



AAFS Provides Enrichment Activities to Encourage Positive Choices

The Alternative Academy For Success in Lexington-Richland Five is determined to make a positive difference in the lives of it's students. Since many of our student's behavior choices have blocked them from exposure to enrichment activities, it became one of our school goals to include such programs in an effort to expand their horizons. Enrichment activities such as field trips, artist in residence programs and other such programs, have given our students a chance to experience new things beyond their regular, everyday world. These ventures have provided teachable moments a plenty! We strive to support our students in becoming productive members of society, so they need to know how the rest of their community looks and functions.

One such trip was a "business casual" luncheon at California Dreaming, where students were nominated by their teachers based on academic and behavioral success. Students came to school dressed in their business attire and rode in a stretch limo with several teachers who were able to demonstrate everyday practices such as ordering from a menu, table manners, appropriate table conversation and figuring an adequate tip- just to name a few! What valuable "teaching time" occurred at that lunch table!



The AAFS also hosted an *Artist In Residence* for a week of learning the art of sweetgrass basket weaving and all of the related cultural traditions. Students were given the opportunity to make a basket in the shape of their choice and worked very diligently. Students were so proud of their baskets that were completed by the end of the program.

Healing Species, a program that uses rescued animals and their stories to promote empathy as an anti-violence measure and the National Guard's Alcohol & Drug Abuse Prevention program are two other outside programs the AAFS uses to expose our students to the world around them and to encourage good choices!