

Staff Newsletter

April has come to an end and we are quickly approaching the end of the school year. Although the end is in sight, we have to get everyone through the next twenty-five days of school. I encourage you take care of yourselves and keep a positive outlook on life as we work through the next month and face the many stressors that are associated with this time of year. When the stressors hit, it is important to remind ourselves that we are here for the students and they need the best version of us that we can give them.

At the regular April School Board meeting the board agreed to modify the school calendar to make June 2, 2023 the last day of school for students and to make June 5 and 6 teacher workdays. The board agreed to the modification as a result of not missing school for winter weather. Please let the school board members know how much you appreciate the modified calendar.

On April 20, 2023, the School Board held a special meeting to interview applicants for the vacancy that was created with the resignation of Mr. John Grieser. The School Board interviewed three applicants in open session and went into closed session to discuss the candidates. The School Board came back into open session and appointed Lori Saunders to the School Board. We welcome Lori to the ACPS family as a member of the Amherst County School Board.

As we head into May and the meat of the SOL testing cycle, I want to thank you for all you have done to prepare your students. Although the tests are important and help determine accreditation status, SOL's cannot be the only measure we use to determine the success of our educational programs. Our primary objective has to be to prepare our students to be life and career ready. We have to emphasize Virginia's 5 C's (Critical Thinking, Creative Thinking, Communication, Collaboration, and Citizenship Skills) as they are essential to preparing our students for life after high school. Quality educational programs involve more than an SOL test. I encourage you to keep the focus on providing quality instruction and continue to foster welcoming, positive relationships with our students and families.

I had the pleasure to conduct the trout release and macroinvertebrate searches on Pedlar River with all of our elementary schools this month. These Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences (MWEE's) have proven to be an effective way to expose our elementary students to science in a hands on, real world environment. This year, as part of the Trout in the Classroom Project, our students have raised and released approximately 700 trout. I want to thank all of our teachers and staff who either hosted a tank or played a role in the process. I truly enjoyed the leading the MWEE activities with the students. I hope the students and teachers enjoyed the activities as much as I did. I want to say a special thank you to our transportation department for all of their help in transporting the students to and from the river.

This is a very busy time of year with all of the end of year student activities, SOL testing, and close out procedures. I encourage you to continue to maintain your focus on the students as we enter the last month of school. I greatly appreciate all you have done and continue to do for your students, their families, and each other. We are all in this together and it takes all of us moving in the same direction for the schools and division to be successful. I hope you all have a great month of May.



Sincerely,

William



Upcoming Events

May 1

Interims

May 26

Teacher Work day (Students do not attend)

May 26

Graduation!

May 29

Memorial Day-No School for staff or Students

June 2

Last day of School

June 5/6

May 26

Teacher Work day (Students do not attend)



Calendar Changes

During the Regular School Board meeting on April 6, the ACPS School Board approved a revision to the 2022-2023 School Calendar. The last day of school for students has been revised from Thursday, June 8th to Friday, June 2nd. Monday and Tuesday, June 5th and 6th, will now be Teacher Workdays. The updated calendar has been added to the ACPS website and you can access the calendar below!

[Click here to view the revised 2022-2023 School Calendar](#)

District 1 School Board Appointment



On Thursday, April 20, 2023, during a Special School Board meeting, the ACPS Board appointed Lori R. Saunders to the vacant District 1 School Board seat for the remainder of the unexpired term. The term for the position is effective May 4, 2023 and expires December 31, 2023.





Thank you.
TO ALL OF OUR AMAZING
ACPS EDUCATORS!

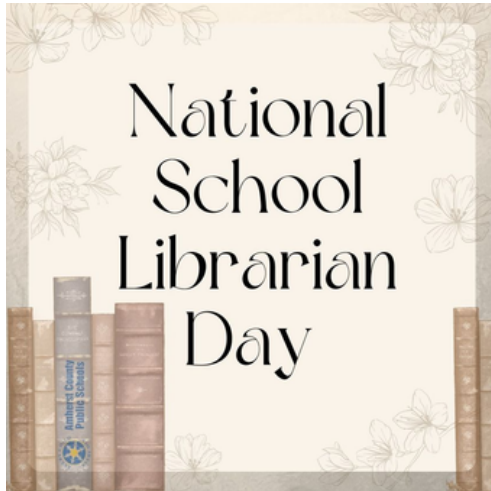
Educator Appreciation Week
May 1-5, 2023

Educator Appreciation Week

During the month of May we celebrate Educator Appreciation Week! We want to recognize and thank all of our incredible educators who help the children of Amherst County to reach their limitless potential, teaching, guiding, nurturing, correcting, and encouraging them each day. Educators are vital, preparing the way for our society's future success. Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication to our children! #TeamAmherst #ShowUpAmherst

National School Librarian Day

In April, we celebrated National School Librarian Day! We are thankful to have 9 dedicated individuals who provide access to information in a variety of formats. They promote a love of reading, manage technology, and encourage inquiry across curriculum. ACPS is thankful for the work they do each day! #TeamAmherst



Month of the Military Child

April was the month of the Military Child. The purpose of this month is to appreciate and support all of the military children in our community that deal with frequent moves, separations, deployments, and the possibility of injured parents. We see you in our schools, and we care! Thank you for your sacrifice to our country. #TeamAmherst



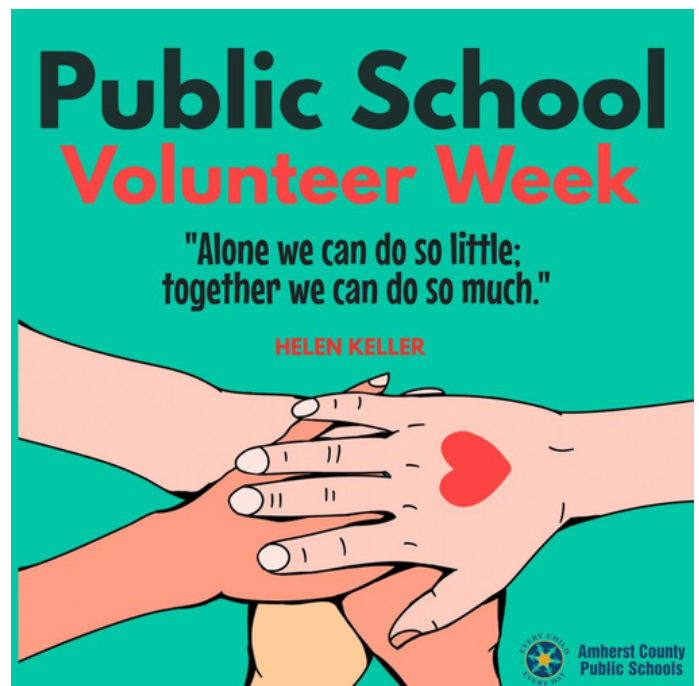
Administrative Professionals Day

On April 26 we celebrated and appreciated our administrative professionals! We are thankful for their support, organization, helpful attitudes, and welcoming presence. We could not be #TeamAmherst without them!



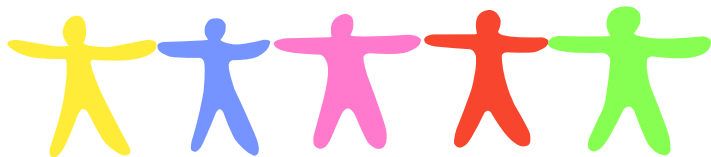
Public School Volunteer Week

In April we celebrated Public School Volunteer Week. We want to thank the individuals who willingly serve on committees, complete tasks in our schools, and mentor our future generation. It truly takes a village, and we are thankful for those in #TeamAmherst who partner with us to maximize our potential in Every Child, Every Day.



Autism Awareness Day

Amherst County Public Schools joined the global community in celebrating World Autism Awareness Day on April 2, 2023!



Amherst County Public Schools is in the process of developing the next five year strategic plan and wants to know how students, parents, and staff perceive the division's current performance in a variety of areas and what they think the division should prioritize moving forward. An announcement will be made when the survey is open and available for completion. Your responses will help the division understand your needs so we can best serve you.

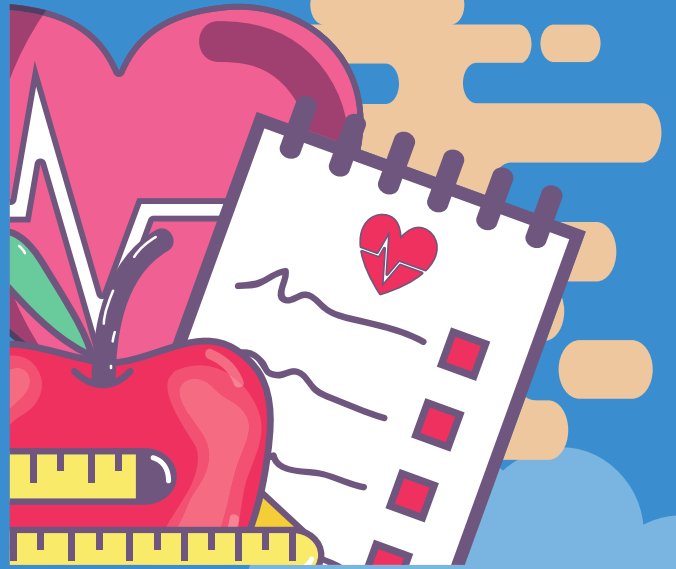


Health & Wellness

May is Mental Health Awareness Month

Understanding the facts
about depression and
finding support

READ MORE



Understanding And Talking
About Mental Health Stigma
And Mental Health Conditions



READ MORE

Receive counseling and access
to financial and legal tools and
services with AnthemLife

READ MORE



Life comes with challenges. **Your Assistance Program is here to help.**

Your Assistance Program can help you reduce stress, improve mental health, and make life easier by connecting you to the right information, resources, and referrals.

All services are free, confidential, and available to you and your family members. This includes access to short-term counseling and the wide range of services listed below:

Mental Health Sessions

Manage stress, anxiety, and depression, resolve conflict, improve relationships, overcome substance abuse, and address any personal issues.

Life Coaching

Reach personal and professional goals, manage life transitions, overcome obstacles, strengthen relationships, and build balance.

Financial Consultation

Build financial wellness related to budgeting, buying a home, paying off debt, managing taxes, preventing identity theft, and saving for retirement or tuition.

Legal Consultation

Get help with personal legal matters including estate planning, wills, real estate, bankruptcy, divorce, custody, and more.

Work-Life Resources and Referrals

Obtain information and referrals when seeking childcare, adoption, special needs support, eldercare, housing, transportation, education, and pet care.

Personal Assistant

Save time with referrals for travel and entertainment, seeking professional services, cleaning services, home food delivery, and managing everyday tasks.

Medical Advocacy

Get help navigating insurance, obtaining doctor referrals, securing medical equipment or transportation, and planning for transitional care and discharge.

Member Portal and App

These digital tools enable you to access your benefits 24/7/365 with online requests and chat options. They also provide easy access to thousands of articles, webinars, podcasts, and tools covering total well-being.



Contact AllOne Health

Call: 866-216-1996

Visit: allonehealth.com/support

Code: amhco





**LYNCHBURG
HILLCATS**

ACPS EDUCATION
FOUNDATION INC.
**FUNDRAISER NIGHT
AT THE BALLPARK!**



GAME DATE: TUESDAY, MAY 30TH

GAME TIME: 6:30 PM

PROMOTION: 2 FOR TUESDAY

PROMO CODE: ACPS

*A PORTION OF THE TICKET PROCEEDS THROUGH THIS QR CODE WILL BE DONATED TO
ACPS EDUCATION FOUNDATION INC. !*

MOVIES ON THE FIELD



FREE

COMMUNITY EVENT
PRESENTED BY

THE AMHERST WOLVERINES

with

Amherst County Recreation & Tourism

Event begins at 5:30pm Movie begins at Dusk

123 Dulwich Drive Amherst, VA 24521

BOUNCE HOUSE ● CORN HOLE ● CONCESSIONS

NO OUTSIDE FOOD OR DRINKS, NO TOBACCO USE, NO ALCOHOL, NO WEAPONS

Sponsored By



The Amherst County Public Schools Education Foundation, Inc. hosts the

20th Annual Captain's Choice

Golf Tournament

Friday, June 16th

Winton Golf Course

AM Flight: 8am

PM Flight: 1pm

Lunch for both flights at NOON

\$90 per player includes:

Lunch & On-Course Snacks/Drinks

Golf Cart

One Mulligan per player

Great Sponsor Swag!

REGISTER YOUR TEAM TODAY!

To register, contact the
Education Foundation at
434-316-3900, email
educationfoundation@amherst.k12.va.us
or **REGISTER ONLINE** at
www.ACPSEducationFoundation.org

GREAT PRIZES IN EACH FLIGHT!

***Swing for a great cause and
support Amherst County
Public Schools!***

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

\$2,000 Platinum TITLE

Sponsor

Title sponsor recognition!

Golf tournament entry for EIGHT players!

Large sponsor sign at golf tournament registration

Winter luncheon attendance

Exposure at all annual events

Public recognition in newspaper twice
per year

\$1,000 Gold Sponsor

Golf tournament entry for FOUR players!

Large sponsor sign at golf tournament registration

Exposure at all annual events

Public recognition in newspaper twice per year

\$500 Silver Sponsor

Small sponsor sign at golf tournament registration

Hole sponsor sign on the course

Exposure at all annual events

\$250 Bronze Sponsor

Small sponsor sign at golf tournament registration

Hole sponsor sign at golf tournament

\$200 Hole-in-One Sponsor

Sponsor the designated \$5,000 Hole-in-One on the

course (selected by Winton management)

Small sponsor sign at designated hole

\$200 Longest Drive Sponsor

Sponsor the designated Longest Drive prize hole

(selected by Winton management)

Small sponsor sign at designated hole

\$100 Hole Sponsor

Hole sponsor sign on the course

\$50 Green Sponsor

A green sponsor sign in honor or memory of a
teacher, bus driver, etc.



WINTON
F A R M



Blue Ridge Area
FOOD BANK
Everyone should have enough to eat.

A member of
**FEEDING
AMERICA**

How to ...

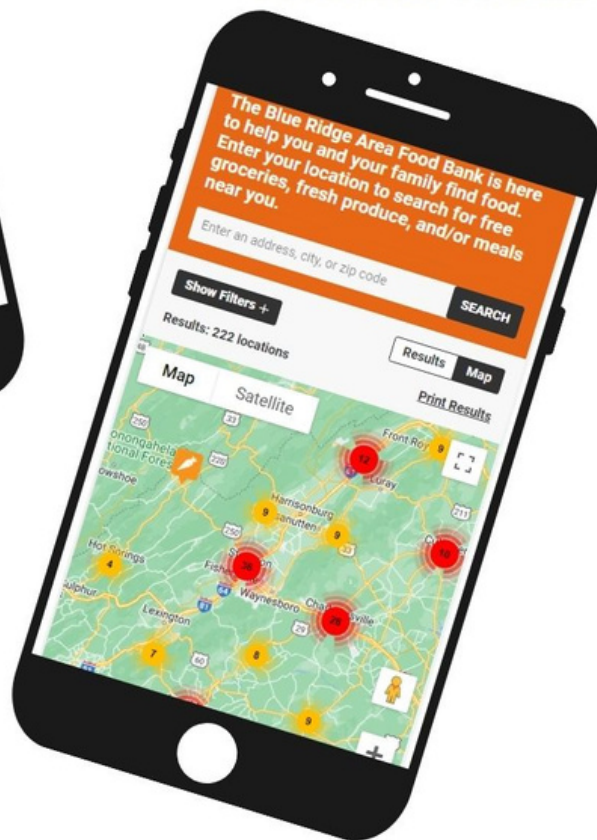
FIND FOOD

1



2

Enter your location
to search for free
groceries, fresh
produce, and/or
meals near you.



3



Once you've picked a nearby food pantry,
call them for details.