



Board-to-Board, May 2026

A monthly report from the Albemarle County School Board to the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors

ACPS Honors Educators, Staff of the Year—Albemarle County Public Schools (ACPS) is celebrating excellence across the division, naming Ashley Christensen as its 2026 Teacher of the Year, Madelyn Kressler as its First-Year Teacher of the Year, Kristi Thomas as its Education Support Professional of the Year and Staci England as its Leader of the Year.

All nominees were recognized by the Albemarle County School Board for their exemplary dedication to Albemarle County Public Schools at its April 23 meeting.

Read the full article: [ACPS Honors Educators, Staff of the Year](#)

* * *

2025-26 Golden Apple Award Winners Announced—After reviewing more than 1,000 nominations, the Golden Apple Selection Committee has announced the 2025-26 Golden Apple Award recipients.

The 2025-26 Golden Apple Award recipients will be honored at a community celebration on April 29, 2026, in Lane Auditorium at the County Office Building, 401 McIntire Road in Charlottesville. The event will begin with a reception at 5 p.m., followed by a recognition ceremony.

The evening will be led by Golden Apple Selection Committee Chair Amber Wilkins, assistant head of school for instructional programs at Blue Ridge School.

Read the full article: [2025-26 Golden Apple Award Winners Announced](#)

* * *

ACPS Raises Awareness of Title IX Protections for Students and Staff—Albemarle County Public Schools is launching a Title IX awareness campaign to help students, staff and families better understand their rights and the support available under federal law.

To build awareness, the ACPS Title IX Office continues to offer presentations, resources and support for students, staff and families across the division. Staff encourages anyone with questions or concerns to reach out, emphasizing that support is available at any time.

Read the full article: [ACPS Raises Awareness of Title IX Protections for Students and Staff](#)

* * *

Mountain View Dual Language Immersion Program Receives Professional Development Grant—Mountain View Elementary School (MVES) received a \$10,000 Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) mini-grant to support teacher training that enhances literacy instruction for students learning in two languages.

As part of this grant, MVES has already hosted a professional development session for Spanish Language Arts teachers to explore instructional resources and to ask targeted questions about the curriculum. In September, a three-hour session for both Spanish and English Language Arts teachers will focus on best practices in dual language instruction and collaborative planning.

Read the full article: [Mountain View Dual Language Immersion Program Receives Professional Development Grant](#)

* * *

ACPS Transportation Hosts Month of Professional Development—Throughout the month of March, the Albemarle County Public Schools Department of Transportation offered bus drivers a series of professional development classes aimed at sharpening the multitude of skills our drivers need as they take to the roads with our students each day.

With help from Transportation staff and other division leadership, the department offered employees classes on various safety topics like emergency response, first aid and CPR. There were also several classes offered in a variety of professional skills, like communication, student management and cultural awareness.

Read the full article: [ACPS Transportation Hosts Month of Professional Development](#)

* * *

England Retires from Crozet Elementary, Saunders to Take Helm in July—Crozet Elementary School will undergo a leadership transition at the end of the school year as Principal Staci England retires after four years of service to the Crozet community. Stephen Saunders, currently principal of Greer Elementary School, has been appointed as Crozet's next principal and will begin his role on July 1, 2026.

The transfer of Saunders from Greer to Crozet leaves an opening for the Greer principal position. Haas noted that ACPS will begin the process of selecting the next principal of Greer Elementary School by engaging with the students, staff and families of the Greer community.

Read the full article: [England Retires from Crozet Elementary, Saunders to Take Helm in July](#)

* * *

ACPS Chief Technology Officer Announces Retirement—After eight years with Albemarle County Public Schools (ACPS), Chief Technology Officer Christine Diggs announced that she will be retiring at the end of the 2025-26 school year.

With the announcement, the Department of Human Resources has begun the search for ACPS' next Chief Technology Officer. As part of this process, ACPS employees, students and families are invited to complete a brief survey to share their input on the qualities they value most in the next leader. This feedback will help shape interview questions and ensure candidates are evaluated based on how well they can meet the needs of the division. The survey is available in English, Spanish, Arabic and Chinese.

Haas is expected to present his recommendation for the next Chief Technology Officer to the Albemarle County School Board in mid-May, with a July 1, 2026, start date.

Read the full article: [ACPS Chief Technology Officer Announces Retirement](#)