and Tessie Sloan, who traveled in from Texas to surprise her.



(L-R): Michelle Kittson, Linda and Tammy Woods



(L-R): Brian Hampton, Travis Bennett and Adam Elliott with Linda

An avid fan of the Texas Stars, Linda got a hockey puck at one of their games. We hope she will enjoy lots more hockey and all her favorite things!



Opportunities Ahead ...



CAMP NASCAR

Navigating Automobile Safety Collisions And Robotics

REGISTER NOW



bit.ly/NASCARregistration

June 17-21

Rising 10th & 11th Graders	Day	Time
	Day 1	12:30pm-4:30pm
	Days 2-4	8:30am-4:30pm
	Day 5	8:30am-12:30pm

Location:
ASU
College of Education

NASCAR, robotics and computer science come together in a unique summer learning experience.

CAMP NASCAR, for current 9th and 10th graders, will be held June 17-21 at App State University's College of Education. Spots are limited. If interested, students should register NOW.

[Click to Register](https://bit.ly/NASCARregistration)

Registration Open: Pre-K and Kindergarten

Find information about scheduling Pre-K DIAL Screening and Pre-K application below. See the flyer at right for registering kindergarteners.

Pre-K DIAL Screening Dates:
March 18-21

[Pre-K DIAL Screening](#)

[Pre-K Application](#)



We can't wait to see you at

SIGN UP NOW!

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.

CALL TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!

Blue Ridge Elementary - April 23
336-384-4500

Westwood Elementary - April 24
336-649-8210

Mountain View Elementary - April 25
336-982-4200

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

ASHESCHOOLS
Challenging young minds the state.



Shout Outs

Ashe County High School teachers represented ACS at the North Carolina Technology in Education Society (NCTIES) annual conference in Raleigh this month.



English teachers Jessi Hall and Christy Rivers, along with Math teacher Madi Roberts presented on “Maximizing the Impact of School Social Media,” as well as “The Impact of Student Broadcast,” which highlighted the Husky Morning Show.

Tonya Denny, ACHS Media Coordinator also presented — alongside two App State new teacher support instructional coaches — on ways educators can connect literature, particularly picture books, to STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics) topics.

