

# AAST NEWSLETTER

AAST.HORRYCOUNTYSCHOOLS.NET

## SC State Fair Art Winners



September 29 - October 3, 2025

Congratulations to the following students for receiving recognition in the SC State Fair Student Art Competition. This competition received over 5,000 submissions statewide, making it one of the largest art competitions in the state. We are incredibly proud of all our participants and their outstanding work! Way to go AAST!

### 2-Dimensional Art Category:

Honorable Mention:

Keith Barrieault - 11th Grade

Emily Bell - 12th Grade

Laila Sindab - 12th Grade

### 3-Dimensional Art Category:

2nd Place: Ruby Nadler - 12th Grade

3rd Place: Elizabeth Lawson - 12th Grade

### Photography Category:

3rd Place: Jordyn Cadd - 12th Grade



### Upcoming Events



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

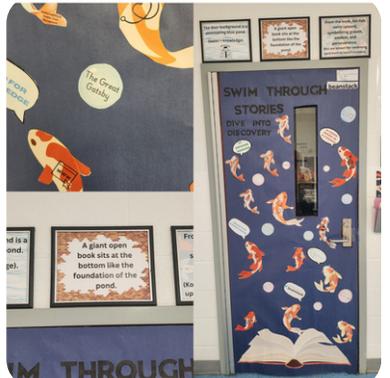
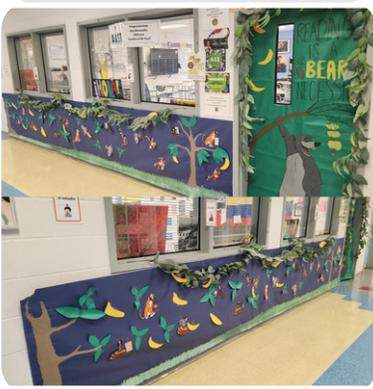
BLOOD DRIVE  
OCTOBER 24

SPIRIT WEEK  
OCTOBER 27-31

FALL FESTIVAL  
OCTOBER 30, 5-7PM

Advisory classes joined in a door decorating contest to celebrate the #RiseWithReading initiative. Each group designed creative, book-themed doors that highlighted favorite stories and authors while promoting a love of reading across campus. The project brought energy and excitement to the hallways, while reinforcing the importance of literacy in a fun and engaging way.

#RiseWithReading





On Thursday, we took moment to shine a spotlight on our incredible custodians! Your hard work, dedication, and attention to detail keeps our school safe, clean, and welcoming for all students and staff.

Thank you for the countless hours you put in behind the scenes, ensuring that our classrooms, hallways, and facilities are in top shape. Your efforts do not go unnoticed, and we truly appreciate everything you do!

### CENTEGIX CrisisAlert Installation

Over the coming weeks, Horry County Schools will be installing the CrisisAlert™ solution on its campus. CrisisAlert is a safety solution by CENTEGIX®, a company that innovates technology to empower and protect people every day. The CENTEGIX team will work during non-instructional time, mostly evenings, to install and test the components of CrisisAlert. These components include strobes that create a mesh network that processes alerts and connects to the school's computers and intercom (where applicable).

CENTEGIX's CrisisAlert platform is an incident alerting solution that protects students and staff members by empowering teachers and staff to request help with a simple push of a button on a wearable badge. The solution's simple activation via the CrisisAlert badge, combined with location accuracy and 100% full campus coverage, ensures help will arrive quickly when needed.

We look forward to working with the CENTEGIX team as they install and deploy CrisisAlert in our schools.

**One Badge, TWO Types of Alerts**

Help Needed  
Room/Room No., Hallway, Floor

Lockdown  
Site/Region/District/Zone, Campus Wide Threat

# CENTEGIX™

EVERY. SECOND. MATTERS.

## Fingerprint Analysis in Forensics



Students in Mrs. Rielly's Honors Forensic Science classes finished up the fingerprinting part of their unit by exploring latent fingerprints this week. Several methods were used including dusting with fingerprint powder, iodine fuming, and cyanoacrylate fuming. Combined with fingerprint identification and minutiae examination, these kids are knowledgeable about this type of evidence.

## Marine Science Giving Back to the Beach



Marine Science students spent the day exploring the salt marsh, using seine and dip nets to study local flora and fauna and collect species for their classroom tank. Later, they collaborated with Marine Biologists from the SCDNR SCORE program to construct manufactured wire reef (MWR) cages that will support the restoration of local oyster populations.

Once inhabited, the 11 cages built by students will filter more than 2 million gallons of water per day, making a lasting impact on the environment. Special thanks to Ranger Mike for guiding another outstanding field experience!



Juniors in Computer Science constructed a prototype of a treasure chest and programmed various responses to motion at varying intervals using sensors and LED lights...they are truly "guarding the treasure."



To see the treasure chests in action, follow @aast\_compsci on Instagram (click left to see their page!)

## Nephron Pharmaceuticals Field Trip

Students from Ms. Caudill's Computer Science class and Mr. Vanasse's Engineering in STEM class traveled to Nephron Pharmaceuticals in Columbia on Wednesday to tour the facility.

Nephron Pharmaceuticals Corporation provides patients reliable access to affordable, high-quality medications through an innovative approach to sterile manufacturing. Not only does Nephron employ pharmaceutical professionals, they also employ scientists, engineers, and other skilled personnel as much of their manufacturing systems are automated.



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HORRY COUNTY SCHOOLS

# COFFEE & CONVERSATIONS with CLIFF

Mr. Clifford Jones, Superintendent of Horry County Schools, will be holding "Coffee and Conversation with Cliff" events throughout the school year. Mr. Jones wants to use these events to listen to the community's ideas and concerns and to share news about the district with community members. These events are just one of many ways Mr. Jones hopes to connect with the community and listen, share, and learn to make Horry County Schools an even better district.

Coffee and Conversations with Cliff events will both consist of informal listening sessions and discussions. Everyone is invited, and no registration or appointment is needed. Come to any event that meets your schedule.

### MORNING EVENTS

Conway Middle • Oct. 22, 2025 • 8:45 - 9:45 AM  
Ocean Bay Elementary • Dec. 2, 2025 • 8:00 - 9:00 AM  
Aynor High • Jan. 14, 2026 • 8:45 - 9:45 AM  
Myrtle Beach Middle • Feb. 3, 2026 • 8:45 - 9:45 AM  
Loris High • Mar. 25, 2026 • 8:45 - 9:45 AM

### EVENING EVENTS

Socastee Middle • Nov. 13, 2025 • 5 - 6 PM  
Riverside Elementary • Dec. 17, 2025 • 5 - 6 PM  
Carolina Forest High • Jan. 6, 2026 • 5 - 6 PM  
HCS Early College High • Feb. 25, 2026 • 5 - 6 PM  
Green Sea Floyds Elementary • Mar. 19, 2026 • 5 - 6 PM  
St. James Middle • April 16, 2026 • 5 - 6 PM

Horry County Schools • 335 Four Mile Rd., Conway, SC 29526 • (843) 488-6700

## EKG Technician Exam

We are proud to celebrate the newest certified EKG Technicians in South Carolina! This week, AAST Clinical Studies students completed the NHA EKG Technician Certification Exam, achieving an outstanding first-time pass rate of 92.1%—an impressive 21% higher than the national average. Congratulations to our students on this remarkable accomplishment!

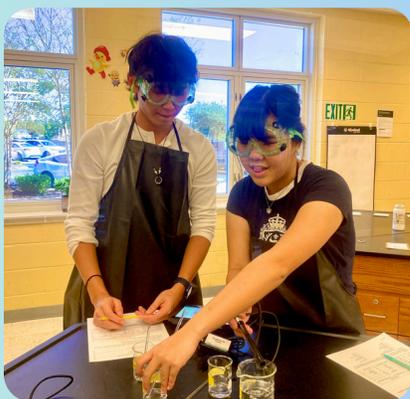


## Salsa Dancing in the Rotunda



In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, Mr. Hernandez organized a dance workshop in the rotunda for juniors and seniors. During the workshop, he taught the students how to perform the energetic salsa, merengue, and bachata dances. The event aimed to celebrate and showcase the rich cultural traditions of the Hispanic community.

## Exploring Chemical Bonds



In AP Chemistry Lab 6, Bonding in Solids: What's in That Bottle?, students explored how different types of chemical bonding—ionic, covalent, metallic, and molecular—determine the properties of solids. Through hands-on experiments, they connected particle interactions to observable traits like hardness, melting point, and conductivity, deepening their understanding of the materials that shape our world.

## Guidance Info



Kincade Youngerman and Hamza Razzak were the two lucky winners of the College Application Raffle this week. There are four more Friday's in October that will continue to raffle off prizes for students that have submitted college applications. Use the google form [here](#) to submit your entries.

Students working on the College Applications in Common App Tips to remember. We will not get the request to help you with your application if you used the G. email please use

Lgordone@horrycountyschools.net  
Amarshall@horrycountyschools.net

List your base school as the school of attendance on your application

You can submit your application when you are fished with it. You do not need to wait for school reports or letters of recommendation to be finished prior to submitting your application.



## New Books @ AAST:

### *Fake Skating* by Lynn Painter

Dani and Alec were inseparable as kids, but after she moved away, he disappeared from her life. Now back in Minnesota for her senior year, Dani finds Alec transformed into a popular hockey star with no time for his old best friend. Determined to avoid him, Dani is unexpectedly thrown into a fake dating scheme that rekindles their bond, reveals hidden family struggles, and forces them to confront the feelings they've both been avoiding.