

Ashe County Schools

WEEKLY UPDATE



This year's Back 2 School Blast is coming up on Saturday, Aug. 10. See details on page 3.

THROUGH

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JULY

Important Upcoming Dates



- ✓ **July 4** - Offices Closed for the Holiday
- ✓ **July 17** - BOE special called meeting
- ✓ **July 22-23 and Aug. 5-6** - College and Career Boot Camp, Ashe County High School
- ✓ **July 25** - Ashe County Schools Endowment Fund Golf Tournament, Mountain Aire Golf Course
- ✓ **Aug. 5** - BOE Meeting
- ✓ **Aug. 8** - Employee Convocation (required workday), Ashe County High
- ✓ **Aug. 10** - Back 2 School Blast, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Ashe County Sheriff's Office parking lot, Jefferson





Mark Your Calendars!

22nd Endowment Fund Golf Tournament



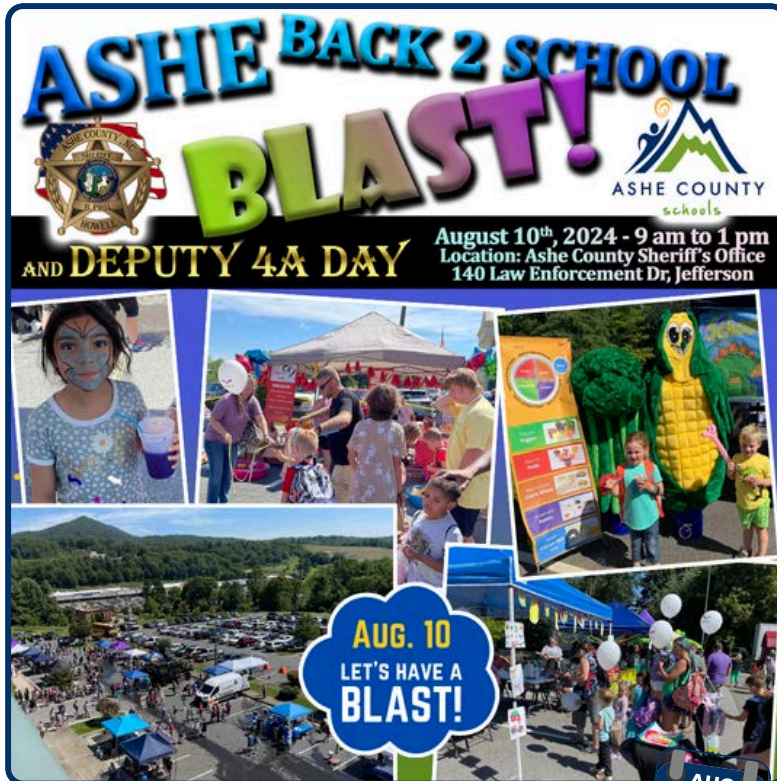
July 25, 2024
Mountain Aire
Golf Course

The annual golf tournament fundraiser is almost here! Since 2003, funds raised through this tournament have enhanced the learning experience of Ashe County students. \$132,000+ has been awarded to ACS educators through the years, thanks to our community's support!

Interested in
sponsoring/donating?
Contact Rhonda Smith:
rhonda.smith@ashe.k12.nc.us
or 336-245-7175.

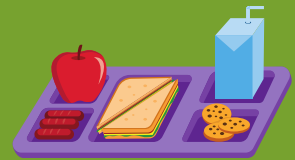


ACS Employee Convocation
Ceremony, Aug. 8 @ ACHS



To sponsor, click [HERE](#).
Want to volunteer? Questions?
Call 336-245-7175.

ACS Summer Meal Program



School meals play a crucial role in enhancing academic performance and addressing child hunger. And many children depend on school meals for their nutritional needs. That's why, in addition to school breakfast and lunch programs during regular school months, Ashe County Schools are providing FREE summer meals for Ashe County kids and teens 18 and younger.

Through partnerships with NC Summer Nutrition Programs and the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI School Nutrition), Ashe County Schools can do even more to ensure children receive nutritious meals during school breaks.

Tammy Woods, Director of Child Nutrition at ACS, and Heather Cox, ACS Bookkeeper and Operations Assistant, recently attended the School Nutrition Association of NC State Conference in Greensboro. This equipped them with valuable insights into addressing child hunger and available resources to help. Thank you to all the dedicated ACS child nutrition professionals for their tireless efforts in nourishing and empowering our students!



Get more info and resources:

<https://summermeals4nckids.org/>

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

Enhancing Educational Opportunities

A focus on enriching educational experiences for Ashe County students. That's what was happening at the 2024 Academic Innovation Expo. Ashe County Schools Superintendent, Dr. Eisa Cox, along with Julie Taylor, Director of K-12 Curriculum & Federal Programs; Casey Smith, K-5 Literacy Curriculum Coordinator; Courtney Eller, ACS STEM Innovator; Karee Mackey, ACS GEAR UP Coordinator; and other ACS staffers attended. The event was hosted by Reich College of Education at Appalachian State University and our Public School Partnership. Thank you, ASU and GEAR UP Appalachian.

The event also recognized Pitch Competition grant winners at the Gear Up Innovation Expo. Winners included Tonya Denny, BRES Media Coordinator, who won a \$10K grant and Jonathan Greene, English teacher at Ashe Early College High School, who won a \$5K grant. They are pictured below and in the group photo with others, including Casey Smith, Julie Taylor and ACS GEAR UP Coordinator Karee Mackey.

Many of last year's ACS grant winners shared how students benefited from the projects funded. These included Heather Phillips and Jennifer Treva, Ashe County High School EC teachers, who presented on ways to "Instill Entrepreneurial Skills for All" – helping students cultivate skills needed for their desired careers.

Eller presented ways to build student engagement through STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math).



(L-R): Eller, Dr. Cox, Julie Taylor and Casey Smith

AEC English teacher Jonathan Greene



Grant winner Tonya Denny also presented on "A Multicultural Culinary Experience."



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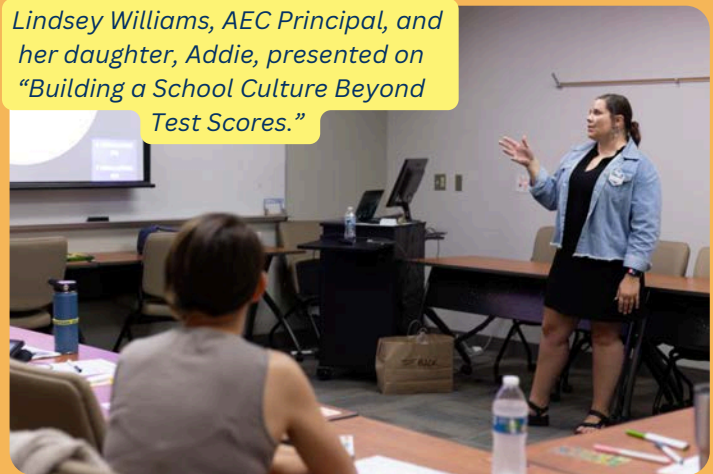
Highlights from this year's Expo:

- Over \$40,000 in Academic Innovation Mini Grants awarded in the first ever ExP=O Pitch Competition, with our wonderful friend and partner, the Public School Partnership
- Networking at two social events hosted by the lovely Participate Learning and the Appalachian State Alumni Center
- 30-plus innovative practices highlighted in sessions from our GEAR UP districts and partners
- Visits with our NASCAR Camp students at the closing dinner — they blew us away with their talent
- Hearing the story of Abigail Carpenter and the teachers who shaped her journey from Ashe County, NC to Yale University



Jill Gambill, ACMS Visual Arts Teacher (above), presented on the use of pre-recorded video lessons.

Lindsey Williams, AEC Principal, and her daughter, Addie, presented on "Building a School Culture Beyond Test Scores."



Ashe County Schools
will benefit from \$21,000
in grant funding from our
teachers and partners from ASU
winning grants on our behalf!



ACS parents/families: View EOG and EOC scores on your child's PowerSchool Portal online. Log in via computer. Click [HERE](#) for details on how to access scores.

Also, please note that NC ends its PowerSchool partnership on June 28. Download reports you wish to keep before then.



Attention Parents!

EOG/EOC
Individual Score
Reports (ISRs)
Now Available!

Please log in to your
Parent Portal account
via computer to access

*Note: Please download any reports you would like to keep permanently, as North Carolina ends their partnership with PowerSchool effective June 28th, 2024



What's Happening this Summer?



Mountain View Elementary students attending Exploration Ashe Camp learned about honey bees from the Ashe County Bee Association.



The school also got a new sign!



MVES Summer Reading Camp students enjoyed learning about agricultural history, how to survey land, the Christmas tree farm industry, and how soil benefits crops.

Students worked to revive flower beds, too!





What's Happening this Summer?

Westwood Elementary students had a blast learning about the agriculture in Ashe County at summer camp! Here are a few of those smiling faces ...



Thanks so much!



A big THANK YOU to Ashe Memorial Hospital, from the Science Dept at Ashe County Middle School! A request for gloves for a dissection turned into an afternoon of looking at different supplies that could be useful in science classrooms! The hospital generously donated items, and we are very grateful for the willingness to partner with the local education system! ACMS is definitely prepared for next year.



Shout Out!



Congratulations to ACMS for being nationally recognized for their achievements and hard work as a [School to Watch](#) middle school for the 7th time!

#AsheProud of all our teachers and students who work year after year to optimize success!



Congratulations ...



... to these three ACHS seniors, who were among those named recipients of the 2024 Frank James - SkyLine Scholarship.



Fun on the Court



At NC State Team Camp, our Lady Huskies had fun, grew closer as a team and played some tough, competitive basketball!



Giving back ...

During summer camp for *future* Lady Huskies, over 50 players coached, mentored, learned and had lots of fun!! Campers not only performed well but were great teammates!





What's Cookin'?

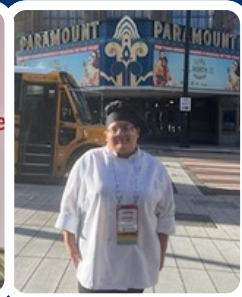


In February, ACHS senior Jennifer B. placed 2nd in the STATE in the Baking and Pastries competition at the FCCLA Event at Johnson & Wales University in Charlotte. FCCLA is the Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America, a national career and technical organization for students in Family and Consumer Sciences at the high school level.

Pictured at right with chaperones Debbie Sturgill (ACHS Culinary Instructor) and Tammy Woods (Ashe County Schools Nutrition Director), Jennifer flew to Seattle, Washington, to participate in the NATIONAL FCCLA event! Although she didn't place, Jennifer said highlights included meeting many of the 8,000 other participants, collecting pins from fellow students from different states and hearing keynote speaker, Caleb Campbell, speak about resilience.



"I was very excited to travel for the first time. This opportunity has been amazing. I've learned many new techniques and other life lessons that I will carry on in life."
- Jennifer B.



And the winners are ...

Senior graduate Gracie Roten and rising senior Paige Roten have won 3rd place in the state FFA AgriScience Fair, Social Science, Division 6. Their winning project was entitled "Mental Health in Agriculture." Congratulations!

ACHS FFA Forestry Team competed at the North Carolina State FFA Convention, held at White Deer Park in Garner. Andruw W., Levi L., Gracie R., and Paige R. placed 23rd in the state! This is especially commendable, because due to unforeseen circumstances, two members joined and trained late.



#ASHEPROUD



#ASHEPROUD

More State Wins!



(Left): Senior graduate Andruw Winebarger won 2nd place in the State FFA Proficiency competition! Andrew's application was submitted earlier in the semester, and an agriculture project is required. Andruw's project submission involved his work with starting his own sawmill business.



(Above, pictured with ACS FFA Advisor Daniel Calhoun): Bailey R., Paige R. and Andruw W. received their state FFA degrees. This is the highest honor given to members by the state association, with only 10% of members receiving it.



All State Players



A trio of juniors from Ashe County High School made the North Carolina Softball Coaches Association All-District 7 team. Outfielder Nadilyn E., shortstop Ally G. and pitcher Maleah L. represented the Lady Huskies on the 3A all-district team. Great job representing ACHS and your teammates, ladies!





Road Trip!

Rising ACHS 10th graders explored career and college options during a Summer Bus Tour from June 24-28, funded by ASU GEAR UP. Students explored colleges in the Piedmont and at the coast, touring UNC-G, NC State, Elon, Chapel Hill, Duke and UNC-Wilmington Universities. Other fun activities included visits to the International Civil Rights Museum, NC Museum of Natural Sciences, Morehead Planetarium, Duke Gardens, and NC Aquarium.



SUPERINTENDENT'S NOTES

Subhead

Text

