

AAST NEWSLETTER

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College App Day at AAST



September 21 - September 25, 2026



Representatives from colleges and universities across the Southeast visited AAST to meet with students and share information about the college application process. Students had the opportunity to ask questions, learn more about their options, and get helpful advice as they begin planning for life after high school.

Representatives also encouraged students to take the next step in the application process and provided application fee waivers for several colleges, helping make the process a little more accessible. These visits gave students valuable information and resources as they explore their post-secondary opportunities.

Upcoming Events



Ed Op Day
October 7

Schools Closed
October 12-13

Honor Society Inductions,
6:00 pm, October 20

Unity Day
October 21

1st Quarter Ends
October 23

Spirit Week
October 26-30

Fall Festival
October 29

PSAT
October 29

Schools Closed
November 3

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
a stem school - realize the possibilities



HAPPY FALL

AAST Apparel Sale

Show Your **KOI** Pride

Sale Ends Oct. 6

T-Shirts Hoodies Crewnecks

available for order on MyPaymentsPlus

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!

BOJANGLES REWARDS & RECOGNITION

READ MORE BUILD BRIGHTER TOMORROWS

SUMMIT READERS | 4,000 PAGES

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

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.

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.

AAST Teacher of the Month

Congratulations to Ms. Annie Johnson, AAST's September Teacher of the Month! Ms. Johnson teaches Marine Science and AP Environmental Science and leads our Environmental Engineering with Clean Energy major.

Students describe Ms. Johnson as kind, caring, encouraging, and passionate about what she teaches. They appreciate the way she makes challenging concepts easier to understand, creates engaging learning experiences, and ensures every student feels welcomed, heard, and valued.

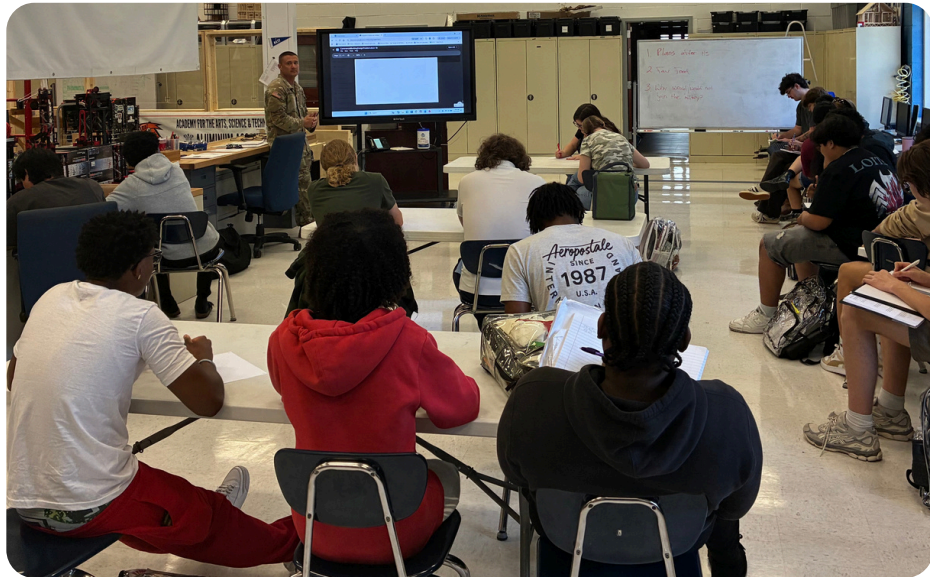
One student shared, "Mrs. Johnson puts love and joy into every assignment," while another said her class is "one I always look forward to!"

We are grateful for the energy, compassion, and dedication Ms. Johnson brings to AAST each day. Congratulations, Ms. Johnson, on this well-deserved recognition!



National Guard

SSG Woods from the South Carolina National Guard visited AAST to speak with our engineering students about the wide range of opportunities available through the National Guard. Students learned about the many engineering-related career paths available through military service, as well as opportunities for education and college assistance. The presentation gave students another perspective on how their engineering skills can translate into future careers and educational opportunities.



NHS Induction

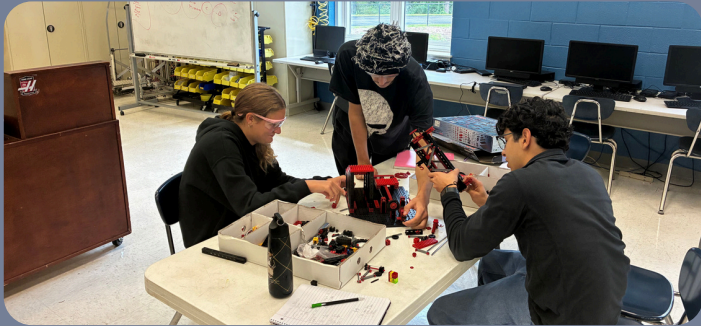
AAST celebrated the newest members of the National Honor Society during a special induction ceremony. Students were recognized for their commitment to scholarship, service, leadership, and character as they officially joined this distinguished organization.

Congratulations to our newest NHS members! We look forward to seeing the positive impact they will make at AAST and in our community.

Engineering Students Design Scaffolding Systems



Engineering students put their design and problem-solving skills to work by creating a scaffolding system capable of transporting materials laterally and vertically to different heights. During the project, students applied their understanding of simple machines, gear trains, and torque to maximize mechanical advantage and efficiency. Students also used SolidWorks 3D modeling software, an industry-standard engineering tool, to develop and refine their designs. The project challenged students to combine engineering principles, computer-aided design, and creative problem-solving to develop a functional system.



Computer Science Students Learn from AI Engineer

AAS Computer Science seniors had the opportunity to connect with Donn Felker, an AI Engineer with Polygon, who shared his expertise and industry experience with students. Mr. Felker coached students on the importance of clear and effective README documentation as well as strategies for writing effective prompts for AI agents.

With more than 25 years of professional IT experience, Mr. Felker provided students with valuable insight into the skills and practices used in the technology industry. We appreciate him taking the time to share his knowledge and experiences with our students!



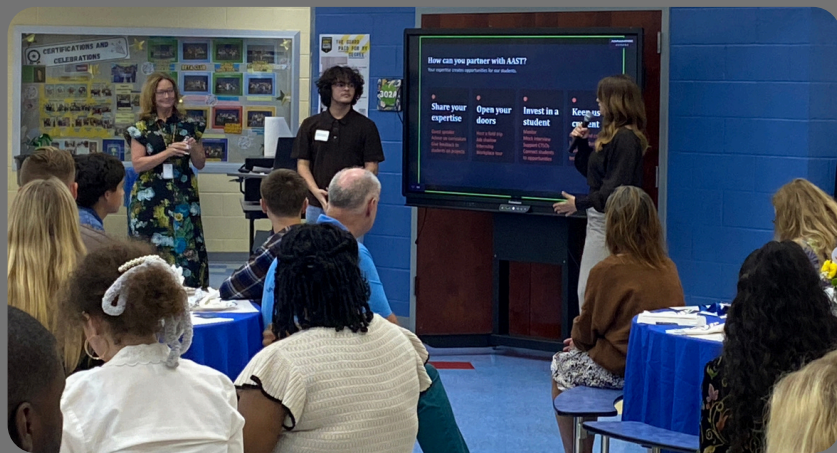
Clinical Studies EKG Students Put Their Skills Into Practice!



Students in our Clinical Studies EKG course have been putting their classroom knowledge into action! As part of their hands-on training, students successfully practiced performing live 12-lead EKGs on one another, gaining valuable experience with proper lead placement, patient preparation, and EKG acquisition. These future healthcare professionals are now preparing for their national EKG certification exam on October 6th. We are excited to see their hard work, confidence, and clinical skills continue to grow as they work toward earning their certification!

CTE/SIC Advisory Board

On September 24, AAST hosted the Fall Career and Technology (CTE) Advisory Boards and School Improvement Council (SIC) dinner and meeting. Our business partners, community members, parents, and STEM partners serve on AAST CTE advisory boards and AAST School Improvement Council. AAST advisory boards and school improvement council are composed of community members, business and industry leaders, and parents who support AAST efforts to improve STEM teaching and learning. The advisory boards meet formally twice yearly but teachers are in contact with advisory board members throughout the year for curriculum suggestions, field experience opportunities, and job shadowing and internship placement for students.



Dolly Day

AAST celebrated Dolly Day with plenty of big hair, country flair, and a whole lot of love for books! Students and teachers joined in the fun by dressing up like Dolly Parton while also helping support our children's book drive. Throughout the last two weeks, students have brought in gently used children's books to donate, helping us build a collection of books that will be given to local children at our Fall Festival Trunk-or-Treat.

A big thank-you to everyone who dressed up, donated books, and helped make Dolly Day a fun celebration of reading and giving back! Next week, we'll announce which Advisory collected the most books and will receive the prize from the Media Center. Stay tuned to find out who wins!

