

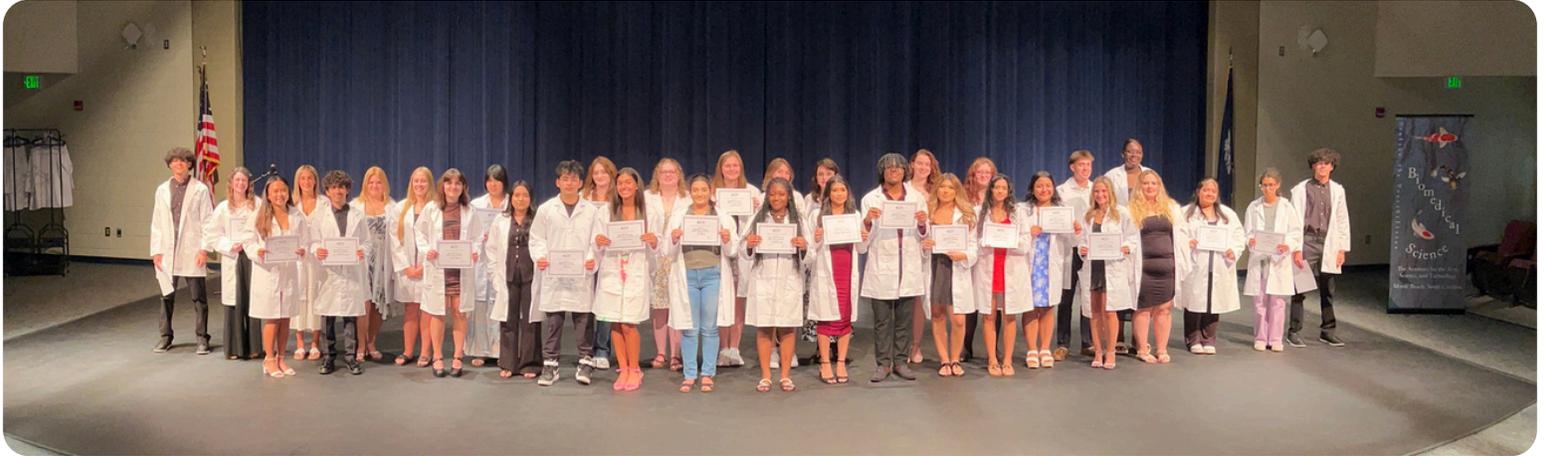
# AAST NEWSLETTER

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

## Biomed White Coat Ceremony



September 1 - September 5, 2025



Congratulations to our senior Biomedical Science students. Thirty-five students received their White Coats in recognition of their hard work as AAST Biomed scholars.

The white coat ceremony is a rite of passage for medical students. It's a significant milestone in their journey. The ceremony marks the transition from preclinical to clinical health sciences. It's often held at the beginning of medical school before students have taken any lectures or laboratory classes. The ceremony is a tradition to recognize students who seek a role in clinical practice. During the ceremony, a white coat is placed on each student's shoulders. We are proud of these future medical professionals' dedication to their studies.



### Upcoming Events



**SIC & CTE ADVISORY  
DINNER**  
SEPTEMBER 18, 5:00 PM

**COLLEGE APP DAY**  
SEPTEMBER 26

**SENIOR PICTURE MAKEUP  
DAY**  
OCTOBER 7

**ED OP DAY**  
OCTOBER 8

**FALL BREAK, NO SCHOOL**  
OCTOBER 13-14

**FALL HONOR SOCIETY  
INDUCTION**  
OCTOBER 16, 6:00PM

**JUNIOR MAKEUP PICTURE DAY**  
OCTOBER 22

**ALL COUNTY THEATRE @ AAST**  
OCTOBER 22

**PSAT**  
OCTOBER 23

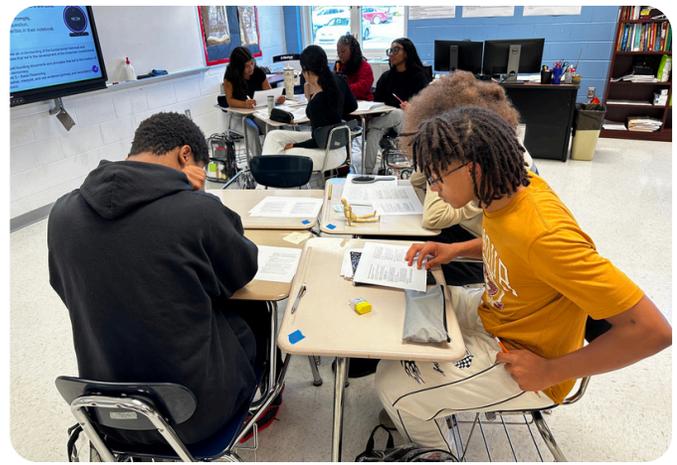
**BLOOD DRIVE**  
OCTOBER 24

**SPIRIT WEEK**  
OCTOBER 27-31

**FALL FESTIVAL**  
OCTOBER 30, 5-7PM

# Literacy Through Primary Sources in Government

In Mr. Sellers' American Government class today, students rotated through literacy-focused stations to deepen their understanding of America's founding. Working with primary sources like the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, and Madison's Federalist Papers, students practiced reading closely, interpreting evidence, and connecting big ideas about liberty, rights, and government power. Through guided prompts and small group discussion, they built critical thinking skills while strengthening their ability to analyze and explain how early documents shaped the Constitution. [#risewithreading](#)



I can summarize the main purpose of government as explained in the Declaration of Independence.

I can identify and explain unalienable rights and why they matter in American democracy.

I can analyze the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation and how they limited the power of the national government.

I can explain why giving each state full sovereignty created problems for the United States.

I can compare the ideals in the Declaration of Independence with the reality of the Articles of Confederation.

I can explain how the Declaration and the Articles together led to the creation of the U.S. Constitution.

I can use primary source evidence (like excerpts from the Declaration or Articles) to support my understanding of early American government.

**DIRECTIONS!**

1. Read silently first. Everyone reads the **Background, Primary Sources, and Big Ideas** quietly on your own.
2. Take turns leading.
  - Person in Seat #1 reads the **first Discussion Question** out loud.
  - Each group member gives an answer.
  - Person in Seat #2 reads the **second Discussion Question** out loud.
  - Each group member gives an answer.
  - Keep going until all discussion questions are done.
3. Do the same with **Notebook Prompts**.
  - Take turns reading each question.
  - Everyone answers and writes in their notebook.

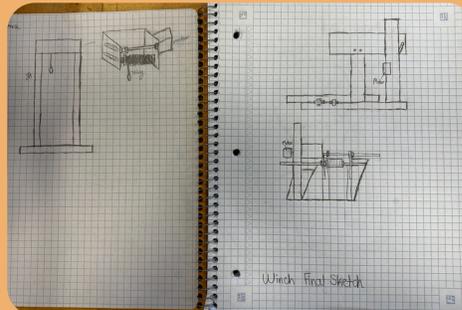
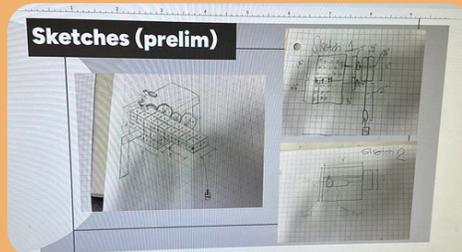
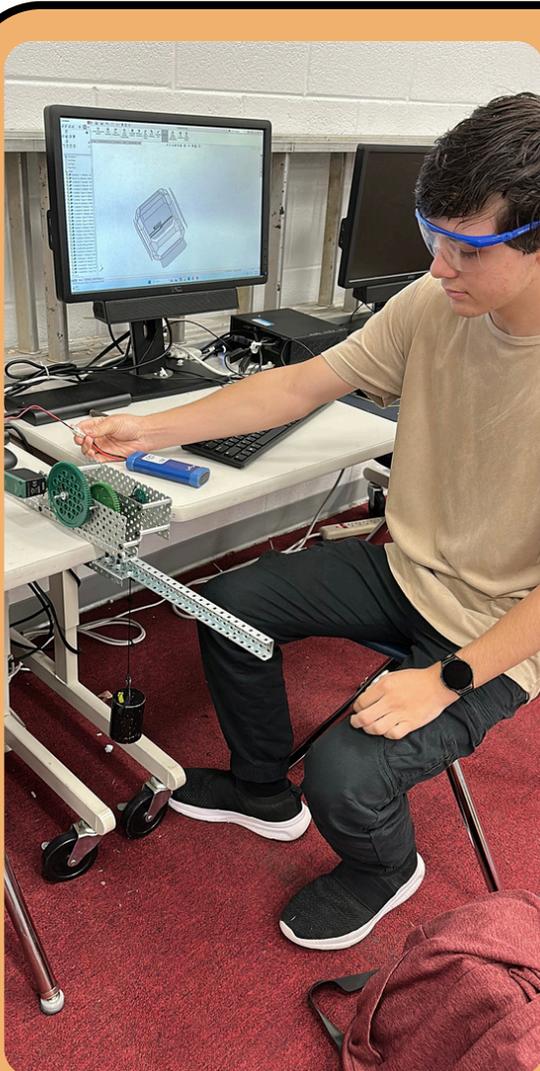
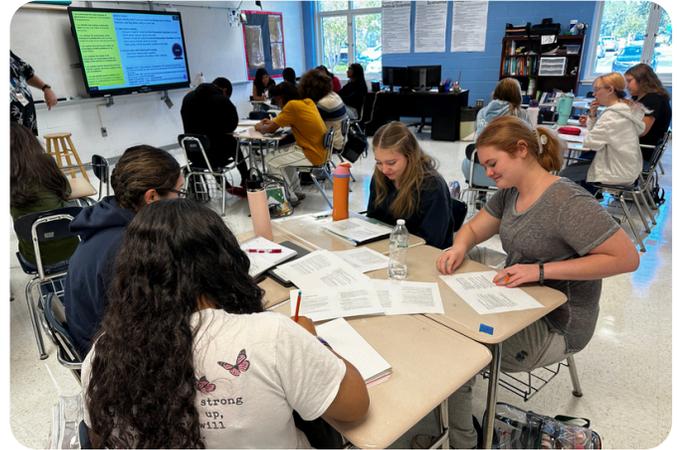
Standard: USG.1 – Demonstrate an understanding of the fundamental historical and philosophical principles and ideas that led to the development of the American constitutional democracy.

Indicator (USG.1.IN): Interpret founding documents and principles that led to the creation of the American constitutional democracy.

Depth of Knowledge: Level 2 – Basic Reasoning

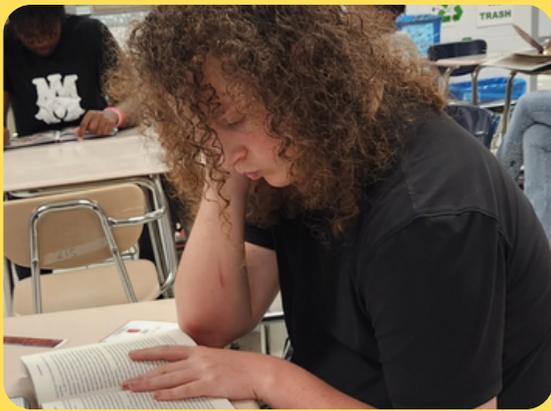
Target Skill: Interpret – Gather, interpret, and use evidence (primary and secondary) to establish an informed opinion.

19:34



## Winch Design in Core Engineering

Students in Core Engineering have been diligently working on their winch designs this week. Students are immersed in the design process as they sketch possible solutions to a real-world problem and are utilizing solidworks (CAD) to refine their designs and create 3D models. VEX robotics equipment is utilized to construct their winch designs and mathematical calculations allow students to analyze velocity, acceleration, force, work, and power of their winch system. Students also focus on literacy during the project by writing design briefs, project descriptions, and project management plans. [#risewithreading](#)



### Ms. Condrey's Lit-visory

On Tuesdays, Advisory is dedicated to literacy development. Students are given the opportunity to select a literacy activity that best fits their interests and learning goals. In Ms. Condrey's class, this became a "Lit-visory," where students engaged in independent reading with books they had personally selected from the media center collection.



### Solar Oven S'mores

In Ms. Johnson's Clean Energy Systems class, students applied the engineering design process to explore renewable energy concepts. By designing and building functional solar ovens, they gained hands-on experience with sustainable technology—and concluded the project by successfully cooking s'mores using only the power of the sun.



### AAST SHIRTS



AAST shirts will be available for sale on MyPaymentsPlus until September 10th, 2025. You can purchase short sleeve t-shirts (\$15), crew sweatshirts (\$20), and hoodies (\$26). There is also the option to get one of the school majors/programs on the back.



Join the #RiseWithReading Challenge!

Students are challenged to read 1,000 pages every quarter.

Let's rise together, one page at a time.



## Inspirational Speeches in English III



Students in Ms. Bell's English classes presented short inspirational speeches inspired by Pericles' Funeral Oration. This exercise emphasizes the development of public speaking, rhetorical techniques, and persuasive communication skills, giving students the opportunity to apply classical models of oratory to their own voices and experiences.



## Bookface Project in Digital Art and Design

Students in Digital Art and Design are engaging in the Bookface Project, a creative exercise that combines photography, design, and visual storytelling. By aligning their own faces with those on book covers, students explore concepts of composition, perspective, and digital media techniques while also highlighting the connection between literature and visual art. #risewithreading

Inspired by the themes of the unit in Ms. Bell's English III Honors class, Layla Parker, junior Pre-Medicine major, composed the poem featured below. #risewithreading

### Anatomy of a Nation (What's a nation?)

By Layla Parker

What's a nation?

A nation is essentially a group of people uniting together as a singular 'breathing unit'. Like the organelles that your biology teachers would pound into your head or all of your body systems Those people all function together to maintain the existence of American society.

For instance The Heart and Brain are some of the most important functions of the body But without the rubious blood cells flowing through the veins and arteries how would the body exist?

In that case how could a government body exist without a system of operation?

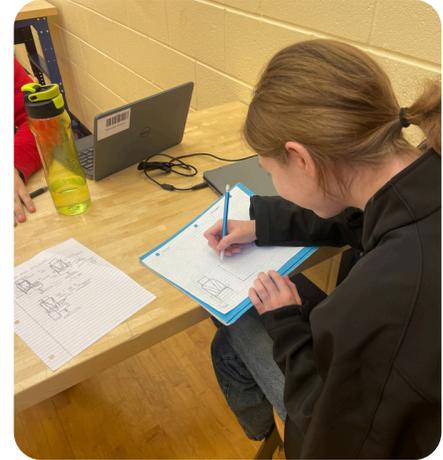
In 1787 our founding fathers created a constitution introducing this body as:

"We the people "

This will eternally prove that the 249 year old American anatomy is dependent on a very special organ system...  
The people.

# Technical Writing in Engineering

Please review the AAST Student Handbook linked below: [AAST Student Handbook](#)



Juniors in Aerospace Engineering have started their first project designing pilot chairs. Students must conduct research prior to planning their designs. Here students are working on their literacy skills by learning how to write a technical summary about a topic of research. Students are also demonstrating how to do orthogonal view sketches of their pilot chair designs. We look forward to seeing how their designs transfer into SolidWorks next week! #risewithreading

From the AAST Attendance Office For all of your attendance questions, please see our website at the following link: [AAST Attendance Office](#)

## HCS Cell Phone Policy

In accordance with Horry County School District policy, cellular phones, video cameras, other electronic devices, and any sound-producing devices that are deemed disruptive should be turned off and not visible from **8:15 AM until 2:45 PM**. Cell phones and other electronic devices should remain silent and be out of sight during instructional time unless directed by the teacher. To ensure campus safety, students should not walk the campus or hallways while actively talking on a cell phone or with earbuds in their ears.

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

