

# AAST NEWSLETTER

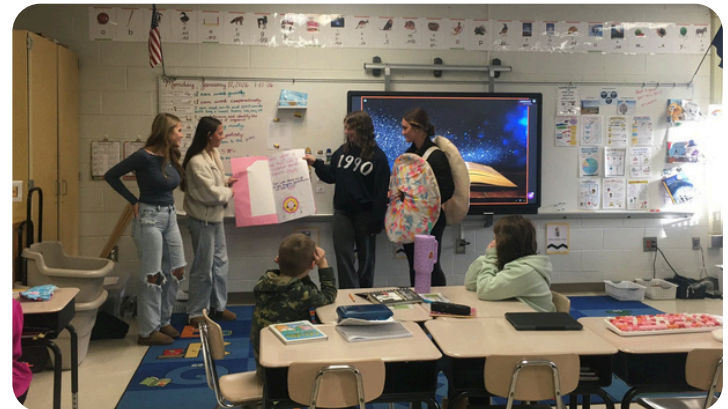
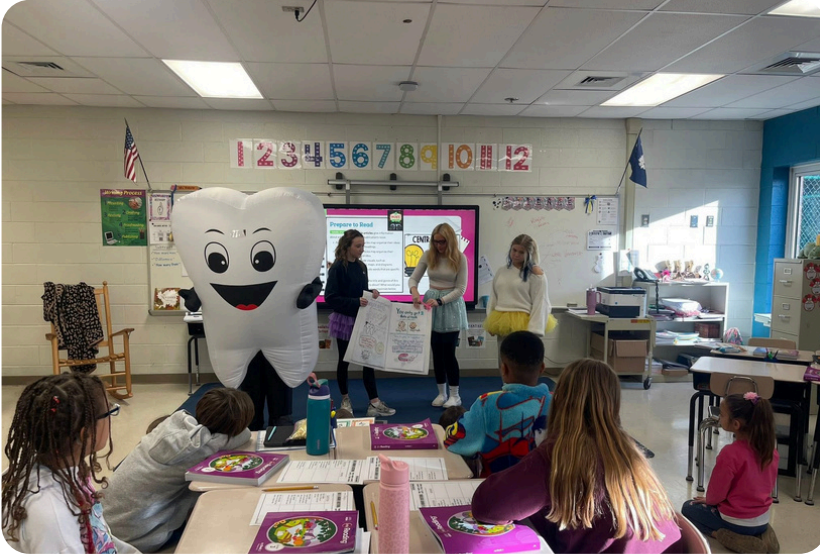
AAST.HORRYCOUNTYSCHOOLS.NET

## Med Term Story Time at OBE



a stem school ~ realize the possibilities

January 12 - January 16, 2026



Ocean Bay Elementary welcomed Ms. Cornelison's Medical Terminology Honors students to read stories they had created in class! They shared books they wrote themselves with students in grades 2-5 bringing creativity and enthusiasm to the experience. #RiseWithReading

### Upcoming Events



2.5 HOUR EARLY  
DISMISSAL  
JANUARY 16

AAST OPEN HOUSE  
JANUARY 22, 6-7PM

SENIOR TRIP PARENT  
MEETING  
JANUARY 28, 5:30-6:30

AAST OPEN HOUSE  
FEBRUARY 12, 6-7PM

ACT TEST  
FEBRUARY 24

SENIOR TRIP  
FEBRUARY 25-MARCH 1

Open House  
January 22,  
6pm to 7pm!

## AAST Blood Drive Results



### THE BLOOD<sup>®</sup> CONNECTION

Your Community Blood Center

The Pre-Medicine major held a collaborative blood drive with The Blood Connection and it was very successful. There were 30 donors who donated 33 units of blood!

As we prepare for our upcoming AAST Open Houses, we invite students and families to explore our major brochures online. Each brochure provides detailed information about the curriculum, opportunities, and career pathways for every program at AAST.

You can find all of the brochures conveniently [here](#) to help plan your visit and learn more about what each major has to offer.

a stem school ~ realize the possibilities



## New @ the AAST Library: These Bodies Ain't Broken

These stories showcase disabled characters winning against all odds.

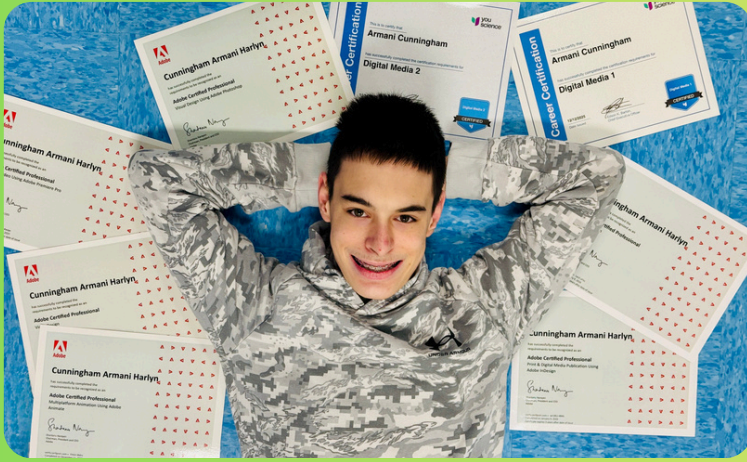
Outsmarting deadly video games, hunting the predatory monster in the woods, rooting out evil within their community, finding love and revenge with their newly turned vampire friend—this anthology upends expectations of the roles disabled people can play in horror. With visibly and invisibly disabled characters whose illnesses include Ehlers–Danlos syndrome, Crohn's disease, diabetes, PTSD, and more, each entry also includes a short essay from the author about the conditions portrayed in their stories to further contextualize their characters' perspectives. From breaking ancient curses to defying death itself, these 13 horror stories cast disabled characters as heroes we can all root for.

## Simulated Fire Investigations in Forensic Science



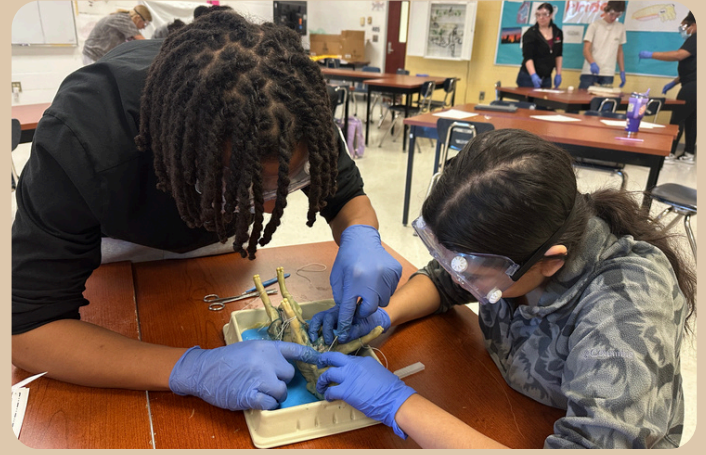
Forensic Science students concluded the arson unit today, culminating in burning the structures that they created to simulate fire investigations. Students wrote back stories and built relevant structures related to the backgrounds. They proceeded to investigate the fires of their classmates structures, defining point of origins and studying burn patterns related to materials that were burning.

## Student Spotlight: Armani Cunningham



Big-time congratulations to Armani Cunningham, the most certified student our Digital Art & Animation major has ever seen – and this is only the end of his first semester. Armani earned an incredible 8 certifications in one semester, including Adobe Certified Professional credentials in Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Animate, and Premiere, plus specialty certifications in Visual Design, Print & Digital Media Publication, Multiplatform Animation, and Video Design. He also achieved YouScience Industry Certifications in Digital Media 1 and Digital Media 2. And here's the bigger celebration: every student in our Digital Arts & Design with Animation major and our Web & Digital Communications major earned at least one industry certification this semester. Armani is setting a new standard—and this entire group is proving what commitment and creativity can do.

## Fetal Pig Dissection



Mr. Sodano's Anatomy & Physiology classes completed their fetal pig dissection lab. Students followed a list of questions as they identified external fetal pig anatomy.

## Congratulations Ms. Martin, VFW Citizenship Education Teacher of the Year!

Marjorie Martin, a U.S. history teacher at the Academy for the Arts, Science, and Technology in Myrtle Beach, SC, has been recognized with the 2025–2026 Smart/Maher VFW Citizenship Education Teacher Award on behalf of VFW Post 6444. With two decades of teaching experience, Mrs. Martin exemplifies citizenship, innovation, and passion.

She inspires her students through engaging lessons and community-focused projects, such as the annual National Beta Club "Field of Flags" fundraiser supporting Disabled American Veterans. Rooted in a deep respect for service—her father served in World War II and her brother in Vietnam—Mrs. Martin instills civic responsibility, patriotism, and gratitude in her students, including encouraging them to register as new voters through the League of Women Voters each year. The VFW recognizes her outstanding dedication to teaching democratic values, fostering civic pride, respecting veterans, and preparing students to be informed, engaged citizens. Following this local recognition, Mrs. Martin will now be considered for recognition at the state and national levels of the VFW Teacher Award program.

