

AAST NEWSLETTER

May 15th - May 19th, 2023

a stem school ~ realize the possibilities

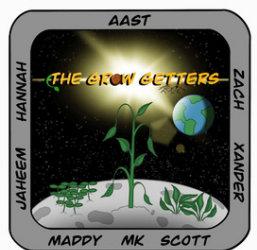
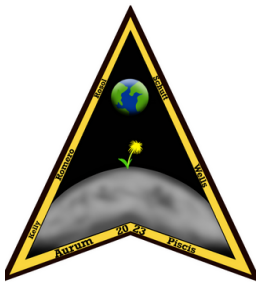
UPCOMING EVENTS

Senior Day
May 22

US History EOC
May 23

Senior Ceremony
May 23, 7:00pm
MBHS Auditorium

Junior Exams
May 30-31



AAST Honored For Plant the Moon Challenge

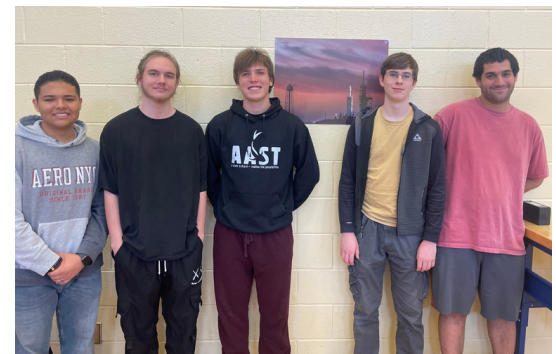


Senior students from AAST were recently named state, regional, and international winners in a unique program that gave them the exciting opportunity to work with NASA by challenging their knowledge on growing crops in outer space. AAST participated in the Plant the Moon Challenge (PTMC) through a partnership with six Space Grant Consortia.

As part of the project, the AAST students split into four teams, two in each of the major programs, that were part of over 700 teams to participate in a global science experiment and research challenge to examine how vegetable crops can grow in lunar or Martian soil. Using real soil simulant from the University of Central Florida's CLASS Exolith Lab, the teams designed and conducted a set of experiments using the simulant to grow crops for a future long-duration mission, according to the consortium.

A total of four awards were given internationally at the high school level and four awards were also given statewide at the high school level. Three of the four Academy for the Arts, Science, and Technology teams won awards at various levels:

The Aerospace Engineering Team POTATO won the Best Overall High School Team for the region, resulting in an all-expenses paid trip to the Kennedy Space Center in Orlando, Florida this summer. The team also won the international and state award for the high school division for Best Experimental Design. The members of Team POTATO are Daniel Aldana, Joseph Angelino, Julia Cortese, Philipp Rauhut, and Jackson Sauls.



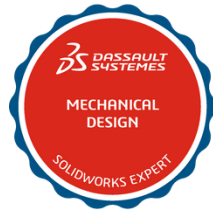
Aerospace Engineering Team Aurum Pisces won the state award for the high school division for Best Evaluation of Results. The members of Team Aurum Pisces are Joshua Kelly, Adonnay Romero Auguello, Michael Rosol, Holt Schutt, and Cason Wells.

Clean Energy with Environmental Engineering Team Beach Kois won the state award for the high school division for Best Innovation. The members of Team Beach Kois are Elyasse Ettouil, Ethan Jeon, Jackson Lewis, Stephanie Rodriguez-Umana, Holt Schutt, and Gavin Trout.

Students from the winning teams will be recognized at the State Museum in Columbia on May 27.

AAST ANNOUNCEMENTS

Certifications at AAST



Spring is the season of certifications! AAST students received the following:

- EKG Technician, 52 students
- SolidWorks certified, 4 students
- Adobe Professional Certified, 40 students
- Pharmacology Board Certified, 21 students
- CIW Site Development Associate, 3 students

HOSA Fundraiser at Lunch

AAST's HOSA held a fundraiser on Tuesday during lunch. Thanks to Ms. Reiss for being taped to the wall (and for being such a good sport) to raise money for AAST's HOSA chapter!



AAST Places at Anaconda Data Expo



Mia Yancey takes 5th place at the Anaconda Data Expo in Durham, NC. Mia is an Informatics Major. Also competing were Informatics Seniors, Nick Crowder, Jack Hendley, and Gabe Attar. Informatics concentrators Israel Waldner, Liam Hoegle, and Evan Nelson also competed in the Live Coding Event. Evan advanced to finals for Live Coding. Congratulations to all who participated in this inaugural event!



LIBRARY CORNER: BOOK RETURNS



AAST on the Web!
Stay Connected!



It's that time of year!

Make sure to get all of your library books and device turned in as soon as possible!

Seniors, books and devices need to be returned by Friday, May 19!

Juniors, return your books by Friday, May 26!



AAST New Junior Orientation



We had a blast meeting our incoming class of 2025 this week! Students met their major teacher and new classmates as part of new junior orientation. We can't wait to see you all next year!

Rookie Teacher of the Year Banquet



On Thursday, AAST's Rookie Teacher of the Year, Ms. Katy Fletcher, attended the district banquet with Ms. Wilson. Congratulations, Ms. Fletcher!

Support Staff Person of the Year Banquet



On Monday, AAST's Support Staff of the Year, Ms. Barbie Gore, attended the district banquet with Ms. Wilson. Congratulations, Ms. Gore!

Clean Energy Students at Huntington Beach State Park



AAST's Environmental Engineering students participated in the SC Sea Grant's From Seeds to Shoreline Program again this year. They grew Spartina grass from seeds and had their Salt Marsh Restoration Day at Huntington Beach State Park. They also got to do some seining and caught several species of fish, shrimp, and crabs. Thank you, Ranger Mike Walker!

HCS Summer Reading

Each summer, students can participate in the ELA Summer Reading Extra Credit Assignment. This summer, we are introducing a reading challenge for students to interact with other students across the district about what they are reading.



2023 Summer Reading Assignment for grades 6-12
(Note: there will be a separate middle and high school Schoology code)

2023 Summer Reading Parent Letter

2023 Summer Reading Parent Verification Form

Junior Marshals at AAST



Nineteen AAST juniors were chosen to represent their base schools as junior marshals. Pictured above are: Bailey Baxter, Lindsay Beam, Savannah Dakamas, Sadie Direzze, Kaan Ekincigil, Janine Escamis, Dylan Foster, Edwardo Gonzales Coli, Marissa Hains, Caroline Hogue (not pictured), Alice Kensel, Mikayla Malena, Isabella Markunas (not pictured), Harper Morgan, Emanuel Wahba, Samantha Ware, Edward Whitner and Aspyn Whittington.

Senior Awards Night at AAST

On Thursday night, AAST held an outstanding senior awards night! Congratulations to all the Seniors who were recognized!

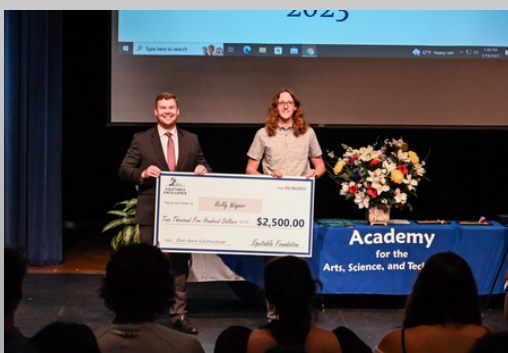
CONGRATULATIONS!



This year's Koi Leadership Award goes to **Lakelyn Phillips.**



This year's Koi Service Award goes to **Scott Spencer.**



The recipient of the 2023 Pace Award, AAST's Most Inspirational Senior, is **David Hix.**