



THE EAGLE UPDATE

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER - August 9, 2024

Hansen's Highlights

1. Today please see an email from the office about looking at JMC to determine your child's class advisor (homeroom teacher). Class assignments are finalized and no changes will be made. Much prayer and discussion is held as classroom rosters are created and classroom teachers are assigned.

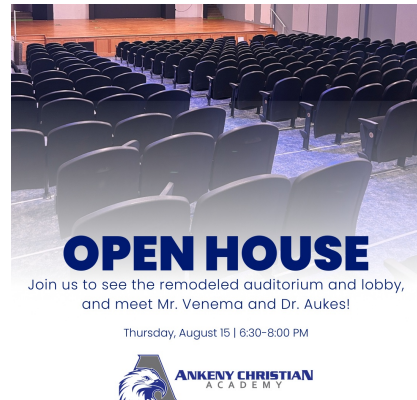
2. **Hear from Mrs. Mrs. Hansen, Elementary Principal, and Dr. Jo Aukes, Assistant Elementary Principal**, as they discuss the many things going on this summer to prepare for the 2024-2025 school year.

3. **Come out tomorrow from 8:30- 12:00 to assist Mrs. Hansen with** clean up on the playground to prepare for school's start. Please bring a water bottle & work gloves. If you have access please also bring: shovel, rake, hand saw and a wheelbarrow. High school students can earn community service hours toward a blue service cord.

4. **Select faculty/staff enjoy being trained this summer in CPR and First Aid** to ensure ACA students are in good hands while they learn at school!

5. **This Spring Mrs. Barth's begindergarten students enjoyed getting together with their middle school Big Buddies.** At ACA our little ones look up to and are being disciplined by their special buddies!

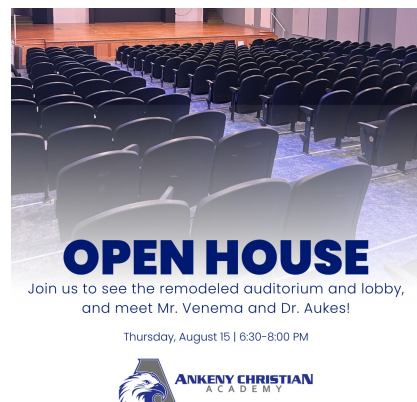
6. I look forward to welcoming four new faculty next week at teacher orientation from Aug. 14-22. Returning teachers report on Aug. 16 to prepare for the new school year. Our new teachers in elementary this year include Mrs. Marcia Budnik - Kindergarten, Mrs. Alyssa Baccam- Second Grade, Mrs. Morgan Crossman -Fourth Grade, and Mr. Jon Williams- Part Time P.E., as well as our teacher associates who will join us August 22.



Open House - August 15

Join us August 15 from 6:30-8:30 to see the new auditorium and meet Mr. Venema, Dr. Aukes and their families! Light refreshments will be served.

There will be a special spot for alumni to gather and school tours for them to see the updates and changes throughout the school!



Save the Date - Back to School Night!

Save the date for Thursday, August 22, from 6-8 PM for Back to

School night at ACA! This is for students beginning through 12th grade. There will also be meetings for certain grades; if you have a child in one of those grades, please plan to attend that meeting!

- 6:00 - New Parent Meeting for students beginning through 12th grade or parents who'd like an ACA refresher! (Auditorium)
- 6:20 - 6th Grade Parent Meeting (Auditorium)
- 6:40 - 9th Grade Parent Meeting (Auditorium)
- 7:00 - 12th Grade Parent Meeting (Auditorium)

Things to do that evening:

- Get your back to school pictures taken tonight at our photo booth!
- Check your desk or homeroom for ACA apparel, athletic passes, PTF info sheet, and the annual report!
- Have questions? See our leadership team in the cafeteria!
- Stop by your classroom or homeroom to drop off your supplies and meet your teacher!

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT!



THINGS TO DO

- Meet your teachers and see your classroom!
- Take back to school pictures at our photo booth
- Pick up your ACA apparel in your classroom/homeroom

PARENT MEETINGS

- 6:00 - New Parents (6th-12th Grade) or parent refreshers
- 6:20 - 6th grade parent meeting
- 6:40 - 9th grade parent meeting
- 7:00 - 12th grade parent meeting

BE SURE TO

- Visit the ACA team in the cafeteria to answer any questions you have

Back to School Bash!

You're invited to join us Friday, August 23, for the PTF's Back to School Bash! This will be held at Sandpiper Recreation Area in Polk City and will have a potluck and a social time for the students and parents. We will not be holding Principals and Popsicles in the Park this year, so the Bash will be a great opportunity for students to connect with each other before school begins.

New Lunch Vendor!

We have heard the feedback on school lunch program. Over the summer ACA looked in to multiple options for school lunches. We are excited to announce we will be partnering with Smokey D's for school lunches for 2024-2025! Smokey D's is committed so supporting the educational mission of Ankeny Christian by providing wholesome, satisfying meals that help students thrive academically. By delivering high-quality, minimally processed meals, Smokey D's brings a trusted name in culinary excellence to our school's lunch program. The lunch program will feature a wide variety of fruits and vegetables, with portion sizes carefully tailored to be age appropriate, providing the right amount of food for each student's nutritional needs. To keep things interesting and appealing, Smokey D's will offer a different weekly cold entrée option in addition to the daily hot entrée, giving students the choice of their preferred entrée. Prices are below; milk will be separate. [A sample menu can be found here.](#)

Each meal item will include:

- A hot entrée item (different daily) or a cold entree option (rotated weekly).
- Protein, grain, fruit, and vegetable will be offered daily.
- Dessert is included once a week as a treat to enhancing the dining experience for students.

K-4th Grade Pricing: \$6 per student per day

- Slightly smaller entrée portions to accommodate younger appetites
- Vegetable servings: ¼ cup each
- Fruit servings: ½ cap each

5th-12th Grade pricing: \$7 per day

- Larger entrée portions suitable for older students
- Vegetable servings: ½ cup each
- Fruit servings: ½ cup each

Entrée Only: \$5 per hot or cold entrée



K-4th Grade



5th-12th Grade



K-4th Cold Entrée



5th-12th Cold Entrée

Smokey D's goal is to help students stay focused and attentive in their classes, making it easier for teachers to deliver lessons and engage with their students. When students are properly nourished, they are more likely to participate

actively in classroom's activities and retain the information being taught. With Smokey's expertise in child nutrition and dedication to planning menus that align with USDA meal patterns, Smokey D's is confident that their lunches will contribute to a positive and productive learning environment.



Board of Directors Annual Retreat Recap

The Board of Directors met last week for their annual strategic planning retreat. They spent time in devotions, team building, and reviewing priorities from the past year, and began discussing topics to focus on for the 2024-25 school year. They include articulating board priorities and provide communication channels between the board, admin and association, and long-term planning and land assessment. The board also identified several projects that they plan to accomplish this year, including setting tuition, salaries and budget for 2025-26, revising the board nomination process, updating our ByLaws, and continuing to review and revise our policies.

Regular board meetings will be scheduled on the first Thursday of the month and work sessions will be on the third Thursdays, as needed. Fireside Chats will be held in September, November, January, and March; with the Annual Association Meeting in May. Fireside Chats are a time for you to hear updates from the board and administration and ask questions. Those dates will be announced soon and can be found on the school calendar when they are set.

The first Fireside Chat will be on Thursday, September 5. We hope to see you there!

New Hires at ACA

We are excited to the final member of the ACA team for 2024-2025. Tricia Nikkel has been hired as a teacher associate. Welcome, Tricia!

Office Hours

Friday, August 16 ,the office will open at 10:00 instead of 7:30. Starting Monday, August 19, normal office hours resume: Monday-Thursday, 7:30-3:45 and Friday, 7:30-2:00.

Campus Clean-Up

We're doing a campus clean up on Saturday, Aug. 10 from 8:30-12:00 to help ready the playground for our students this year. High school students can come work and earn silver cord hours. **Email Mrs. Hansen** if you're interested in helping that day.

One Lunch Volunteer Needed!

We need one more volunteer to help with lunch! This would be for the first Wednesday of each month, approximately 10:30-1:30pm.

You can also volunteer to be included in our Lunch Service Volunteer or Lunch Teacher Assistant Volunteer Substitute List! There are times when circumstances arise that prevent our regular volunteers from serving. In these instances, we reach out to our substitute volunteers. Lunch Service volunteers serve from 10:30am until 1:30pm approximately and Teacher Assistant volunteers serve from 10:45 until 12:15pm approximately. Please let me know if you have any questions or are interested in helping out with lunch service! Volunteering with the lunch program is a great way to get involved at ACA! If you would like to help serve lunch at ACA please reach out to Natalie Whittemore at (515) 289-6556 or natalie.whittemore@acaegles.net

REMINDERS FROM LAST WEEK

Teacher Wish Lists

If you'd like to bless the ACA teachers as they start out the year, you can find their classroom wish lists [here](#).

Pastor/Church in JMC

We're proud to have so many denominations and churches represented here at ACA. We are asking all families to please go into your JMC account, select Registration 24-25, click on Custom Fields and enter your pastor and the church you attend before school begins.

2024-2025 School Calendar

The 2024-2025 school calendar has been published! You can view it [here](#).

Medication at ACA

In order for students to have a pain reliever (Tylenol/Ibuprofen) at ACA, they need to drop off a bottle in the school office where it will be kept and administered as needed. If a child needs to take prescription medication while at school, including inhalers, epi pens, allergy medication, the parent needs to fill out a medication administration form, the medication needs to be in the original prescription bottle and kept in the office at all times. The **[form can be found here](#)** and turned into the office when completed.

2024-2025 Athletic Pass

Athletic passes for the 2024-2025 school year are now available to purchase on JMC! Passes will be \$100 per adult. All students K-12 can attend ACA's sporting events at no charge. Graduates of ACA and grandparents can purchase athletic passes for \$75. This year at ACA sporting events, we will be moving to a cashless preferred method of payment. Cards or athletic passes will be the preferred method of payment at these events. Athletic passes will be able to be picked up at the Back to School night on August 22 or after August 22 in the office.

If a grandparent or friend would like to purchase a pass, they may contact the office to purchase one.

School Supply Lists

While there's still plenty of summer left, we know that school is coming! Here are the school supply lists for 2024-2025.

[High School](#) | [Middle School](#) | [Elementary](#)

Upcoming Events

August

15

6:30-8:00: Auditorium Open House and Meet the Venemas and Aukeses

August

22

5:00 - 3-year-old Preschool Open House

6:00 - 4-year-old Preschool Open House

6:00-8:00: Back to School Night

August

23

PTF Back to School Bash at Sandpiper Recreation Area

August

26

1st-12th Grade: First Day of School

August

27

Beginndergarten and Kindergarten First Day of School



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