



THE EAGLE UPDATE

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER - August 21, 2026

Important Upcoming Dates - SCHOOL STARTS THURSDAY

Back to School Bash - Wednesday, August 26 from 4-7. New Parents/New to ACA meeting at 5:30 in the auditorium. Meet your teachers, drop off your supplies, ask questions in the gym! Secondary students - pick up your locker combinations and cell phone cubby assignment. High schoolers - parking passes will be handed out and required to park in the lot on Thursday. Please pick it up on Wednesday! Please review the parking map and instructions previously sent on where to park.

The office will be closed from 1-4 on Wednesday. The office staff will be at the Back to School Bash if you have questions for them.

First day of school - Thursday, August 27. As a reminder, school this year is from 8-3, Monday thru Friday. Please see last week's Eagle Update for information on after-care options for elementary and secondary students.

Uniforms

Middle School and High School athletes - please return any uniforms to Mrs. Quick at the Back to School Bash.

Join ACA FBLA - High School

Looking for a way to build leadership skills, strengthen your college resume or job application, explore scholarship opportunities, compete with students across Iowa, and make a difference in your community? ACA FBLA may be a great fit!

Last spring, our chapter organized a Mental Health Awareness Week in support of the Iowa Healthiest State Initiative's Make It OK campaign. Together, we raised \$760.02 and completed 61.5 volunteer hours while helping reduce the stigma surrounding mental health.

As an FBLA member, students can:

- Develop leadership and professional skills
- Participate in conferences and competitions
- Apply for FBLA scholarships and awards
- Strengthen college and job applications
- Take part in community service projects
- Meet students who share similar interests

Stop by our table during Back to School Night to meet our members and learn more! Students in grades 9 - 12 are invited to attend our informational meeting in September during lunch in Mrs. Heisterkamp's classroom.

Membership dues are \$35 and will be posted in JMC after registration.

Questions? Contact Avary Dyjak, Emily Burris, or [Mrs. Heisterkamp](#).

Lead. Serve. Compete. Grow. Join ACA FBLA!

Goldfinch for ACA - Secondary Students

(6) Weekly Schedule Options for the Fall:

Wednesday and Friday mornings: 6:30 - 7:15am

Monday and Thursday evenings: 6:00 - 6:45pm

Saturday mornings: 7:30 - 8:15am AND 9:30 - 10:15am

Registration link - [click here](#)

You will see two registration options, both with our ACA Eagles team discounted rates applied:

(1) Month to month - you can start / pause this any time

(2) ALL IN school year pass with a pre-pay option to receive additional 25% off, **this deal ends today**

***All school year sessions hosted at **Goldfinch Athletics** with these (6) time slots blocked off for ACA Eagles
--- athletes are encouraged to pick between 1-3 of the weekly sessions depending on their schedule, can attend any of the sessions each week with flexible scheduling allowed (not locked in to specific days)

*Sessions will be primarily strength focused with in-season athletes, with continued speed training at specific times of each season

***Athletes/parents can request a speed focused program if they are doing strength work outside of our program

Contact me with any questions.

Tucker Herzberg
515.240.9670



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.](#)

High School Chapel Band Auditions

Chapel Band auditions are on Monday, August 24 at 10:30am! This will be in the Ankeny Christian Academy auditorium. All are welcome to audition. We are looking for singers, piano players, guitar players, and drummers. For those who already filled out the spreadsheet, we can't wait to see you there! If you have any questions you can email them at kathlyn.copley@stu.eagles.net.

Eagle Apparel

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

ACA Evening with Ben Schettler

Save the date! ACA will be hosting an evening with Ben Schettler, President and co-founder of The Center for Truth in Love on Friday, November 13 at 7:00 p.m. All ACA parents are invited to attend. Secondary students are also invited to attend.

ACA Legacy Gala: Forward in Faith

We're excited to recognize Mrs. Barth as our elementary teacher of the year and Mrs. Guillen as our secondary teacher of the year! We'll also recognize Jane and Jack McWilliams with our Legacy Award. Join us to celebrate at the event. [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.](#)



Join the lunch volunteer team!

Calling all parents, grandparents, and family members of ACA students! Do you have a heart to serve ACA? Are you looking for a great way to get involved? Join ACA's lunch volunteer lunch team!

Volunteering for lunch at ACA is a great way to serve our school and see your children during the school day!

If you have family members who do not receive the newsletter (grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc), feel free to share this information. Many grandparents and family members enjoy being involved and serving in ACA's lunch program!

Background Check Forms: If you are interested in volunteering at ACA; please fill out the volunteer background check forms available on our school website.

Volunteer Roles:

TA's (Teacher's Assistants) -This shift is from **10:35am-11:40pm approximately**. These volunteers help students at the kitchen window and then aid students in the cafeteria with their lunchtime needs. They also aid in cleanup as classes are dismissed. Extra TAs are always welcome during this time as well on any day! Contact Mrs. Whittemore to schedule a time to serve as an extra TA.

Lunch Servers--This shift is from **10:30am-1:30pm approximately**. Lunch servers serve lunch for our students and then aid in kitchen clean up.

Substitute Volunteers--These are volunteers who fill in for volunteers (TA's and Lunch Servers) who are unable to serve on their regularly scheduled shift. This may be short notice or advanced notice. There is a great need for volunteers for our substitute volunteer lists. If you have a flexible schedule (even if it's only one day per week), please consider joining our substitute volunteer lists.

Open Volunteer Shifts for the 2026-2027 School Year:

Lunch Service --This shift is from 10:30am-1:30pm approximately

Monday--The 1st, 4th, and 5th (where applicable) Monday of each month

Tuesday-- The 1st and 2nd Tuesday of each month

Wednesday--The 1st (2 openings for this shift) and 3rd Wednesday of each month

Thursday-- The 5th (where applicable) Thursday of each month

Friday-- The 5th (where applicable) Friday of each month

TA --This shift is from 10:35am-11:40pm approximately

Monday--No openings

Tuesday--The 3rd and 4th Tuesday of each month

Wednesday--The 5th (where applicable) Wednesday of each month

Thursday--No openings

Friday--The 2nd Friday of each month

Volunteers are also welcome to join the "substitute list" for shift openings! Substitutes are always needed regularly throughout the school year!

Substitute Lists

Consider joining the substitute lists (Lunch Service and TA)! There is a great need for lunch substitute volunteers.

Please contact Natalie Whittemore for more information about serving in ACA's lunch program!

email: natalie.whittemore@aca eagles.net

phone/text: 515-289-6556



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