



Alamance Community School
195 Kronbergs Court, Haw River, NC 27258
336-270-5052

www.alamancecommunityschool.net

Find meaning, develop empathy, create solutions

Alamance Community School is committed to helping students become engaged citizens by finding meaning in learning through exploring real-world problems and creating innovative and exciting solutions.

Overview

Alamance Community School (ACS) is a Project Based Learning (PBL) school in Haw River, NC. We offer a unique academic program that exemplifies the best in collaborative, real world learning, while preparing our students for the 21st Century.

- ACS will begin accepting applications for Kindergarten - Seventh Grade on January 1, 2024
- ACS is a NC Public Charter School currently serving Kindergarten - Sixth Grade with 631 students
- ACS opened in the fall of 2020 serving students in Kindergarten - 3rd Grade and will add a grade level each year until reaching 8th Grade in 2025
- Class size: 20-22 students
- School Hours:
 - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 8:15am - 3:15pm
 - Wednesday: 8:15am - 1:15pm (2 Hour Early Dismissal Every Wednesday for Staff PD & Planning)
- ACS is on a trimester schedule to coordinate with the reading and math assessment schedule - report cards are completed 3 times per year - every 12 weeks.
- Title I Program Provides Reading and Math Interventions

Curriculum & Special Features

Project Based Learning: At ACS Project Based Learning is an integral part of the philosophy and mission. Students are presented with interesting, relevant and meaningful problems to solve. Students complete 3 projects per year/ 1 per trimester. We follow the NC Standard Course of Study (NCSCOS) and the Essential Standards in Science and Social Studies to determine each grade level project.

Literacy Instruction: ACS follows the NCSCOS in Reading and Writing. We use a variety of resources such as Wiley Blivens 'Phonics to Reading', LETRS, interactive read alouds, and decodable books. Also, in 5th and 6th Grade, teachers use the Reading Reconsidered curriculum and Words Their Way. During the literacy block, students develop strong reading and writing skills through the use of: reading and writing mini lessons, literacy small groups, interactive read alouds and mentor texts, conferencing, independent reading, literature response, writing craft techniques, drafting, editing, and revising, purposeful share, and literacy workstations.

Math Workshop: ACS follows the NCSCOS in Math and utilizes a Math Workshop Model by incorporating the Zearn math curriculum, in addition to pulling from multiple resources to meet these standards, such as Math in Practice, Math Talks, Math Tasks, and Tools4NCTeachers. First, students have a whole group math mini lesson. Next, students rotate through math workstations, including a small guided math group with the teacher on the student's level.

Responsive Classroom/Morning Meeting: We use a system of classroom management called Responsive Classroom. The main goal of Responsive Classroom is to promote optimal student learning and create a caring community of students and staff. It is a research-based program that shows students learn best when they feel safe, challenged and happy. The main components of Responsive Classroom are the First Six Weeks of School, Morning Meeting, Hopes and Dreams, Rule Creation, Guided Discovery and Logical Consequences. During the First Six Weeks of School, we spend time learning the rules, routine, procedures, etc. that will foster our students as independent learners and will make our classroom run smoothly. Everyday, children gather in morning meetings to greet each other, start the day and learn social skills like respect, responsibility, and empathy.

Empathy and Service at ACS: We integrate empathy and service throughout the day particularly through our Responsive Classroom and Fly Five practices and Project Work.

Technology: ACS offers a 21st century learning environment in which every student in 2nd - 6th grade has access to Chromebooks (1:1) and in Kindergarten and 1st grade can use iPads (2:1) within their classrooms. Students use these devices in math and literacy workstations and for project research. Each classroom also had an interactive Smart TV to enhance the learning experience.

Specials & Electives: ACS offers five specials for Kindergarten - 4th Grade and are often integrated within our project work. They are PE, Art, Music, STEM and & Global Connections. **Middle School Students** are able to choose from a wide variety of elective offerings (Spelectives), such as Musical Theatre, Lego Robotics, and Volleyball.

Lunch: ACS offers My Hot Lunchbox (MHLB) as the hot lunch program. Families can order lunch from a wide variety of options provided by your student's favorite local restaurants. Students that qualify for free or reduced lunches are provided a meal.

Before/After School Care: On-site Before/After School Care is offered for students via our contracted vendor, Genesis Athletics. They also offer a robust 4-H program. For more information regarding cost, times, etc., please contact Genesis Athletics at: 336 270-5052, then press 3 when prompted or email at: genesisathleticsnc@gmail.com

Summer Camps: During the month of June, we offer free and fee-based summer camp options, such as a reading camp for struggling readers or a project work camp for students performing above grade level.

4-H: ACS 4-H opened its charter in the fall of 2022 under Evelyn Krieley's (Genesis Athletics) direction. They are currently offering programs based on interest and registration.

Student Ambassadors: The ACS Student Ambassador Program is for students in 4th Grade and up. Students may complete an application and get 2 references from an adult and a peer within ACS who knows their character and suitability for the program. ACS Ambassadors are highly responsible and respectful students who serve our school.

Middle School Athletics: Our first class of 6th graders has the opportunity to participate in competitive and non-competitive sports.

2023 - 2024 School Year - Sports this year include Fall - Coed Cross Country; Winter - Club Cheer; Spring - Coed Golf. As our middle school grows, we will add additional sports next year, such as basketball and volleyball.

Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO): ACS has an active PTO that plans multiple Family Nights at local restaurants and fun events at different venues throughout the year. They also provide ways for families to volunteer their time and service.

What happens after 8th Grade? - ACS has an **Articulation Agreement** with **West Triangle High School**, a new charter high school opening in western Orange County in 2025.