

Ashe County Schools

WEEKLY UPDATE



BRES students made special Valentine cards and treat bags for a local assisted living home!

THROUGH
28
FEB



Important Upcoming Dates

- ✓ **March 5** - ACHS Spring Blood Drive, 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- ✓ **March 6** - BOE Budget Worksession 10:00 a.m.
- ✓ **March 11** - ACMS Literacy Night
- ✓ **March 13** - BRES Leadership Day/ 30 Year Celebration 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.
- ✓ **March 25** - EC Parent Night 5:30 p.m.



Superintendent's Snow Day Rap!



This month's stormy weather led to several days of remote learning announcements, but our Superintendent decided to bring some fun to the mix with an upbeat rap! Students and families loved it, and it even caught the attention of Queen City News Charlotte!



[LISTEN HERE](#)

NEW: Ashe County NC Pre-K Program!



Join our New Pre-K Classroom in Ashe County Schools!

We are now accepting applications for our brand-new pre-K classroom starting on or about March 24, 2025!

Eligibility

- Children must be 4 years old on or before August 31, 2025
- OR currently 4 years old and planning to attend Kindergarten in the fall

Why Choose our Pre-K Program?

- A wonderful introduction to a positive school experience
- Helps your child become Kindergarten Ready



Program Details:

- ✓ Hours: 7:30 AM - 5:30 PM
- ✓ Location: Brand new Pre-K classroom at Ashe Early Learning Center
- ✓ Cost: \$800 per month (subsidies may be available)
- ✓ Includes: Highly qualified, certified teacher & assistant and breakfast, lunch and snacks
- ✓ Summer childcare available for paid classroom from 7:30 AM - 5:30 PM

Enroll Now or in the Fall!



Call today for more info
336-846-3221

Applications are open for our exciting new Pre-K class! A fun, engaging and educational environment designed to spark curiosity and set the foundation for a lifetime of learning.

The class is for children who will be 4 years old by Aug. 31, 2025 OR for 4-year-olds planning to attend Kindergarten this fall.

See the flyer for cost, location, times and more details.



Pre-K DIAL Screening



ASHE COUNTY SCHOOL'S

NC PRE-K DIAL Screening

March 17-20, 2025

Call 336-846-3221

To Schedule an Appointment

Applications for the Ashe County 2025-2026 NC Pre-K Program are now open. To apply, your child must turn 4 years old on or before August 31, 2025.

Complete the application and bring the necessary documentation to ensure your child can be screened! Contact Jerri Vogler at 336-846-3221.

Get started [HERE](#).

Applications for the Ashe County 2025-2026 NC Pre-K Program will be available starting February 7, 2025. These are available on the Ashe County Schools website or at our Ashe Co. NC Pre-K office – Ashe Early Learning Center, 406 School Ave., West Jefferson, NC 28694. Applications will also be available at any Ashe County NC Pre-K Site and the Partnership of Ashe.

All students applying for NC Pre-K must turn 4 years old on or before August 31, 2025.

The following documents will be needed to complete the application process and allow us to conduct the required DIAL screening:

- 1 – Completed application
- 2 – Child's certified birth certificate or adoption decree
- 3 – Proof of Income (2024 Tax Return, W-2's, 4 current, consecutive check stubs or signed and dated letter from employer with hours and rate of pay, SSI Statement, Social Security Wages/Benefits Statement, Disability Payment Info., Child Support Info., Direct Sales Income, Veteran Services Benefits, etc.)
- 4 – Proof of Residence in Ashe County

Your child cannot be screened unless the application is completed and necessary documentation is provided at the time of your arrival.

SRO Appreciation

In February, we celebrated our amazing SROs, who keep our schools safe. But they're more than just protectors—they're mentors, educators and friendly faces students can count on. From teaching safety tips and crime prevention to promoting drug awareness and conflict resolution, they help shape a positive school environment.



THANK YOU!

NATIONAL SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER APPRECIATION DAY



ATTENTION FAMILIES

SAVE THE DATE!

2025 KINDERGARTEN SCREENING

Kindergarten-ready students must be at least 5 years old by August 31, 2025 to enroll for the 2025-26 school year.



REGISTRATION OPENS MARCH 3RD

Mountain View Elementary - March 31
Westwood Elementary - April 2
Blue Ridge Elementary - April 10



<https://www.asheschools.org/>

Is Your Child Kindergarten Ready?

Kindergarten screening registration opens March 3, 2025!

Parents can start calling that day to schedule appointments for soon-to-be kindergartners.



We're looking for school bus drivers and we've got upcoming bus driver training classes! Know someone who's ready to make a difference? Help us spread the word, and let's drive success together!

See upcoming training dates and registration information here.

Contact: 336-846-9103

School Bus Driver Training

Upcoming Class Dates:

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| March 10-13, 2025 | May 19-22, 2025 |
| March 24-27, 2025 | June 2-5, 2025 |
| April 7-10, 2025 | July 7-10, 2025 |
| April 21-24, 2025 | July 21-24, 2025 |
| May 5-8, 2025 | August 4-7, 2025 |

Classes consist of three virtual days 7:45-5:00 and an in person test on the fourth day

To register for class please e-mail Wendy Baker at: wendy.baker@ashe.k12.nc.us with the following information:

- Name
- Email address
- Phone number
- Date of class you would like to attend

If you have any questions, please call 336-846-9103

If you have interest in becoming a School Bus Driver the following is expected prior to employment:

- Complete the DOT Physical
- Complete a Drug Test and Criminal Background Check
- Complete and Ashe County Schools Application



Teachers, Get Your Grant Applications in by March 17!

There's still time for ACS teachers to apply for an Endowment Fund grant and bring big ideas to life in the classroom! Check out this awesome project at Blue Ridge Elementary School, where students are rocking their piano lessons, thanks to keyboards funded by last year's ACS Endowment grant! Don't miss out—apply now and make your classroom dreams a reality!

 **Start HERE**



ACHS Welcomes New Ag Teacher

Welcome to Ms. Nikki Eason. She's new to Ashe County High School and FFA. She joined our family just in time for us to celebrate her for **Ag Teacher Appreciation Day!**

Thank you, Ms. Eason for the seeds of knowledge you will sow in the young hearts and minds of our students.

And the Winners Are ...

Congratulations to 10 elementary students who won in the New River Soil and Water Conservation District's "Wetlands are Wonderful" contest! The annual contest recognizes the creativity and dedication of local students in promoting environmental conservation.



3rd Grade Poster Contest

- 1st Place: Camilla M.
- 2nd Place: Lucy D.
- 3rd Place: Logan H.

4th Grade Poster Contest

- 1st Place: Oliver B.
- 2nd Place: Parker F.
- 3rd Place: Rayne G.

5th Grade Poster Contest

- 1st Place: Natalie H.
- 2nd Place: Lily M.

6th Grade Essay Contest

- 1st Place: Emerson L.
- 2nd Place: Ella M.



Serving with Excellence



Our cafeterias are the heart of our schools, where kids enjoy delicious meals and build friendships in a safe, welcoming environment. Safety doesn't happen by accident, and we're grateful for the hard work and dedication of our cafeteria staff!

Schools Shine in Latest Inspections:

- Westwood Elementary (staff pictured): 100%
- Ashe County Middle School: 99.5%
- Ashe County High School: 99%
- Mountain View Elementary: 98.5%
- Blue Ridge Elementary: 98%



Submissions Open for Art Exhibit

Calling all young artists ages 5-18!
Don't miss out on this opportunity to
showcase your creativity! For more info,
call the Ashe County Arts Council at
336-846-2787 or email
operations@ashecountyarts.org.

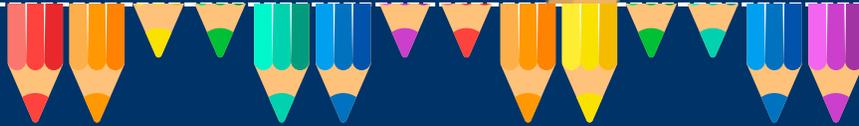


Youth Art Exhibit

March 13 - April 19, 2025

This non-competitive exhibit is
open to ALL Ashe County students
ages 5-18

**EARLY
LEARNING
CENTER**



*Our Pre-K students celebrated a fun 100th day of
school with snacks, costumes and lots of smiles!*



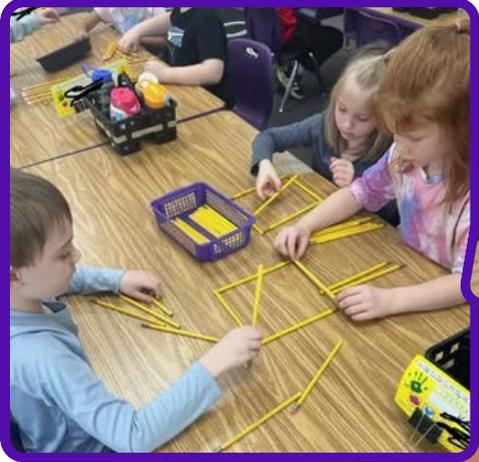


BRES



Making special Valentine cards and treat bags for a local assisted living home was a labor of love for 5th graders!

MIVES



Kindergarteners have been studying farms in Wit & Wisdom. They used paper(straw), pencils (sticks) and blocks (bricks) to make the Three Little Pigs' houses. Just like authors add details to their stories, our kiddos had a blast discussing ways to add their own special touches to their houses! Meanwhile, 1st graders studied what happens when animals don't hibernate, learned about creature features and wrote about animals!

WINNES



6th graders kicked off a fun challenge of fractions, decimals and percents!

3rd graders tackled Super Bowl word problems, multiplication, and even got creative, writing epic commercials for their persuasive writing unit! And when they were challenged to create a Valentine's heart using only quadrilaterals, they showed diverse creativity when manipulating the shapes.

ACMS



Shout out to our Bulldogs for an incredible performance at the conference tournament! A special congrats to the 8th Grade Boys Team for securing 2nd place in the final game! Their hard work and dedication truly paid off!



Financial Smarts

State Employees Credit Union and 25 volunteers helped facilitate our "Reality of Money" event for 8th graders. Each 8th-grade team rotated through this real-world simulation that gave them a peek into the future — and into being young adults with jobs, debt, families, and other real-world responsibilities to manage.

ACHS



Shout out to senior Ian G. (pictured left), who was named to HighSchoolOT's inaugural all-region team for the 336 area code! He had an incredible season, catching 81 passes for 939 yards and 8 touchdowns!



Congrats to Phoebe W., who represented ACHS at the NW North Carolina Band Masters All-District band clinic at App State! She was selected 5th out of almost 100 flutes from the high country to Winston-Salem!



The ProStart Culinary team, led by Debbie Sturgill, attended a special event at the Copper Mine Grill with Chef Trent Pruitt, Chef Tom Fogger and other supporters of the culinary team. Students tried several choice dishes and beautiful, artistic desserts in six Valentine courses.

AEC



Congratulations to AEC's National BETA Club State Convention WINNERS...

<p>Kirsten S: Language Arts 4th Place</p>			<p>Rayanna W: Fiber Arts 2nd Place</p>
	<p>Isaac O: Instrumental Performing Arts 1st Place</p>		
		<p>Emma H: Biomedical Science 3rd Place</p>	

Big congratulations to Sarah M., who will take her talents to the tennis court at Emory and Henry University this fall!



Our incredible BETA Club students brought home wins at the state convention in Greensboro! This year's theme, "Radiate," celebrated excellence in service, leadership, achievement, and character—and our students absolutely shined!