

Ashe County Schools

WEEKLY UPDATE



Smiles and hugs were plentiful at Ashe Early Learning Center's end-of-year celebration. Above: Students in Mrs. Wyatt's and Mrs. Cotton's class.

WEEK
ENDING
07
JUNE

Important Upcoming Dates



- ✓ June 10 - Summer Hours Begin
Offices Closed Fridays
- ✓ June 26 - 9:00 am BOE Budget Meeting
- ✓ July 4 - District Offices Closed for Holiday



CLICK

SUPERINTENDENT'S NOTES

Thank you

Ashe County Schools is dedicated to fostering growth across the district. We have diligently worked to develop our staff into leadership roles, recognize our students and employees in meaningful ways, and offer engaging, hands-on, and personalized learning experiences for both students and staff. We continuously seek opportunities to bring the best to our community and celebrate our achievements along the way.

We appreciate your support in sharing the many positive accomplishments within our school district. Behind every statistic is a story with many hours dedicated by numerous people to realize success. I hope you can see that dedication on the faces of our students and staff. It's essential for our community, state, and nation to hear about the excellence in public education, which is driven by the unwavering commitment of educators at all levels to provide the best for our children. I am proud to call each of you a partner in this work.

Thank you to all the educators whose dedication and passion make our achievements possible. Your tireless efforts and unwavering commitment are the foundation of our success, and we are deeply grateful for everything you do.

Sincerely,

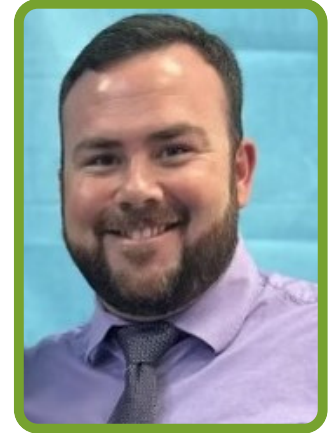
Dr. Eisa M. Cox
Superintendent



Bower Named ACMS Asst. Principal

Congratulations to **Brandon Bower**, whom the Board of Education has approved as Ashe County Middle School Assistant Principal, effective June 6, 2024.

Mr. Bower has 11 years of education experience, having taught sixth grade math and science at Mountain View Elementary School for the past five years.



He is currently serving — as he has for the past two summers — as Career Accelerator Program Administrator for Ashe County Schools. Prior to joining our school district, Bower taught middle school math in Wilkes County.

Bower holds a Bachelor of Science in Middle Grades Education, as well as a Master of School Administration in Educational Leadership from Appalachian State University. He was a recipient of the North Carolina Teaching Fellows Scholarship from 2009-2013 and the Pamela Schram Scholarship in 2012-2013.

“It is an honor to be chosen as Assistant Principal for ACMS. As a student, Ashe County Schools was a welcoming place that nurtured and equipped me with the necessary skills needed for success in college and life. When I returned to Ashe County to teach sixth grade at Mountain View Elementary, the support and kindness of the administration, faculty and parents motivated me to go back to school to pursue a degree in school administration. While I will miss being in the classroom with students daily, I look forward to working with Mrs. Hines at the middle school to create a positive learning environment where everyone is happy, productive, and successful.”

- Brandon Bower

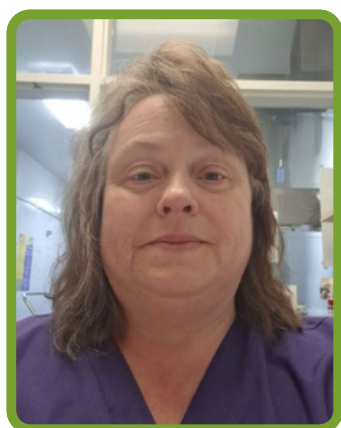
Bower and his wife, Amber, live in Lansing with their daughters, Hollyn and Ansley. Off the clock, he enjoys fishing, hiking and camping.

Ashe County Schools Superintendent Dr. Eisa Cox said, “It is a privilege to hire Ashe County Schools alumni to lead in our schools. Mr. Bower has been an outstanding teacher leader and will be a wonderful assistant principal. We are excited for him to join the team at Ashe County Middle School.”

MVES Gets New Cafeteria Manager



Kim Osborne will have a bit more on her plate as she transitions from Mountain View Elementary's Child Nutrition Assistant to Cafeteria Manager in July.



But she's ready. Osborne joined the MVES cafeteria staff more than 13 years ago. Those years of experience will serve her well in her new role. ACS Child Nutrition Director Tammy Woods said, "The Child Nutrition Department is excited to welcome Kim into this position. She is a valued employee for her loyalty and dedication to serving the students and staff at Mountain View Elementary. She will lead the staff with integrity and instill the business

practices that will continue to make the School Food Service program one of the best places to work in the school system."

— HAPPY — Retirement

Superintendent Dr. Eisa Cox honored ACS teachers who are retiring. We wish them all the best as they begin a new chapter.

Nita Absher, MVES
Anita Chamberlain, BRES
Autumn Cline, WWES
Richard Gill, BRES
Christian Pennington, ACHS
Kim Scott, WWES
Judy Smith, ACMS
Allison Weaver, WWES
Retha Woods, WWES



LETRS Literacy Champions

Ashe County Schools has successfully “graduated” 121 PreK-12 teachers and administrators in LETRS Early Childhood, LETRS 3rd ed., or LETRS for Administrators over the past two years! These Literacy Champions have completed a rigorous, graduate-level course empowering them to help prevent and remediate reading difficulties for all students. These amazing teachers are now LETRS® certified.

Another 17 teachers have completed Year 1, Volume 1 this year and will celebrate their official certification next year! ACS will continuously have a cohort of new teachers and administrators completing the course.

In May, teachers were honored at awards day ceremonies and celebrated with special Literacy Champion framed certificates, a catered lunch and delicious sweet treats. These educators will also receive a special digital badge to display their official certification professionally.

In June, we kicked off our K-8 Wit + Wisdom Launch training sessions and will continue to support the implementation through additional planning sessions in August before school begins.



These teachers' dedication and hard work is an investment in ACS students that will help young learners succeed as they return to classrooms this fall — and for years to come.

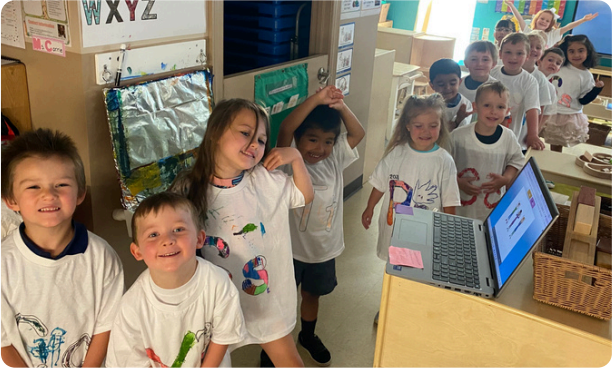
[CLICK HERE](#) for more pictures from awards day ceremonies and our last PD days at each location.

Celebration Time at AELC

Ashe Early Learning Center teachers, students and families enjoyed an end-of-year celebration!



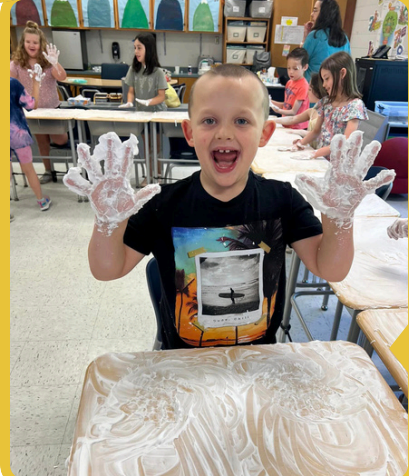
Photobooth



End-of-year Highlights at BRES

After students left for the summer, BRES staff enjoyed an end-of-year lunch, fun games and more. The event was planned by the Hospitality and Events team.

First graders had a great time with an end-of-year shaving cream party (a.k.a. cleaning the desks).



End-of-year Highlights at MVES



This 4th grader won first place in the County Soil and Water Conservation Poster Contest and second in the Regional contest. She also won a total of \$125 combined. #AsheProud

Kindergartners worked hard to master a life-long skill before summer — shoe tying!



... and at WWES



Click [HERE](#) for fun reading programs and **PRIZES** for students:

- If your child reads at least **100 pages** and returns a reading log in August, they will receive a library goodie bag.
- If your child reads at least **500 pages** and returns a reading log in August, they will be entered to win gift cards to Wal-Mart, Starbucks, and more!
- If your child reads at least **1,000 pages** and returns a reading log in August, they will be entered to win one of our grand prizes including: Robots, Color Gel Tiles, Bluetooth Speakers, Magnatiles, and MORE!



Mrs. Cline's class wrapped up the school year with a Pet Drive for National Pet Week. The goods were delivered to Ashe County Animal Control, where WWES staffers were given a tour of the facility. If you're looking for a pet, consider adopting a cutie looking for a fur-ever home.

Summer Opportunities for Middle Schoolers



SUMMER READING IS BACK!

ASU has extended their awesome program and prizes to the middle school level this year. ACMS is rewarding EVERY STUDENT who reads and holding a drawing for every book over 5 read with 15 prizes already collected and more to be added by September!!

Start **HERE** ➡



ACMS Summer Athletic Opportunities

- Basketball workouts for rising 7th and 8th grade boys and girls: Mondays and Thursdays from 6:00-7:30 starting June 10th.
 - Volleyball workouts for rising 7th and 8th grade girls: Mondays from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm starting June 10th.
 - Soccer open field for boys and girls will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:00-7:00 starting July 9 through July 25th.
- All middle school athletes must have a current sports physical & EKG to participate.

ACMS CHEER!

7TH & 8TH TRYOUTS

August 5-7th 3-5 pm @ ACMS Gym

You must have a physical and EKG before you may participate.

Contact Ashley Calhoun 336-977-3752 or Erica Goodman 336-877-7328.



Congratulations, Class of 2024

This year's graduating class excelled in grades, sports, community service and more. In total, seniors accepted \$1,422,978 in scholarships for higher education, with a total offering of \$2.4 million! We wish each graduate a successful future.



More News & Shout Outs

CLASSIFIED STAFF OF THE YEAR



Tim Walton
ACHS Custodian

Congratulations to **Tim Walton**, voted as Classified Staff of the Year.

He said, "I have been at ACHS my entire 32-year career. As a senior, I even helped clean rooms during my study hall period. Making the best of what you've got is a saying I live by. I am thankful for my co-workers and this recognition."

FIELD GOAL!



Construction is progressing on the new field at ACHS.



"The progress of the new field is exciting to watch. We cannot wait for our student-athletes to experience playing on the new field this fall." Dr. Eisa Cox, Superintendent

CLICK for 2024-25
School Calendar

2024	Ashe County Schools	2025
<p>AUGUST</p> <p>1 M T W T F S S</p> <p>2 T F S S</p> <p>3 S</p> <p>4 M T W T F S S</p> <p>5 T F S S</p> <p>6 S</p> <p>7 M T W T F S S</p> <p>8 T F S S</p> <p>9 S</p> <p>10 M T W T F S S</p> <p>11 T F S S</p> <p>12 S</p> <p>13 M T W T F S S</p> <p>14 T F S S</p> <p>15 S</p> <p>16 M T W T F S S</p> <p>17 T F S S</p> <p>18 S</p> <p>19 M T W T F S S</p> <p>20 T F S S</p> <p>21 S</p> <p>22 M T W T F S S</p> <p>23 T F S S</p> <p>24 S</p> <p>25 M T W T F S S</p> <p>26 T F S S</p> <p>27 S</p> <p>28 M T W T F S S</p> <p>29 T F S S</p> <p>30 S</p> <p>31 M T W T F S S</p>	<p>AUGUST</p> <p>8 Required Workday</p> <p>9 Optional Teacher Workday</p> <p>12 Professional Development Day</p> <p>13-16 Required Teacher Workdays</p> <p>19 First day of school for students</p> <p>SEPTEMBER</p> <p>2 Labor Day Holiday</p> <p>OCTOBER</p> <p>16 End of Quarter 1 (42 days)</p> <p>16 Student Early Release - Teacher Workday</p> <p>17 Professional Development Day</p> <p>18 Optional Teacher Workday</p> <p>NOVEMBER</p> <p>11 Veterans Day Holiday</p> <p>27 Annual Leave Day</p> <p>28 and 29 Thanksgiving Holiday</p> <p>DECEMBER</p> <p>20 Student Early Release - End of Quarter 2 (83 days - Semester 1)</p> <p>22 Annual Leave</p> <p>24, 25, 26 Christmas Holiday</p> <p>27, 30, 31 Annual Leave</p> <p>JANUARY</p> <p>1 New Year's Day Holiday</p> <p>2, 3 Optional Teacher Workday</p> <p>6 Professional Development Day</p> <p>20 Martin Luther King Holiday</p> <p>FEBRUARY</p> <p>14 Optional Teacher Workday</p> <p>MARCH</p> <p>12 End of Quarter 3 (146 days)</p> <p>13 Required Teacher Workday</p> <p>14 Professional Development Day</p> <p>APRIL</p> <p>15 Good Friday Holiday</p> <p>21-23 Easter Holiday - Annual Leave</p> <p>MAY</p> <p>24 Memorial Day</p> <p>29 - Early Release - End of Semester (92 days - Semester 2)</p> <p>30 Required Teacher Workday</p> <p>JUNE</p> <p>2 Required Teacher Workday</p> <p>3, 4 Optional Workday</p> <p>11 Last Possible Day For G.S.</p> <p>JULY</p> <p>4 Independence Day Holiday</p>	<p>JANUARY</p> <p>1 M T W T F S S</p> <p>2 T F S S</p> <p>3 S</p> <p>4 M T W T F S S</p> <p>5 T F S S</p> <p>6 S</p> <p>7 M T W T F S S</p> <p>8 T F S S</p> <p>9 S</p> <p>10 M T W T F S S</p> <p>11 T F S S</p> <p>12 S</p> <p>13 M T W T F S S</p> <p>14 T F S S</p> <p>15 S</p> <p>16 M T W T F S S</p> <p>17 T F S S</p> <p>18 S</p> <p>19 M T W T F S S</p> <p>20 T F S S</p> <p>21 S</p> <p>22 M T W T F S S</p> <p>23 T F S S</p> <p>24 S</p> <p>25 M T W T F S S</p> <p>26 T F S S</p> <p>27 S</p> <p>28 M T W T F S S</p> <p>29 T F S S</p> <p>30 S</p> <p>31 M T W T F S S</p>

375 student days
1128.5 student hours
approved 03/04/2024