

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER
2024



HAPPENING *in our schools*

You're Invited!
Accomack County Public Schools
Child Check Developmental Screening
Wednesday, November 20, 2024
Metompkin Elementary School 2:00-4:00 p.m.



Child Check developmental screening is open to children birth to school age whose parents or guardians are residents of Accomack County. This includes children attending ACPS or private schools and those who are home-schooled.



Let our Team of School Professionals Screen Your Child's:

- Speech & Language
- Motor Skills
- Cognitive Skills
- Vision
- Hearing

You must contact the Special Education Office to Schedule an Appointment for your child today. 757-824-3360

Spanish and Creole Interpreters Available.



Elementary

ACCAWMACKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

During the month of November, students will be learning about voting and elections. We will be getting ready for Thanksgiving and discussing what it means to be thankful.



PreK -During the month of November, Pre-K will be learning about Community Helpers and how to be kind and helpful.

First grade will be learning about characters, setting and events and learning their vowel sounds. Students will begin crafting personal narratives and focusing on using capital letters.

Third grade has been working on addition and addition word problems.

Fourth Grade will be setting a goal to complete 100 random acts of kindness in November.

Fifth Grade -In Math we will be beginning our unit on fractions (addition, subtraction, multiplication) and equivalency between fractions and decimals. We are also taking a field trip to Brownsville Preserve on November 12th. During November we will also be writing letters of gratitude.

Staff spotlight

Staff member: Jessica Reavis

Position: Guidance Counselor

Ms. Reavis has returned to being a guidance counselor after leaving in 2015 and working in personal counseling and becoming a stay-at-home mom. She and her husband own a small farm. Ms. Reavis has two children who love to help cook and run around the farm. Ms. Reavis is excited to be back as a Guidance Counselor.



Teacher: Miranda Holland

Position: 5th grade teacher



Mrs. Holland - Hi! My name is Miranda Holland and I am in my 8th year of teaching, all with ACPS. For as long as I can remember, I always wanted to be a teacher. My Christmas and birthday lists always consisted of something related to teaching. I grew up on the northern end of the Eastern Shore and was excited to come back and serve the children of the Shore. I like to read books, make different things using my cricut machine, and spend time with family & friends.

CHINCOTEAGUE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

October has been a busy month at Chincoteague Elementary School...

*Congratulations to the newly inducted CES Jr. Beta Club Students for 2024-2025: (4th Grade) Lia Aker, Cooper Cherrix, Beckley Farrell, Violet Hasty, Elizabeth Jillard, Phineas O'Connor, Jacob Roberts, Anders Savage, and Jordan Speidel; (5th Grade) Forrest Gibson, Cambria Mazurek, LaElle Scott, and Harper Stewart.



*The Chincoteague Volunteer Fire Co. visited grades PreK-2 for Fire Prevention and Education Day. Students learned about fire trucks, ambulances, stop/drop/roll, firefighters, paramedics, and the tools they use.

*CES PTA held their annual fundraiser 'The Great Pumpkin Tour' on October 19th. Pumpkins were decorated by each classroom, individual, family, or business in the community. It was a fun night for all. Ms. McIntosh's 2nd grade class won 1st place for homeroom entries with 'The Wizard of Oz' theme.



*The CES Fall 'Big Top' Book Fair was a huge success. Parents were able to eat lunch with their child(ren) and visit the fair on Oct. 23 & Oct 25. Shout outs to Mrs. Mason (Librarian), Ms. Becky, and volunteers for decorating and bringing the book fair to CES, to the PTA for help in decorating the cafeteria, the cafeteria staff for providing a delicious spaghetti lunch, and to the staff, parents, and students for all the support during the fundraiser. Lots of great books got into the hands of many students!!

CHINCOTEAGUE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Staff spotlight



Teacher : Miss Libertino

Position: First grade

Miss Libertino is a first year teacher at CES. She is teaching 1st Grade. What she enjoys most about being a first grade teacher is the support from all of her coworkers. She was raised on Chincoteague and has lived here her whole life and attended CES and graduated from CHS. Ms. Libertino feels very

sentimental to be teaching at the same school that she grew up in and working beside some of her former teachers. In her free time, she enjoys taking her 2 dogs for walks or going to the beach. She is most proud of having coached the Chincoteague High School Varsity Volleyball team the past 2 years and winning back to back District Champ titles.



Staff member: Ms. Payton

Position: School Security Officer

We want to welcome our new SSO, Ms. Payton. She is from Bloxom, VA and graduated from Arcadia High School. She has a 9 year old son who attends KES. She loves online shopping, and going out to eat. Ms. Payton is so friendly to the students, greeting everyone with a smile. Thank you for keeping our students and staff safe at CES!

KEGOTANK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Important Dates: November 5th - No School- Election Day

November 12th - Report Cards

November 13th - 2- Hour Early Dismissal

November 20th - 2nd Grade Program @ 5:30- ALL OTHER GRADES- PARENT CONFERENCES

November 22nd - BETA Cash Bingo

November 26th - 2-Hour Early Dismissal

November 27th - 29th - No School

KEGOTANK'S
CORNER!

October 26th - STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts/ Agriculture, Math) Event
at Mary N. Smith Cultural Enrichment Center



KEGOTANK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Storybook Character Pumpkins, First Grade



Pre-K had a fabulous fall adventure at Adkins Farms. Students were able to participate in several obstacle courses and activity stations. They rode on a hayride, observed farm animals, and picked their own pumpkin. Each student came home with his or her own miniature pumpkin and a smile.



Josue and Chyna are working on bead boards to add within 10.

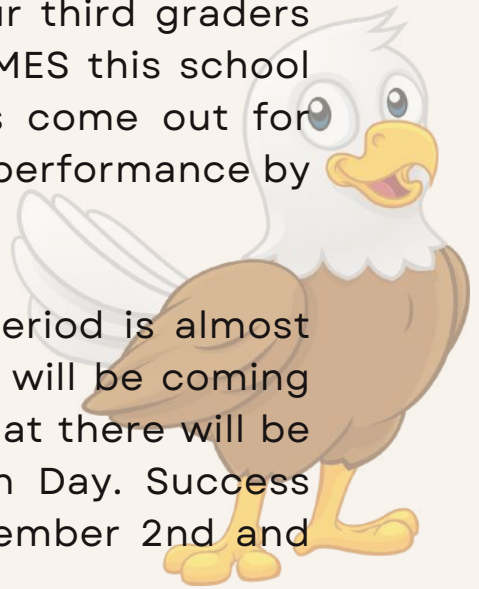


Perla was using Play-Doh to practice her spelling words for the week.

METOMPKIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

MES has been busy in the month of October. We have started a new event each morning at 8:45 called Blast Out Books. This gives all of our adults and students 15 minutes of quiet reading time! MES PreK and Kindergarten students have enjoyed field trips to the pumpkin patch. Our third graders had a blast at the annual Farm Day held at MES this school year. Lastly, we enjoyed having our parents come out for parent conferences at our Title 1 Night with a performance by our talented first and second graders!

It is hard to believe that our first marking period is almost over. It ends on November 4th. Report cards will be coming home on November 12th. Please remember that there will be no school on November 5th due to Election Day. Success Academy will be occurring on Saturday November 2nd and Saturday November 16th!



METOMPKIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Staff spotlight

Teacher: Yulande Slater

Position: Language Arts teacher

Mrs. Yulande Slater is the 5th grade Language Arts teacher at MES. Mrs. Slater has very high expectations of her students and requires hard work every single day. Mrs. Slater has moved to 5th grade this year from third grade last year so many of her students know her from third grade. Mrs. Slater comes to us from Jamacia and we are so very fortunate to have her as part of the Eagle family.



Staff member: Brianna Young

Position: Guidance Counselor

Ms. Brianna Young is our school counselor at Metompkin Elementary School. Her sweet, kind personality is the reason she is so popular with our students. She is always willing to listen and help you solve an issue. She does many many things here at MES and we are grateful that she is part of the MES family.

TANGIER COMBINED SCHOOL

Staff Member: Rebecca Eskridge

Position: Instructional Assistant



My name is Rebecca Eskridge and I am 43 years old. I was born and raised on Tangier Island and I have chosen to remain here and call it home. I have two children. I have a son Andrew who is 21 and was diagnosed with Autism when he was five years old. I also have a daughter, Lilly who is 14 and is one of only two students in the 8th grade. This is my third year of being employed as an Instructional

Assistant of Tangier Combined School. For two years I was president of our PTA and I play an active role in our community. I am a member of the New Testament Church on Tangier Island. I teach Sunday School to 1st and 2nd graders, and I also help with our youth group that meets weekly. I enjoy spending time with my family and traveling with my kids. My hobbies include cooking, decorating my home and making it cozy, taking evening walks with friends, and anything involving sun, sand, and being by the water.

Teacher: Duane Crockett

Position: History



Mr. Duane Crockett graduated from Christopher Newport University in May 2000. That same year, he began his teaching career at Tangier Combined School in his hometown, Tangier Island. Beginning with grades 5-7, History and Science, Duane was later moved to Grades 8-12 History and Social Studies with an add-on endorsement of Driver Education

(classroom...we don't use golf carts). Now in his 25th year of teaching, Duane teaches Grades 6-12 History and Social Studies and English 9-12. "Tangier is the best place in the world to live and teach," Duane said with a smile. One of the best parts of teaching at TCS is the small class sizes; it is easy to meet the needs of each student. TCS is known for its continuity, serving students from PreK through the 12th Grade. Reflective of his career, Duane said, "I'm now teaching students whose parents I taught." Mr. Crockett also serves as the school's Hi-Y advisor which sponsors several events in the Tangier community: Relay for Life, Wreaths Across America, Wounded Warriors, and the Christmas Bazaar.

Secondary

ARCADIA

What isn't happening at Arcadia High School? We are wrapping up Fall sports. Aaron O'Shea was the top male finisher at the Eastern Shore District XC Championships with a 5K time of 17:24. JV Football is 3-0 in district play with convincing wins over Northampton and Nandua High Schools. Arcadia High School was recognized by the Virginia Board of Education as a school of Exemplar Performance for improving the dropout rate among students. We also just wrapped up the successful administration of the EOC Writing SOL.

Arcadia High School recognized for continuous improvement by the Virginia Board of Education

Click to read
on Shore Daily News!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Winter sports begin November 11, 2024. We are hosting a Blood Drive through the American Red Cross on November 12, 2024. Winter Night of the Arts will be held on December 11, 2024 and our Marching Band is preparing for a number of upcoming Christmas Parades up and down the Eastern Shore (Chincoteague, Onancock, and Exmore).

Staff spotlight

Teacher: John Harrower

Position: Title I teacher



Mr. Harrower is a valued member of the Arcadia High School Science Department. He not only teaches a number of courses; he also serves as the department head and a mentor to other teachers in the department. Mr. Harrower has spearheaded the renovation and revitalization of the Arcadia High School Greenhouse aka The Firebird Farm. Mr. Harrower is always willing to help the administration in any way possible, having retired from administration in Canada. His experience and wisdom is always appreciated. Lastly, Mr. Harrower is the Voice of the Firebirds, announcing the play-by-play action at all home football games. He is a great example of why it is always a great day to be a Firebird!

Staff member: Bryan Shreaves

Position: ACSO Deputy

ACSO Deputy Bryan Shreaves serves as Arcadia High School's SRO. He is a 2003 graduate of Arcadia High School. Deputy Shreave's mother is a special education teacher at Arcadia High School and his daughter, Kaylee, is a senior. Deputy Shreaves is a valuable resource for the students and staff who takes the time to build meaningful relationships with our school community. He works collaboratively with the administration and School Security Officers to ensure that Arcadia High School is safe for all students, staff, and visitors. He is a member of the School Safety Team and Threat Assessment Team. Additionally, Deputy Shreaves assists the Arcadia High School wrestling program as a volunteer assistant coach.



ARCADIA MIDDLE SCHOOL

PANTHER FAMILIES,

Our next Title I night will be held on November 20 for our "Light Up Literacy Night." The event will be from 4pm-6pm, with light refreshments provided. This will be English and History focused. We are asking that parents complete the sign-up for text message notifications. Information was sent home with students, and can also be found on our website.





UPCOMING EVENTS!

11/4 - End of the 9 weeks
11/5 - Election Day (No School)
11/6 - Academic Challenge @ NMS
11/7 - Girls Basketball vs. Northampton Middle School
11/11 - Academic Challenge @ Northampton Middle School
11/12 - Girls Basketball @ NMS
11/14 - Girls Basketball @ Northampton Middle School
11/16 - Success Academy
11/18 - Academic Challenge vs. CMS
11/19 - Girls Basketball vs. CMS
11/20 - Fall Sports Pics and Makeup Pictures
11/20 - Title I Night - 4pm - 6pm
11/21 - Girls Basketball Tournament
11/22 - 8th grade field trip for AAES Rocket Launch

Staff spotlight

Teacher: Autumn Rice

Position: History



Staff member: Arnita Ward

Position: Head Custodian



Ms. Autumn Rice - For providing excellent instruction to her History 7 students. She also puts in time after school to be our Girls on the Run sponsor. She is also an integral member of our Party Planning Committee (PPC), and helped facilitate a very successful Trunk or Treat event. We thank her for all of her hard work!

Ms. Ward is our Head Custodian, and she works hard to make sure our school is in great shape for learning and excellence! She is always ready to help at a moments notice, and we thank her for all of her hard work!

NANDUA HIGH SCHOOL

*Here's What's Happening:
Life is GOOD.*



**Education at its finest will continue moving
forward.**

Staff spotlight

Teacher: Edward Woirol
English



By Whisper Shreve

Mr. Woirol, Nandua High School's 12th grade English teacher, has been teaching for 25 years. "I think the last few years at Nandua have been my favorite. This is my fourth year here, and the years have been very, very good. I really enjoy the students, the diversity, and the small-town atmosphere. I enjoy it." He emphasized how much he appreciates the smaller size of Nandua High School and the unique cultural diversity it offers. According to Mr. Woirol, the school's size encourages stronger collaboration and a sense of community among the students, something that might be harder to achieve in a larger school. "The students work better together here," he noted. Before becoming a teacher, Mr. Woirol held various jobs to support his family, including roles in the military and as a power lineman. However, his passion for English teaching, inspired by his own high school teacher, remained his ultimate goal. After his three daughters grew up and moved out, Mr. Woirol returned to school to earn his teaching certification, fulfilling his dream of becoming an English teacher. His journey serves as an example of perseverance, patience, and following one's passion—qualities he hopes to inspire in his students as they enter the next phase of their lives.

Staff member: Phyllis Lewis
long term substitute



Interviewed by Olivia Pridgen and Valerie Stabler

Mrs. Phyllis Lewis, a dedicated long-term substitute teacher at Nandua High School, has a unique approach to education. With a background as a lab technician for 21 years, she brings a fresh perspective to her classroom. Ms. Lewis has taught for 13 years, prioritizing respect and fostering a positive environment where students feel encouraged and valued. "I'm balancing the work because I want to do it," she says, emphasizing her dedication to teaching. Although she finds her work enjoyable rather than challenging, balancing work and personal life remains essential to her. Ms. Lewis is particularly motivated by seeing her students graduate, considering it the most rewarding part of her job. Reflecting on her career, she fondly remembers her former principal, Mr. Parker, whom she says was like a son to her. Every day, Ms. Lewis arrives around 7:00 a.m., ready to make a difference, and leaves by 3:00 p.m., fulfilled by her commitment to her students.

NANDUA MIDDLE SCHOOL

As promised, Thursdays have been our food demo days where we showcase cooking techniques and meals that are family friendly but also are healthy and consumer conscious. The previous weeks we offered classes that were geared towards lunch prep where we highlighted the store bought rotisserie chicken.

Lunch prep ideas revolved around the rotisserie chicken from ideas ranging from cold pesto pasta salads to salad kit wraps, even down to

homemade chicken noodle soup. This week we are rolling out the red carpet and plan on showcasing Greek night where we intend on introducing lamb to our guests. Our teachers are steadily learning and the vibes are very welcoming with some saying it reminds them of a cooking show. That is true but this cooking show comes with the potential of winning prizes with just a roll of the wheel.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Girls Basketball: Nov. 7th CMS @ NMS

Nov. 12th AMS @ NMS

Nov. 14th NMS @CMS

Nov. 19th NHMS @ NMS

Nov. 21st Girls Basketball
Tournament

Academic Challenge: Nov. 6th AMS
@ NMS

Nov. 11th NMS @ CMS

Nov. 18th NHMS @ NMS

Success Academy: Nov. 4th & Nov.
16th

Nov. 15th - Nandua Middle &
Northampton Middle will attend
AAES rocket launch at ESCC.

Nov. 5th - Lab School Informational
Meeting for
8th Grade Teachers 11:30 @ NHS!

NANDUA MIDDLE SCHOOL

Staff spotlight



Teacher: Ms. Feige
Position: English

Ms. Feige is a first-year English teacher for NMS 7th and 8th graders. She has worked in outdoor education previously, teaching experiential science, team-building, and leadership classes. She strives to make teaching hands-on, engaging, and applicable to the real world. This month, Ms. Feige's class began their first novel, *Goosebumps: Welcome to Dead House*. While being grasped in suspense, students are using context clues and real-world connections to discover new vocabulary words and make educated predictions as to what may happen to the protagonist, Amanda, and her family next. Ms. Feige is a great addition to our Braves family and we are so happy to have her!



Staff member: Diane Atkinson
Position: Instructional Assistant

Diane Atkinson has worked in education for over 30 years. She has worked mostly with our special education population in elementary and middle school. At NMS, Mrs. Atkinson is an invaluable resource to our faculty and students. She is always willing to lend a hand for any school event and stays to help even when she doesn't have to. Students enjoy working with her and teachers benefit from her help in the classroom. She truly loves the students and her Nandua family. When Mrs. Atkinson isn't at work, she enjoys playing with her dogs and spending time with her family. Some fun facts about her are that she LOVES and collects flamingos and going to the beach!