

AAST NEWSLETTER

AAST.HORRYCOUNTYSCHOOLS.NET

Hispanic Heritage Month



September 13 - September 17, 2026

Friday, September 18

WHAT IS LOTERIA?

- "Loteria" or Lottery, is a traditional Mexican game of chance that swaps out standards numbers for vibrant cultural illustrations
- The game functions as a visual celebration of Mexican heritage, language, and humor
- Using pictures instead of words creates a universal experience that completely bypasses language barriers



AAST is celebrating National Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15–October 15) with a variety of activities highlighting Hispanic culture, history, and contributions. The World Language Department has organized several events and learning opportunities throughout the month, including a library display featuring Hispanic authors, awareness posters recognizing notable Hispanic figures throughout the hallways and rotunda, and daily announcements highlighting influential Hispanic Americans.

Students in Mr. Barrineau's Spanish classes are also getting hands-on by learning about Hispanic culture through activities such as making guacamole. In addition, multiple Advisory lessons throughout the month will explore Hispanic traditions, heritage, and the experiences of Hispanic communities.

These activities give students opportunities to learn, connect, and celebrate Hispanic heritage.

Upcoming Events



PSAT Workshop
September 21

NHS Induction, 6:00PM
September 22

CTE / SIC Advisory Dinner
September 24, 5:30 pm

Dress Like Dolly Day
September 25

College App Day
September 25

Ed Op Day
October 7

Schools Closed
October 12-13

Spirit Week
October 26-30

Fall Festival
October 29

A STRONGER
SCHOOL
A BRIGHTER
YOU

BOJANGLES

REWARDS & RECOGNITION

Good Books
Brighter Futures

READ MORE BUILD BRIGHTER TOMORROWS



READ
LOG
ACHIEVE

SUMMIT READERS | 4,000 PAGES

Students who read and log 4,000 pages will receive a **\$10** Bojangles gift card.



BIGGER
STORIES
BRIGHTER
COMMUNITIES

BO READERS | 10,000 PAGES

Students who read and log 10,000 pages will receive a **FREE 20-piece Bojangles Family Meal** to enjoy with their family.



SCHOOLS THAT READ
LEAD

BO'S READING CHAMPIONS | SCHOOL AWARD

The school with the highest average number of pages read per student will be named Bo's Reading Champions and will win a visit from the **Bojangles Food Truck!**



IMPORTANT: ALL PAGES MUST BE READ AND LOGGED BY

APRIL 30

TO QUALIFY FOR BOJANGLES REWARDS.

TUTORING @ AAST

USE THE FORM
BELOW TO
SIGN UP FOR
TUTORING!

SIGN UP HERE



Tutoring will take place on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.

- Please check with the teacher you are requesting for tutoring about their availability before signing up. This helps prevent scheduling conflicts.
- All tutoring sign-ups must be completed by Monday at 8:00 AM for that week. Tutoring sessions will be held in the Media Center from 3:30-4:30 PM.
- If you cannot attend your tutoring appointment, please email the teacher or let them know in person if possible.
- Snacks will be provided.



AAST College Application Day

September 25

1ST QUARTER BEANSTACK

Reading Challenge!

READ. LOG. SPIN. WIN!

TRACK YOUR READING IN BEANSTACK AND HIT MILESTONE GOALS TO EARN A SPIN ON THE LIBRARY GACHAPON MACHINE! EACH SPIN = A SURPRISE PRIZE... WHAT WILL YOU GET?



**LOG YOUR
READING!**

PRIZES INCLUDE:
BLIND BAGS!
FREE BOOKS!
LEGO SETS!
GIFT CARDS!
SNACKS!



DRESS LIKE DOLLY DAY



BIG HAIR. BRIGHT STYLE.
A BRIGHTER TOMORROW.

9/25

A little nod to 9 to 5



BRING A NEW OR GENTLY USED

BOOK TO DONATE

HELP US SUPPORT LITERACY IN OUR COMMUNITY!

BOOK DRIVE COMPETITION!

DONATE BOOKS. WIN A PRIZE!

- Bring your gently used children's books to your Advisory class.
- The Advisory that donates the MOST books wins a special treat courtesy of the AAST Media Center!
- Where will the books go?** Your donated books will be given away to kids at our Fall Festival Trunk-or-Treat!
- Fill your Advisory's book pile & help us spread the joy of reading!



SEPTEMBER 8 - SEPTEMBER 25

Visitors from the South Carolina State Museum



AAST welcomed Jeff Brodie, Chief Content and Engagement Officer and Tom Falvey Director of Innovation Experiences and Audience Engagement at the South Carolina State Museum, for a visit to our classrooms on Friday. During their visit, they saw firsthand the innovative learning taking place across our majors. Our student ambassadors also helped showcase the people, programs, and experiences that make AAST unique.

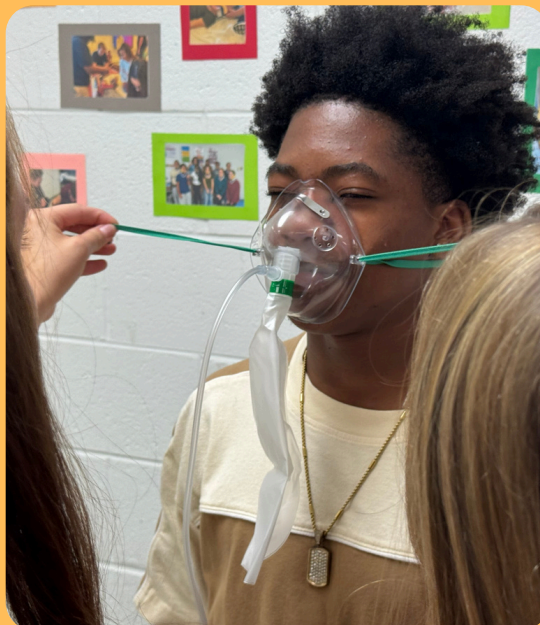
Santee Cooper Energy Auditors



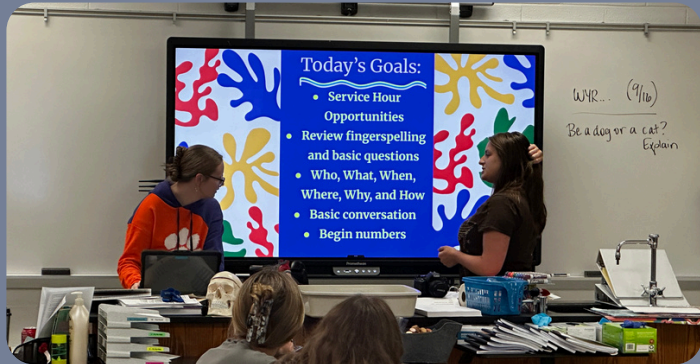
Commercial and residential energy advisors and an electrical engineer from Santee Cooper spoke with the environmental engineering seniors about ways to save energy and money. In their last project, students conducted an energy audit of their homes and created a report of their findings and recommendations. With the guest speakers, they learned about local careers in the energy conservation field!

Airway Management in EMS

This week, EMS 1 students explored airway management through a variety of hands-on activities designed to connect classroom learning with real-world emergency care. Students practiced essential airway skills, worked through realistic patient scenarios, and applied proper assessment techniques to determine the care each patient needed.



These activities gave students valuable opportunities to practice their skills in a hands-on setting while building confidence, strengthening their clinical decision-making, and developing a better understanding of effective airway management. By putting their knowledge into practice, students are gaining experience that will help prepare them for future work in emergency medical services.



Meet the Koi-municators!

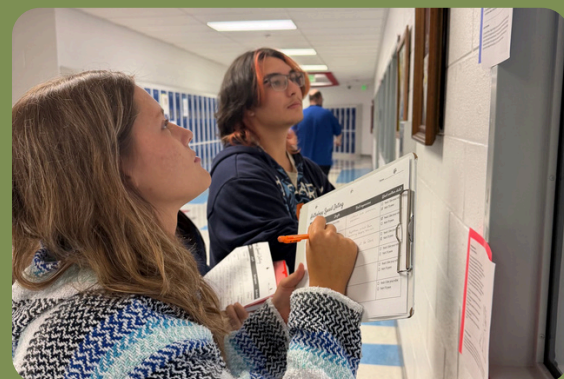
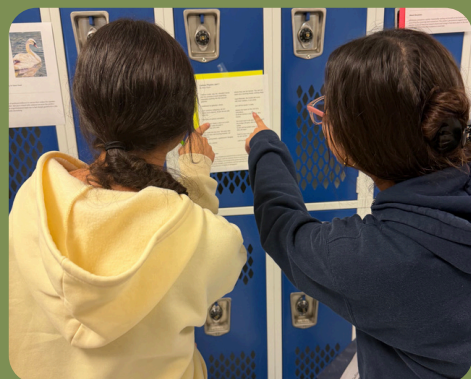
AAST has a new club! The Koi-municators are learning the basics of American Sign Language (ASL) while building communication skills and having fun together. Students are practicing signs, learning how to communicate in a new way, and gaining a greater appreciation for the role of sign language in connecting with others. We're excited to see where our newest club goes—and what our Koi-municators learn along the way!

Flame Test Lab

Chemistry students recently brought the periodic table to life during our exciting Flame Test Lab! After studying electron configuration, energy levels, and the electromagnetic spectrum, students explored how electrons absorb and release energy in visible and measurable ways. Students conducted flame tests using various metal ions. As compounds were heated, the classroom filled with brilliant bursts of color — vibrant crimsons, bright yellows, soft lilacs, and glowing greens. Students used their observations to identify unknown samples, applying their understanding of excited electrons returning to ground state and releasing specific wavelengths of light.



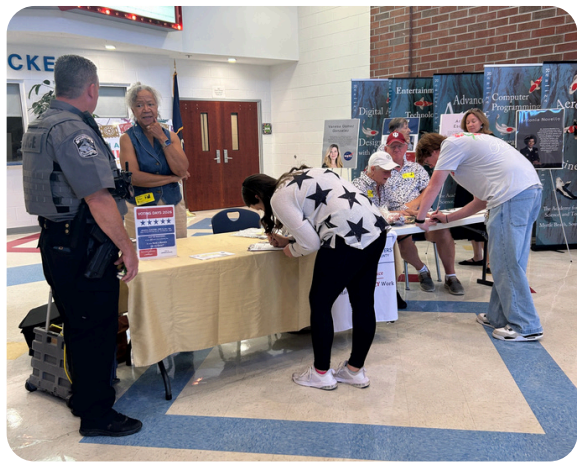
Poetry Speed Dating



Students in Mrs. Bell's English 3 classes were speed dating poems today to find their perfect match for the upcoming Poetry Out Loud competition this fall! From dreaming with Langston Hughes to wandering in the 'midnight dreary' with Edgar Allan Poe, students explored over 40 poems in search of the one they love.

#risewithreading

League of Women Voters



On Thursday, the League of Women Voters of Horry County visited AAST to help eligible students register to vote. Students had the opportunity to take an important step toward participating in the electoral process and making their voices heard in future elections.

IT Professionals Day



This week, we celebrated IT Professionals Day by recognizing Sarah Arthur and Ray Minette for all they do to keep AAST running smoothly! From troubleshooting student and staff technology issues to helping us stay connected, Sarah and Ray are always ready to tackle our tech challenges with patience and expertise. They were treated to lunch as a small token of our appreciation. Thank you, Sarah and Ray, for keeping us connected and helping make AAST the amazing place it is!

Blood Analysis in Forensic Science



Mrs. Rielly's Forensic Science class was studying blood as evidence this week. In a lab that looked at the behavior of blood in crimes, students examined the effects of height, volume, and angle of impact on the droplets. Then, they investigated how the speed of the victim/suspect affected the spacing, shape, and size of the drops. Next week, these detectives will look at DNA and its role in evidence.

Technical Theater Propwork



Technical Theater students continued working on scenic props for Dreamhouse Theatre, putting their skills to work as they refined, painted, and completed their projects. After weeks of hands-on work, students delivered the finished props to Dreamhouse Theatre, providing them with an opportunity to see their classroom skills put to use in a professional setting.