



THE EAGLE UPDATE

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER - August 14, 2026

THEREFORE, MY BELOVED
BROTHERS, BE STEADFAST,
IMMOVABLE, ALWAYS ABUNDING
IN THE WORK OF THE LORD,
KNOWING THAT IN THE LORD YOUR
LABOR IS NOT IN VAIN.

COLOSSIANS 15:58

Important Email Sent Today

There was an important email sent today regarding the start of school. Please see that email for important information regarding the start of school and the Back to School Bash.

Eagle Update

The Eagle Update is sent weekly and is your primary source of communication on what's happening at school. We encourage you to read each week's carefully. For your convenience, past versions are archived and available on [ACA's website](#).

Secondary After-Care

ACA is offering an after-school option for secondary students in grades 7–12 who are not picked up by 3:15 p.m. A bell will ring at 3:15 each day; no students will be allowed in any common areas after that bell has rung. Students will be able to stay in a designated study hall room where they will be supervised by an ACA staff member until 4:00 p.m. The cost is **\$10 per day**, regardless of how long the student remains in the study hall.

We are currently finalizing the details regarding the pick-up process and will communicate those procedures to families soon. Thank you for your understanding as we work to provide a safe and convenient option for our secondary students.

FAQ

What will my student do?

It will be a study hall environment, so they should have homework to work on, a book to read, or something else to do quietly.

What if I arrive at 3:20 to pick up my student?

At 3:15, any student who has not been picked up will be escorted to the after-school program.

Will my students be required to attend the program if they are not picked up?

Yes, our goal is to provide safety for the students and convenience for the parents.

Do I need to sign-up in advance for my student to attend?

No.

How will I be billed?

The charges will be added to your Blackbaud account.

Little Eagles Nest

Before School Program

Before school care is offered from 6:45 AM until 7:30 AM at the Ankeny Christian Academy Preschool building on Faith Baptist Bible College's campus (1900 NW 4th, Building 14). Students will be transported from the preschool building to ACA via school van at 7:30 each day.

After School Program

After-school care is offered after school until 5:45 for students beginning kindergarten through 6th grade. This program is available any day that kids are at school, including early outs and any snow day early out. After-school care is held at ACA, and a snack will be provided each day. After-school care is staffed by college-aged young adults.

All school-wide expectations will apply at Little Eagles Nest, including playground rules and jacket rules for weather. The same rules apply for electronics, phones, and smart watches as to school - they are not allowed at Little Eagles Nest.

Students must be picked up by 5:45. Parents should enter through the east doors. There will be a sign inside the door that tells where the students are - playground, cafeteria, or auditorium. If someone other than the parents plans to pick up the child, please email teri.ellwanger@aca eagles.net. If late pick-up becomes excessive, your child will not be able to attend the program.

If your child plans to attend Little Eagles Nest, please communicate this with your child's teacher on Back to School night, as this helps them plan for their dismissal process.

All students Kindergarten-6th grade who have not been picked up by 3:15 will be taken to Little Eagles Nest. Your student cannot be supervised after 3:15 by an older sibling. **If your child gets signed in to Little Eagles Nest, you will be charged for the day.**

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Teri Ellwanger (teri.ellwanger@aca eagles.net). If an emergency arises while your child is at Little Eagles Nest, please contact Teri Ellwanger - 515-971-9622 (emergency use only).

Payment

After school care is \$42 week or \$12/day. Before school care is \$25 per week or \$7.50 per day. Payments will be made through Blackbaud.

Stock the Staff Lounge

Help stock the staff lounge! Our teachers and staff have a wonderful lounge to use throughout the day for lunch and breaks. We'd love to start the year with a stocked lounge for our staff with drinks and snacks to grab in between classes. [You can sign up here.](#) If all slots are full, you are still welcome to bring something. Please bring it to the office before school starts or on Back to School Night.

Praying for the First Day of School

We'd love our first day of school to be covered in prayer. We're asking for volunteers to set aside 15 minutes to pray on the first day of school. [Please sign up here.](#)

Eagle Apparel

Our first ACA Apparel store of the year is open! [Check out the apparel options with all new designs this year!](#)

Middle School Handbook

Middle School Parents - please make sure you review the middle school handbook. There are some important things to note (i.e. required clothes for PE) as well as some updates in how the students will be using their Chromebooks. This was sent out previously and is [available here as well](#).

ACA Legacy Gala: Forward in Faith

You're invited to join us at this year's Legacy Gala: Forward in Faith! We'll celebrate individuals who have made a difference at ACA this year and be the first to see ACA's master plan for our campus. There will be dinner, a ticket drop auction, and cookies by Baked by Mary. [Sign up here!](#)

Can't attend but want to support the event? [You can make a donation here.](#) We're also in need of items for our ticket drop - [you can donate those here.](#)



New Secondary Student - Invite from Student Council

The student council would like to invite each new student in grades 6-12 to stop by the student council table in the cafeteria at the Back to School Bash to pick up a gift from the student council, meet students, and have refreshments.



Ankeny Christian Academy | 1604 W 1st St | Ankeny, IA 50023 US

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