

ACEC Tenth Graders Go to the Capital

Anson County Early College took their tenth graders to Raleigh on March 2. Staff members Tracey Small, Lynn Burr, Pablo Canongo and Rhonda Benton traveled with the students. The group met at school early in the morning and was on the road by 7 a.m. with everyone excited and ready for the day ahead.

Upon arrival in Raleigh the students were able to visit both the NC Museum of Natural Science and the NC Museum of History. According to Christian Walker, "It was a great experience to return to Raleigh as we are older, we know more, and we understand more." Arianna Yang had never been to Raleigh on a field trip and was excited about how large the museums were. Lane Goodwin said, "This was my first time going, and it was nice to understand what the exhibits were about. It was fun." All three students are grateful for the experience.

After visiting the museums the group went to the Legislative Building. North Carolina's legislature convenes its long session in January and usually stays in session until August in odd-numbered years. Legislators return to Raleigh for a short session in May of the following even-numbered year and typically are in session for about three months. The short session allows legislators to review and adjust the state's two-year budget that was adopted the previous year. During the short session lawmakers may only consider new legislation that impacts the budget or bills that passed the "house of origin" in the previous year. Because the legislature is currently in short session, students received a guided tour but were unable to meet any Representatives.

ACEC also enjoyed a tour of the Capital Building where they had the opportunity to learn about the building's history. One of the favorite stories was hearing about how Union soldiers rode their horses up and down the stairs. Eukela Little's favorite aspect of the Capital Building was seeing the original Senate and Representative rooms. The Lieutenant Governor's area was especially fascinating. "Overall, I feel that the entire trip was very informative and interesting," said Eukela. Mili Nguyen really appreciated the Capital building as well, and she said, "Learning the government process while on site made it more real and easier to understand."



Ansonville Celebrates Read Across America

Recently Ansonville Elementary School celebrated Read Across America and Dr. Seuss' birthday. All students in grades kindergarten through six participated in this annual event by listening eagerly to guest readers and answering questions afterwards.

AES would like to thank the following guest readers for making the trip to our school and for being a part of this special day: Josh McLaurin, Kevin Adams, Danny Norwood, Patty Williams, Mike Turner, Ralph Jackson, Jordan Hildreth, Rodney Clements, Mary Thomas, Judy Paul, Bonnie Morgan and Doris Bennett.

We look forward to next year as we come together again to experience and to celebrate Read Across America. Remember, "You're never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read to a child." -Dr. Seuss



AES Holds Science Night

Recently Ansonville Elementary School held Science Night for all students, parents and family members. Over 50% of AES students in grades kindergarten through six were actively involved in this amazing learning experience.

- Students in kindergarten & first grade demonstrated their knowledge of the physical properties of eggs. Each team received twenty four eggs (19 boiled and 5 raw). By examining the physical properties of the eggs (and without breaking them), the students tried to select the five raw eggs. Once each team had selected their eggs they tested them by breaking them over a teacher's head!
- Students in second and third grade tested balloon rockets. Each team of students constructed balloon rockets using a balloon, a straw and weights. The rockets flew along a string across the gym. The team with the rocket that traveled the greatest distance was the winner.
- Fourth and fifth graders created elephant toothpaste. Students used a chemical reaction between potassium iodide and hydrogen peroxide to launch a geyser of foam into the air. Each group had to choose the best container and quantities of ingredients. The team whose foam shot the highest was the winner.
- A mix of fifth and sixth graders created straw towers. Teams of students built towers using straws and tape that could support a golf ball. The team that built the highest tower that could support the ball was the winner.



Science Night at AES was a huge success! The gym was completely filled with eager students, parents, family members and staff. Everyone was extremely excited to observe and participate in the epic science experiments going on at Ansonville Elementary School.

Ansonville Students Visit Raleigh

On Wednesday, March 9 Ansonville Elementary School's fourth and fifth graders visited our State Capital, Raleigh. Over twenty parent volunteers also made the trip. This was an awesome educational experience for our students, as we visited five different locations in downtown Raleigh.

Students, teachers and parents visited the North Carolina State Capitol. It contains its original 1840 legislative furniture and is preserved by the State of North Carolina as a historic shrine. Many political and social events have taken place in these chambers, among them the Secession Convention of 1861, and the Constitutional Conventions of 1865, 1868 and 1875.

We also visited the State Legislative Building which is the home of the North Carolina General Assembly. It is unique in that it is devoted solely to the legislative branch of state government. While visiting the Legislative Building our students learned more about the important responsibilities of Anson County's State Senator Mr. Tom McInnis and Mr. Mark Brody, Anson's State Representative.

We also visited both the North Carolina Museum of History and the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences. The History Museum told us the stories of generations of North Carolinians, as well as those of recent arrivals. We were able to view many exhibitions that included artifacts and photographs, along with audiovisual and hands-on components. At the Science Museum there were four floors of nature fun! We were able to get an up-close look at the wonders of North Carolina from the mountains to the sea. Dinosaurs, whale skeletons, live animals and more provided a great way for us to get to know the state's natural history and global connections.

Last, but not least, we also visited the Governor's Mansion. The North Carolina Executive Mansion has been home to the governors and their families, and is as well a political, social and cultural center of the state for over 100 years. The house is one of the few executive mansions in the nation built specifically for that purpose.

We had a wonderful trip to Raleigh, NC! Ansonville students enjoyed the educational experience and made memories that will last a lifetime. The group is pictured below.

