

Our School, Our
Students, Our
Team - Achieving
Educational
Excellence

Raider Digest



2ND QUARTER — JANUARY 2012

APPOMATTOX
COUNTY HIGH
SCHOOL

198 EVERGREEN
AVE.
APPOMATTOX
VIRGINIA
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434-352-7146

INSIDE LOOK

- Bus Safety 2
- Parent Meeting 2
- Traffic Patterns 3
- Spanish Club 3
- Bluegrass Concerts 4
- ACHS FFA News 5
- Activities and College Stats 6

Principal's Message

Greetings and Happy New Year!

It is hard to believe we are half way through the school year. It has been a great semester—our students have completed the first round of SOL testing and the results are looking good. Thanks to the teachers and students for their hard work!!

Second semester began on Thursday, January 19. With brand new classes beginning, we are positive the spring will be as successful as this past fall.

Data shows that when students are involved in extracurricular events, clubs, activities, fine arts,

and athletics, it enhances achievement and success in school. Please encourage your student to get involved!

Attendance is very important as we enter this spring semester. If a student misses even one day, it is like missing two in year-long classes. The habits we build in our students now will serve them well in post-secondary education and the world of work.

Wishing You My Best,
Martha J. Eagle

*All Upcoming Dates Are Tentative
based on weather.*

Important Upcoming Dates:

- Feb. 20 - Holiday - Schools Closed
- March 6/7 - Writing SOLs
- March 23 - End of 3rd 9 wks
- March 26/27 - Student Holidays
- March 28 - 4th 9 wks begins
- April 9-13 - Spring Break
- April 26- 28 - Senior Trip
- May 5 - SAT @ ACHS
- May 7 - 11 - Staff Appreciation Week
- May 15 - FFA Banquet
- May 19 - Prom
- May 24 - Class Day
- May 25 - Senior Picnic
- May 28 - Holiday
- June 3 - Baccalaureate Ceremony
- June 4 - Graduation at Vines Center - Liberty University
- June 5/6 - Underclass Exams
- June 9- ACT @ ACHS

Senior News - Class of 2012

SENIOR TRIP April 26-28

January 31 - first payment of \$100.00 for the senior trip to Baltimore, MD is due, 2nd payment by Feb 29 and 3rd payment by March 30

January 31 - students will get raffle tickets for a prize basket so they can earn money for the senior trip.



Bus Safety News



Students from Spanish classes go around and sing for the classes in December. Warm wishes of holiday joy were spread via English and Spanish versions of holiday songs.

Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?' - Martin Luther King, Jr.

Students Riding a School Bus Should Always:

- Arrive at the bus stop 5 minutes early.
- Stand at least 5 giant steps (10 feet) away from the edge of the road.
- Wait until the bus stops, the door opens, and the driver says its okay before stepping onto the bus.
- Be careful that clothing with drawstrings and book bags with straps or dangling objects do not get caught in the hand-rail or door when exiting the bus.
- Check both ways for cars before stepping off the bus.

Crossing Students Should:

- Walk in front of the bus; never walk behind the bus.
- Walk on the sidewalk or along the side of the road to a point at least 10 giant steps ahead of the bus.
- Be sure the bus driver can see students, and they can see the

bus driver.

- Wait for the driver's signal to cross.

Things Students Should Know About School Bus Safety:

- The bus driver and others cannot see you if you are standing closer than 10 feet to the bus. Stay out of the danger zone!
- If something falls under or near the bus, tell the driver. NEVER try to pick it up yourself!
- While waiting for the bus, stay in a safe place away from the street.
- When you get on or off the bus, look for the bus safety lights and make sure they are flashing.
- Be alert to traffic. When you get on or off the bus, look left, right, left before you enter or cross the street.
- When the driver says it is safe to cross the street, remember to CROSS IN FRONT of the bus.
- Stay in your seat and sit quietly so that the driver is not distracted.

Things Parents Should Know About School Bus Safety:

- School buses are the safest form of highway transportation.
- The most dangerous part of

the school bus ride is getting on and off the bus.

- Pedestrian fatalities (while loading and unloading school buses) account for approximately three times as many school bus-related fatalities, when compared to school bus occupant fatalities.
- The loading and unloading area is called the "Danger Zone"
- The "Danger Zone" is the area on all sides of the bus where children are in the most danger of not being seen by the driver (10 feet in front of the bus where the driver may be too high to see a child, 10 feet on either side of the bus where a child may be in the driver's blind spot, and the area behind the bus).
- Half of the pedestrian fatalities in school bus-related crashes are children between 5 and 7 years old.
- Young children are most likely to be struck because they:
 - Hurry to get on and off the bus.
 - Act before they think and have little experience with traffic.
 - Assume motorists will see them and will wait for them to cross the street.
 - Don't always stay within the bus driver's sight.



Parent Meeting - Jan. 30

AMS and ACHS Counselors and Administrators will host an informational meeting for all parents and students in current 6th - 11th grades. This meeting will be hosted at the ACHS Cafeteria.

Course registration for the 2012-2013 school year will be discussed, career and technical staff will discuss career programs, and prizes will be available.

We hope to see you on Monday, January 30 at 6:00 p.m. for this important informational meeting!!



ACHS Website

<http://www.appomattox.k12.va.us/highschool>

Please check out our website on a daily basis for daily announcements, sports information, and so much more!



DEDICATION – *Make a success of living by seeing the goal and aiming for it unswervingly! -- Cecil B. DeMille, American Filmmaker*

Swipe Attendance

Process:

Great job on this process so far! All students, including CVCC students, are expected to Swipe upon entry and exit of CVCC or ACHS each morning and prior to 3:15. We thank you for your diligence!

“Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, and confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, and a stranger into a friend. Gratitude helps us make sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow.”
quote by Melody Beattie

Traffic Patterns

The new parent, student, and bus traffic patterns have taken a while to get use, but have proven to be a little less confusing and dangerous. Although settled for now, the schools ultimate goal is to separate all three traffic zones from each other. By having the parent, student, and bus traffic totally separate, the traffic flow will be much more smooth and less congested. We appreciate your patience and cooperation as we analyze the patterns and develop plans toward our ultimate goal. Traffic safety is always an important factor when developing plans for any high school.



Noticias del Club Español



El club español de ACHS & AMS ha contribuido con su comunidad local:

1. Recibimos muchos paquetes de galletas y los llevamos a Las casas de los Ancianos Locales.
2. Contribuimos con la Operación Navidad de la escuela Primaria.
3. Ahora estamos planeando un viaje educacional en el mes de febrero.
4. Lo último que haremos este año será una cena con todos los miembros del Club.

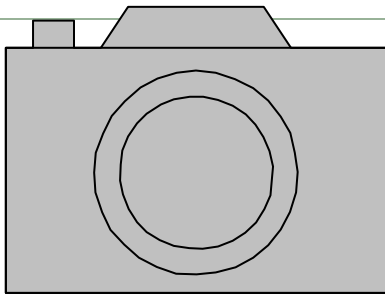
Señora Walker & Señora Donghia



YEARBOOK REMINDERS!!!

February 1st is the deadline to order a yearbook **with personalization**. After February 1st, books only can be ordered online (credit card only) or with Mrs. Rothgeb in room 304 (cash or check made out to ACHS Yearbook).

Reminder to pay the remaining balance on partial payments for yearbooks – *especially those with personalization.*



After Prom Committee

The 2012 After Prom Committee is seeking volunteers to help with planning the May 2012 event. Any student, faculty, or parent of students in grades 9-12 are welcome to join the team. If you have any further questions, please contact the ACHS Main Office to put your name on the list! We appreciate you!!

Dress Code Reminders:

Students need to be dressed appropriately for school each day. Holes, baggy pants, and cleavage are the main concerns. Please read the policy and know what is expected!!!

Facility Use:

This process has changed!!! Please see the website at <http://acpssharepoint.appomattox.k12.va.us/ACPS/facilitiesuse/SitePages/Home.aspx>
For forms and an updated calendar!!

ACHS Main Office—352-7146

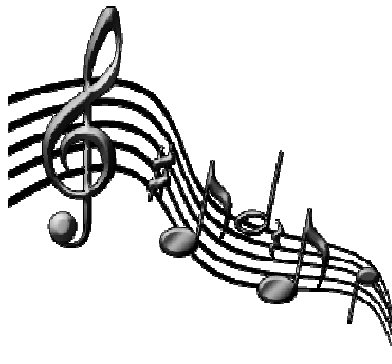
RAIDERS

Appomattox Bluegrass Concert Series - 2012

Sponsored by the ACHS Athletic Booster Club in the ACHS Auditorium for the following Sundays at 1:00 p.m.:

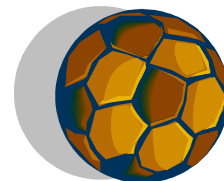
- January 29 - Michael Cleveland and Flamekeeper with James River Cut-Ups
- February 12 - Bobby Osborne and Rocky Top X-Press with Dixie Ridge
- February 26 - Doyle Lawson and Quicksilver with True Spirit
- Russell Moore & IIIrd Tyme Out with The Epperson Brothers
- March 25 - Daily and Vincent at 2:00 p.m.

www.appomattoxbluegrass.com



Let us think of education as the means of developing our greatest abilities, because in each of us there is a private hope and dream which, fulfilled, can be translated into benefit for everyone and greater strength of the nation."
-- John F. Kennedy

ACHS Athletic Boosters would like to invite you to be a part of their team. They recognize that without parent, business and community support, they would not have the funds needed to support the students and athletes. Please contact Mark Franklin or Brad Harper at 352-7146 to be a part of this team!!!



ACHS FFA Features Community Service and Upcoming Events:

The FFA chapter has put an emphasis on community service during the 2nd nine weeks. A series of service-based learning programs were coordinated to help each FFA member learn the importance of volunteering.

In November, members worked to coordinate the 2nd annual “Big Buck Contest”. Proceeds from the contest went to sponsor the processing fees for 1 deer in the Virginia Hunters For The Hungry program. Approximately 25 students entered into the contest. A ground blind was provided to the first place hunter. In coordination with the contest, hunter safety specialist, Robert Tillotson, was the guest speaker at the November FFA meeting. The chapter used the contest to promote both safe and ethical sportsmanship while also helping the Hunters For The Hungry program provide meat to the less fortunate.

In keeping with tradition, 19 agriculture students helped to pick up litter along 1.5 miles of South Church Street in Appomattox. The FFA chapter adopted the portion of the highway. Students collect litter along the roadside quarterly. With much teamwork, students collected 10 bags of litter.

Lastly, the “Holes for Hope” Cornhole tournament took place during early December. Students in all three lunch periods took part in the two-day Cornhole bean-bag toss game to raise money for the Christmas Angel Tree program. Students aimed to raise enough money to sponsor presents for two teenagers. After two successful days and many contributions from

the student body and faculty, the FFA chapter collaboratively raised over \$140 and purchased presents for three teenage boys. The FFA chapter is grateful to each person who helped make the holidays more enjoyable for the less fortunate in our community.

The FFA chapter just wrapped up its annual citrus fruit fundraiser. We sincerely appreciate all customers and hope that you enjoyed fresh Florida citrus. The fruit sold by the chapter is grown on family owned citrus groves in Florida.

Part of the FFA’s mission is to promote career success. In November, sophomore Cory Hodges placed first in the Southside Area Small Engine Troubleshooting Career Development Event (CDE). Cory had to identify tools, engine parts, look up engine parts and prices, take a written practical and repair a small gasoline engine. He will advance to the state finals later in the year. Caleb Baker and Tyler Wallen placed 3rd in the Southside Area Tractor Troubleshooting CDE. Tyler and Caleb worked to repair three different types of diesel tractors. We are proud of their accomplishments.

The agriculture department recently invested in a CNC Plasma machine. The machine uses a plasma cutter and a computer to cut out designs in sheet metal. As part of a special collaborative project with the drafting and marketing departments, the first annual “Holiday Keepsake” project was created.

When the ACPS Holiday Keepsake project neared completion in late December, the project was much more successful than planned. At least 23 drafting students submitted over 63 ornament designs. Five designs were selected for mass production. Approximately 15 students in agriculture courses made over 150 keepsakes in 3 days. Thirty-two marketing students were invited to promote and sell the ornaments. Each CTESO made a profit from the enterprise. Drafting students were challenged to design projects that were both eye appealing and mechanically efficient.

They learned how to respond to feedback from manufacturers and how to adjust their creation. Agriculture students learned how to operate complex machinery and technology that is commonplace in most metal fabrication facilities such as Areva, Babcock & Wilcox, Red Acres Equipment, etc. Marketing students took a raw product and created an entrepreneurial business. Students applied pricing, advertising, competition, and delivery. All students involved developed a better understanding of the complex interrelated nature of design, production, and business operation.

Teachers, parents and students were the primary target audience for this project. Students were eager to participate because they quickly grasped the “real world” connections and the necessity for the respective skill sets.

Important FFA Dates:

- Horse Hippology Interest Meeting: January 25, Room 328 @3:30PM
- Central Virginia Livestock Show Interest Meeting, January 26, Room 327, @3:30PM
- Junior Agricultural Mechanics Practice (9th Grade Only), February 2, Room 327, @3:30PM
- Senior Agricultural Mechanics Practice, February 7, Room 327, @3:30PM
- State FFA Degree/Proficiency Award Workshop, February 13, Room 327, @3:30PM
- National FFA Week, February 18-25
- Block and Bridle Livestock Judging Practice, February 28, Room 327 @ 3:30PM
- All State Applications Due, March 21
- Little Farmer’s Day, April 26
- Central Virginia Livestock Show, May 5 @ Lynchburg Livestock Market
- Parent/Member FFA Awards Banquet, May 15 @ 6:00PM in ACHS Cafeteria



19 FFA members picked up 10 bags of litter long Route 641, South Church Street as part of the VDOT Adopt-A-Highway program.

ACHS Activity Center



After-School Activity Supervision:
Students need to be with a teacher, coach or sponsor for all after-school activities or in Room 114 until the sponsor arrives. Students should not be in the halls, locker rooms, or classrooms without adult supervision.

Senior News - College Stats

54 seniors have applied to college/universities
100 mid term official transcripts will be mailed this week for admission review
23 mid term official transcripts will be electronically scanned this week and sent to college/universities with an updated secondary school report and recommendation
35 students have reported acceptance letters
13 students have reported that they have committed to 6 college/universities for the fall 2012..those are:

- Mississippi State
- Virginia Tech
- Longwood University
- Lynchburg College
- University of Northwest Ohio
- Old Dominion University

Senior students and parents are reminded to check FAFSA deadlines for each college/university as those financial aid deadlines vary from school to school and are different from application deadlines. Seniors and their parents are reminded to get a PIN for electronic FAFSA filing by going to www.pin.ed.gov. Only one parent per household needs a PIN while each student needs one.

