

AAST NEWSLETTER

AAST.HORRYCOUNTYSCHOOLS.NET

Team 1287 Wins Big in Hartsville



a stem school ~ realize the possibilities

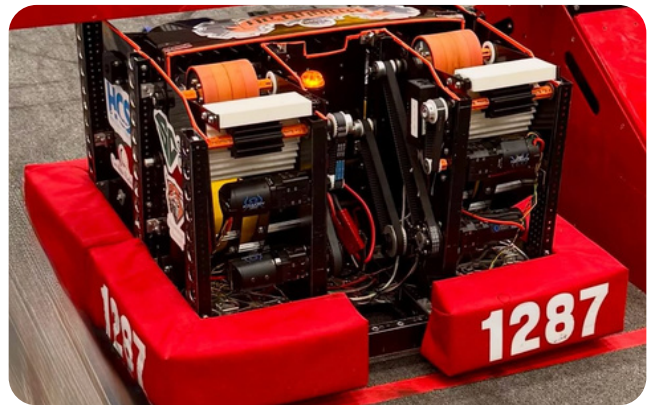
March 30 - April 2, 2026



AAST's FIRST Robotics Competition Team 1287 Aluminum Assault delivered a historic performance at their recent district event in Hartsville, earning their first event championship banner since 2014 and only the second in the team's 23-year history.

The team was named District Event Winners and also received the Industrial Design Award, which recognizes excellence in the integration of form, function, and performance. They finished ranked #1 after qualification matches with a 10-2 record and earned second place in overall district points for the event.

This outstanding achievement reflects the team's dedication, engineering skill, and strong collaboration with their alliance partners. We are incredibly proud of Team 1287 and wish them the best of luck as they advance to the District Championships in Anderson, SC.



Upcoming Events



SPRING BREAK
APRIL 3 - APRIL 10

AAST CAREER FAIR
APRIL 17

**NATIONAL LIBRARY
WEEK**
APRIL 19 - APRIL 25

SPRING GALA
APRIL 24, 8:00PM
HOUSE OF BLUES

PCT EXAM
APRIL 28

SENIOR EXAMS
MAY 18-19

SENIOR AWARDS
MAY 21, 6:00PM

JUNIOR AWARDS
MAY 22

GAME OF LIFE
MAY 22

MEMORIAL DAY
MAY 25
SCHOOLS CLOSED

SENIOR CEREMONY
MAY 28, 7:00PM
MYRTLE BEACH HIGH
SCHOOL

AAST Talent Show



What an unforgettable night at the Academy for the Arts, Science, and Technology Talent Show! Performers showcased confidence and creativity.

Congratulations to the winners:

- **3rd Place: String Quintet performing "Battle" by Soon Hee Newbold**
- **2nd Place: Jamison Thrasher dancing to "Debut" by Katseye**
- **1st Place: Audrey Luong and Jules Mazzola with "Suddenly Seymour"**

Kudos to all talented performers and emcees Tawshawna Campbell and Lauren Horne for a memorable event!

SC CTE Technology Champion



Congratulations to Isabelle Blanton, the 2026 South Carolina CTE Technology Champion for the Waccamaw Region! This honor, awarded for the 24th year, recognizes top Career and Technical Education students statewide. Isabelle was selected through a competitive process and represents the best of CTE, receiving recognition and a scholarship from the South Carolina Department of Education. Her leadership, dedication, and supportive nature make her a valued member of the school community, and we are proud of her achievement!

Teddy Bear Clinic



On Thursday, kindergartners from Ocean Bay Elementary visited AAST for the spring Teddy Bear Clinic! The Pre-Medicine major taught the kindergartners how to treat their teddy bears with kindness and maintain the best health and safety practices. Thank you to those who helped make this wonderful event possible!

HCS Tech Fair



AAST students participated in the HCS Tech Fair this week, showcasing their innovative projects and technical skills. Spectators and judges alike were impressed with the quality and creativity of their displays.

We are proud of our students' hard work and look forward to sharing results once they are announced—stay tuned!



Congratulations to Cadence Kenion, the newly crowned Miss Carolina Forest High School 2026! You are a queen in our eyes every day for your kindness, work ethic, and passion for speaking up and helping others.

AAST
a stem school ~ realize the possibilities

SPRING GALA

APRIL 24, 2026

8:00 PM – 11:00 PM

House of Blues, North Myrtle Beach



Spring Gala 2026 Tickets are now on sale in My Payments Plus! Scan the QR on the left to visit the AAST Spring Gala site for more details! **Prices increase to the final price (\$65 per ticket) on April 6th.** On the site, you will find the AAST information form that includes the eligibility requirements, transportation/behavior expectations, dress code, and attendance expectations/procedures. The guest approval and early dismissal forms are also available on the website.

National English Honor Society Backpack Buddies Drive



As part of their latest service project, members of the National English Honor Society spent the month of March collecting donations of food, school supplies, and personal care items for Backpack Buddies, a local organization dedicated to providing food for children in Horry County facing food insecurity. NEHS is proud to assist Backpack Buddies by providing donations that will help deliver nearly 3,000 food packs each week to children in need, making a significant impact in the fight against hunger.

Thanks to the incredible generosity of the AAST community, we successfully gathered 697 items to support this important cause! We extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed.

Sidewalk Chalk Day



On Thursday, Advanced Art held their annual Sidewalk Chalk Day! Students worked hard as a team to make their amazing creations. Winners will be announced after spring break!

Beanstack Gachapon

Congratulations to our students who have already reached their 4,000-page reading goal for the year! Many have gone far beyond this milestone, with one student reaching an incredible 37,000 pages read!

Students who have met this goal are invited to stop by the library to take their spins on the new gachapon machine and win a prize. We are so proud of their dedication to reading—keep up the amazing work! #RiseWithReading



George Maisuradze, a junior in the Biomedical program at AAST, is making a meaningful impact both on and off the court. As the number one singles player for the Carolina Forest High School varsity tennis team, George has developed a strong passion for the sport since he began playing at age 12.

Motivated to share that passion with others, George organized a Spring Tennis Festival for elementary students in the Carolina Forest community. After earning a grant from the USTA Southern, he worked alongside his teammates to plan and lead a day of tennis drills, games, and skill-building activities for 22 students. Participants also enjoyed prizes, food, and drinks.

Through this event, George combined leadership, community service, and athletics—creating a fun and engaging experience while introducing younger students to the lifelong benefits of tennis. George has also qualified for the 2026 Varsity National Biology Bee Competition through the National Qualifying Exam (NOE) offered by the International Academic Competitions-US Division.

