



**Board-to-Board, March 2022**

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

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***Albemarle County Student Headed to National Spelling Bee***—Henley Middle School will once again send a student to the Scripps National Spelling Bee, marking three years in a row for the school.

Eighth-grader Henry Mathewes outlasted all of the other spellers at the regional spelling bee to qualify. If Henry is the last speller standing, he'll bring home a \$50,000 prize.

The National Spelling Bee will take place on June 2. Henry will be competing against more than 200 regional spelling bee champions in the Washington, D.C., area for Bee Week 2022 for a chance to compete in the Finals, broadcast live on ION on Thursday, June 2.

The Scripps National Spelling Bee is the nation's largest and longest-running educational program, helping students to improve their spelling, increase their vocabularies, learn concepts, and develop correct English usage that will help them throughout their lives.

***Employee Recognition Program Opens for 2022***—Albemarle County Public Schools (ACPS) has opened up applications for the annual We Notice employee recognition program. We notice recognizes a colleague whose work you would like to celebrate. This recognition can be given to any employee who works at ACPS, including teachers, office staff, building service team members, teaching assistants, cafeteria workers, school nurses, and bus drivers.

Nominations will be accepted through Sunday, March 27, from students, employees, and community members. There is an [online](#) application for the awards, which will be celebrated at Monticello High School on Tuesday, April 26, from 4:30 to 6 p.m. at Monticello High School. A special ceremony will be held for Transportation employees on the same day from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Vehicle Maintenance Facility.

***Shannon Foundation Grant Applications Open***—The [Shannon Foundation](#) annually awards grants to teachers for innovative classroom programs and projects. These are meant to supplement local funding for educators who propose valuable new programs that may not be funded through traditional sources.

The Foundation offers two levels of financial support: **Level 1 grants** of up to \$750, which are awarded to individual teachers or a team of teachers with a unique learning idea, and **Level 2 grants** of up to \$5,000, which are awarded to school teams led by a coordinating teacher or building administrator.

Applicants design their own projects, which their principals must sign off on. Applications are judged blindly based on criteria that emphasize classroom effectiveness and active student engagement. This year's applications are due on April 15.