

# February



## Knowing your “Why”

Simon Sinek’s “The Golden Circle” is a simple yet powerful graphic illustration of the importance of knowing ones “why.” Although it was designed to be used within the realm of business, it has great adaptability in terms of educating students.



Sinek describes his graphic this way: “The Golden Circle” provides compelling evidence of how much we can achieve if we start everything we do by first asking a simple question: “why?”

So, what is your why? Why do you do what you do? After several weeks working with Accomack teachers and staff, my conclusion is this: you are here for the kids. You are here to help them become the absolute best versions of themselves. There is no doubt that this why permeates our school division. You should be very proud of this...and you should constantly be reminding yourself what your why is.

Let's be honest. January through February are particularly difficult months for teachers and students. Now more than ever it is important to reflect on our why. Friends, I am no different than you. I have to constantly remind myself what my why is; otherwise, I lose focus and forget why I do what I do... and then I become discouraged. I hate feeling discouraged.

Smile. Laugh. Be comforted. You are doing incredibly important work, and you are appreciated and respected far beyond what you know! Thank you for all you do!

Dave



# Elementary

## ACCAWMACKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



This month, all AES students have been participating in STEM class where they are learning coding!



## **HAPPENING** *THIS MONTH*

Upcoming Winter Concert February 27 for grades 4 and 5.

BETA team state convention on Feb 4-6.

Author Nan Carlton visiting on February 13th to read to our younger students. Mrs. Carlton will complete a reading activity with the students.



Jan 29 - PreK students participated in Nutrition class taught by Food Services.

# CHINCOTEAGUE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## **CES Overcomes 'The Big Flood' of 2025!!**

On Tuesday, January 21st a broken pipe near the main office caused a flood of water throughout the school mainly in the office, library, gym, cafeteria, main hallway, and several classrooms. Thankfully the water did not reach any library book shelves and the books were saved! A special thanks to our facilities who came in quickly to get the water out and had dryers inside throughout the school, and also to our staff and teachers for lending each other a hand to get things back in order. We are pretty much 'back to business' and ready for January to end and get on with February!!



**Congratulations for December 'Student of the Month' at CES:  
The following students received Student of the Month for December at Chincoteague Elementary School:**

**Front row (l to r): Jay Connelly, Anna Robertson, Penelope Rose, Summer Miller, Laney Goodson, and Madeline Miles  
Back row (l to r): Raheem Lankford, Elliott Bowden, Anders Savage, Leland Lynch, Harper Stewart, Avery Smith, and Skylar Scott**

**Absent from photo: Leighton Britton**

## **Snow Globe Stories in 4th Grade...Pretty Cool!!**

**'If I Were Trapped in a Snow Globe' by Mrs. Luck's 4th Grade Reading Class.**



**'Glow Into the New Year' Dance Party.  
Thank you to the CES PTA for sponsoring the Neon Glow dance party for all students on January 17th. And a special thanks to Art Teacher, Mrs. Schubert for the ALL SCHOOL neon glow mural. A fun-filled night for all!!**



## **Upcoming Events:**

- \*Success Academy Gr. 1-5, February 8th/22nd from 8:00am-12:00pm**
- \*PTA Meeting/1st and 2nd Grade Patriotic Program, February 20th at 6:00pm**
- \*Celebrate Colts Awards, February 21st at 2:00pm**

# METOMPKIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Metompkin Elementary is excited to announce a collaboration with Eastern Shore Rural Health to launch a Telehealth Clinic starting in March. This new initiative will provide students with the opportunity to be seen by a doctor for a variety of health concerns without leaving school. By bringing healthcare services directly to our students, we aim to support their well-being and ensure they have access to timely medical care. Stay tuned for more details as we prepare to roll out this valuable service!



MES is excited to launch an after-school tutoring program beginning February 25, 2025. Designed for students in grades 1 - 5, this program will focus on skill remediation to support academic growth and success.

Tutoring sessions will take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:45 - 4:45 PM providing targeted instruction to help students strengthen their foundational skills. We look forward to supporting our students through this valuable resource.



During Saturday's Success Academy, one enthusiastic student shared with Mrs. Buell just how much he loves coming to school on Saturdays. He was so excited that he even said he'd be willing to give up a regular school day just to attend! His favorite part of Success Academy? Spending time with his friends and enjoying the delicious lunches. Moments like these highlight the positive impact of the program and the joy it brings to our students!

Metompkin Elementary is thrilled to once again host the Girls on the Run program this spring! After a highly successful season in the fall, led by dedicated teachers Tanequa Crosby and Nadine Brown, the program continues to empower MES girls by building self-confidence and motivation. The team also made a meaningful impact by donating fundraiser proceeds to Girls on the Run, further supporting this incredible initiative. We look forward to another season of growth, teamwork, and inspiration!



**Upcoming Dates for Metompkin Elementary School:**

First Week of February - National School Counseling Week  
February 8 & 22 - Success Academy  
February 19 - Early Dismissal  
February 25 - After-School Tutoring Begins (Tuesdays & Thursdays)  
February 26 - Pre-K & Kindergarten Registration  
February 28 - Interims Sent Home  
Stay tuned for more updates and reminders!



# PUNGOTEAGUE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

We look forward to celebrating our  
bobcats on Friday, February 7th!  
Keep an eye out for a letter if your child  
will be receiving an award!

A yellow poster with a large sun in the background. The text is in blue and black. There are blue and yellow triangles scattered around the sun. At the bottom right is a blue paw print with a yellow heart inside. The poster is surrounded by pink hearts.

**JOIN US FOR**

## **PUNGOTEAGUE PROUD AWARDS**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH**

<b>1ST-2ND</b>	<b>3RD-5TH</b>
<b>GRADE AWARDS</b>	<b>GRADE AWARDS</b>
<b>8:45-9:45 AM</b>	<b>9:45-11:00 AM</b>

**PARENTS- YOUR CHILD WILL BE  
BRINGING HOME A LETTER IF THEY  
ARE RECEIVING AN AWARD!**



# Secondary



Your NNDCC cadets and instructor, Ms. Phyllis Smith presented to the Accomack County School Board January 21. The instructor and cadets shared their experiences as participants in the Pearl Harbor Memorial Day Parade earlier this year. They also took the time to thank everyone who made this once in a lifetime opportunity possible!!!



Thank you to alumnus Devaughn Henry (c/o 2024) for coming to Arcadia High School to talk to our Juniors and Seniors about his experiences at William & Mary and thank you for ALWAYS making it a GREAT day to be a FIREBIRD!!! We see you, Devaughn!!!



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Annual Rock and Roll Show  
will take place on Feb. 28,  
March 1, March 7, and  
March 8!  
Admission cost \$5**

# ARCADIA MIDDLE SCHOOL

At AMS we are proud to offer our students a variety of after school activities. In addition to the usual sporting activities, we currently offer:

- This year we had the students elect a student government. This body consists of several students amongst the 3 grade-levels, complete with a President and Vice President. Thank you to Mr. Conely for organizing this!
- Mr. Dedicatoria recently took his STEM students to the Wallops Flight Facility. In addition to the STEM club, Mr. Dedicatoria is the sponsor of our Dungeons and Dragons club, Mr. Evans is the co-sponsor. The Dungeons and Dragons club meets every Tuesday after school.
- Another club we have is our chess club. Mr. Walker is the sponsor, and he usually has about 20 students stay back every Thursday.
- We are currently brainstorming more ideas for after-school activities, and have a couple more we hope to get up and running soon, so stay tuned!



With the 2nd half of the year upon us, we have increased the participation in our after school remediation program and Success Academy. This past Saturday we had 8 teachers and over 50 students attend. We hope to continue to have great participation in these programs!

Thank you to the AMS cafeteria staff for supporting our after school programs and Success Academy with amazing snack, breakfast and lunch options!



2/06 - Volleyball at NHMS

2/11 - Volleyball at NMS

2/12 - Title 1: STEM Night @ Wallops Flight  
Facility 5 pm - 7 pm

2/13 - Volleyball at NHMS



# NANDUA MIDDLE SCHOOL



**Winter Semi-Formal Dance Rescheduled - The Winter Semi-Formal Dance has been rescheduled. It will be on Friday, February 21. Please see the flyer for more information. Due to the date change, tickets will be on sale again for this event.**



*A Night To Remember*

CONCESSIONS | DJ | SEMI-FORMAL

RESCHEDULED FOR  
**Friday, February 21**

5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Ticket Price: \$10.00/per person

Seventh & Eighth Grade Winter Dance



# NANDUA HIGH SCHOOL

The NHS students and staff continue to work hard to achieve excellence in our SOLs as the current scoring results show above an 80% pass rate in Science, 98% pass rate in Writing and 93% in Reading. In Algebra and Geometry, 100% of the students who took the test for the first time this semester passed their SOL. We are so proud of the hard work and dedication of the students who took their test and the educators who prepared them. Once a Warrior, Always a Warrior!

Right before we left for Winter Break, students and staff participated in a Winter Spirit Week which included students wearing holiday headwear, wearing holiday scarves and socks, and a battle between Santa and the Grinch. A holiday door decorating competition rounded out our holiday celebration, which ended with our Winter Concert, where the NHS band performed and the art students' artistic abilities were prominently displayed throughout the front commons area.



This February, our Social Studies and Marketing departments have come together to create an exciting and impactful cross-curricular project in honor of Black History Month.

Students from both disciplines are collaborating to design campaigns that highlight the achievements and contributions of Black individuals throughout history. In Social Studies, students will explore key figures, movements, and moments in Black history, developing a deeper understanding of their significance. Meanwhile, Marketing students will apply their skills to create engaging campaigns, combining historical research with creative advertising techniques to raise awareness about the importance of Black history. The project not only provides students with an opportunity to apply their knowledge in a real-world context, but it also fosters collaboration across subjects, encouraging a holistic approach to learning.

The result will be a series of student-driven campaigns, displayed throughout the school, that celebrate the legacy of Black history and its continued impact on society today. We look forward to seeing the innovative ideas and thoughtful projects that will emerge from this partnership!



# CHINCOTEAGUE HIGH SCHOOL

## Back and Beta Than Ever

CHS students are eagerly preparing for the Virginia Beta Convention. The convention will be held in Hampton and will allow students to perform and be evaluated in a variety of different competitions.



## Cheerleading!

We wanted to give a special shoutout to our Middle School and Varsity Cheerleaders! These are the best group of cheerleaders we have had in many years! Our Varsity team won 2nd place in the district competition and in regionals!

Our Middle School team did EXCEPTIONAL at their cheer showcase as well! Those girls cheer their hearts out any chance they get! Whether it be at football or basketball games, they are there with the BIGGEST smiles on their faces and have the LOUDEST voices! We are proud to call all of them our very own Pony Cheerleaders!

We also wanted to give a shoutout to their coaches!! Without their dedication on and off the mats, these teams wouldn't be possible! Jessica Vasiliou, Rebecca Toth, and Jessica Tyler! You women are wonderful!

## Scholastic Bowl



Scholastic Bowl is off to a 5-0 undefeated start! Way to go Scholars! They have one more match within the district and then are off to the regional competition at Colonial Beach High School on 1/25. The team is led by three super duper seniors: Dalton Atkins, Makhya Cropper, and Kaley Tyler.

## Sporting Events

- Come out and support our JV and Varsity Basketball teams play in the last few home games of the season!
  - 2/4 vs North Hampton
  - 2/6 vs Arcadia
  - 2/12 vs Broadwater



## After Prom's Pancake Supper

We had to change the date (again!!).

The CHS After Prom's Pancake Supper will now be March 26th from 5:00-7:30 pm.

Sponsored by Don's Seafood Restaurant  
\$10.00 Adults/\$7.00 Children (12 & under). Take Out Available.



# TANGIER COMBINED SCHOOL

## Pre-K and Kindergarten

In Science class, Miss. Chris Parks and her young learners have been differentiating between actions that involve pushing and pulling objects.

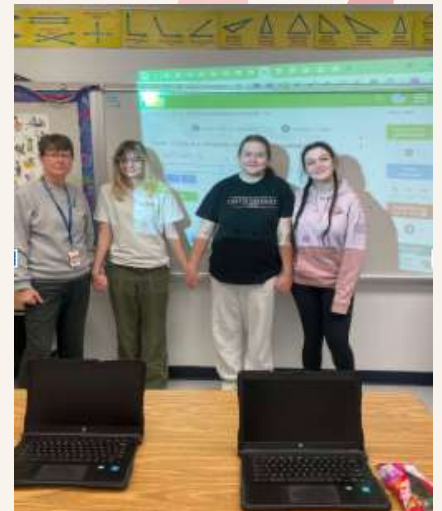


## 4th and 5th Grade

In Art class, students have been learning about the contributions and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

## Small But Mighty

Emilee, Ella, and Lacee are the only 9th graders at TCS. They have been working hard preparing for the Algebra 1 SOL test.



## Upcoming Events/Reminders:

Thursday, February 13th- HI-Y Bake Sale

Friday, February 14th- Middle and High School Valentine Dance 7:30-10:00 PM.

Monday, February 17th-Gertrude Hawk Sold  
PTA Cookbooks can be purchased at school for \$15.

# Staff Spotlight

**Staff member: Buddy Pride**  
**Assistant Principal CCS**



Introducing our amazing Assistant Principal Dr. Buddy Pride!! This is Dr. Pride's 6th year at CHS. For the last five years, he was the Chorus teacher at CHS and the General Music Teacher for CES. He has spent the last three years being our Drama Coach and our High School Chorus Director. Dr. Pride is most proud of his relationships with his students! He enjoys watching them mature, grow, and helping them to become responsible adults. When asked how the students and colleagues have shaped him into the person he is today he replied with, "Working with students and my colleagues has made me a better person. My students constantly remind me that life isn't easy no matter what age you are, we just have different challenges and things to work on. And our purpose for being here is to help each other learn and grow to be better humans." We are lucky to have Dr. Pride as our assistant principal and mentor for not only the students, but for our staff members as well! Thank you Dr. Pride for your dedication and "Pride" in your role as assistant principal!

**Teacher: Mae Grey**  
**5th grade PES**



Ms. Mae Gray has dedicated four decades of her life to shaping the minds and futures of students in Accomack County. She began her teaching career with Accomack County Public Schools 40 years ago. Throughout her tenure, Ms. Gray has been a pillar of the school community, known not only for her deep commitment to her students but also for her inspiring leadership. She holds herself to the highest standards and expects nothing less from her students and colleagues, creating an environment of excellence that has motivated generations of learners. Her impact extends beyond the classroom, as she has mentored fellow teachers and contributed to the growth of the school. While Ms. Gray plans to retire this year, her legacy will continue to resonate within the hearts of her students and colleagues. We are grateful for her unwavering dedication to education.