



THE EAGLE UPDATE

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER - August 28, 2026

ACA Apparel

Purchase your ACA apparel here: <https://pmapparel.chipply.com/ankenychristian/>. Store will close August 30.

Helpful Guide for Activating Your Student(s) Lunch Account for the 2026-2027 School Year

Our school campus code is: "**acalunch**" (all lowercase and no spaces)

Open your app or log into your lunch account app (HotLunch). Select the student you wish to order for. The app will display, "Welcome to the new school year! You must update the grade and classroom before a new order can be placed." Click "update now" to proceed. Your student's name will be listed; click the green "edit" tab nearby. In the campus code section; type "**acalunch**" (all lowercase, no spaces), and then click the green "verify" tab. The domain "Ankeny Christian Academy" will then be displayed. Next, select the student's grade and classroom/homeroom/advisor designation. Then, after making the updates, select the "save" white tab located in the upper right hand corner. A message will then be displayed that "your student has been successfully updated." Follow this same process for each student in your family account. Your account will then be ready to create lunch orders!

For lunch program information; please go to the ACA website, click on "Parent Resources" then click on "School Lunch Program Information."

Please reach out to me if you have any questions or need help!

email: natalie.whitemore@acaegles.net

text: (515)-289-6556

Legacy Gala: Forward in Faith

Join us for this year's Legacy Gala! We'll recognize Mrs. Barth and Mrs. Guillen as our teachers of the year, and award the Legacy Grant to Jane and Jack McWilliams. It will be a fun evening celebrating our school with dinner, dessert, auctions, and heart-warming stories. Funds raised from the evening will support our capital campaign projects.

[Purchase your tickets here.](#)



PLEASE JOIN US

Saturday, September 26, 2026

5:30 p.m.

FFA Enrichment Center

Located on the DMAC, Ankeny Campus
1055 SW Prairie Trail Pkwy, Ankeny, IA 50023

Contributions encouraged

"We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord,
his power, and the wonders he has done." Psalm 78:4

First Grade Parent Meeting

There will be a first grade parent meeting on September 3 from 5-6 in the auditorium. At least one parent needs to be in attendance at this meeting. We ask that no children are there and there will be no childcare. We will be covering many important things that you will need to know as a first grade parent. We will talk about JMC, specific information about 1st grade, as well as google classroom which will be an important communication tool.

E-Bikes and Scooters at ACA

We want to remind our parents and students about the city of Ankeny guidelines around e-bikes and scooters. The police will be enforcing these rules around schools. Please see the guidelines [here](#).

Upcoming Important Dates

More information will be provided about these as the dates get closer!

September 4 - High School Retreat at the Ridge

September 11 - Middle School Retreat

September 14 - Parent Meeting at 6:30 in the Auditorium

September 23 - See You At the Pole (led by ACA Student Council)

September 24-25 - School Pictures

ACA College and Career Fair

Come exhibit at our Ankeny Christian Academy's Fall College and Career Fair!! ACA is looking for professionals from our community to come share more about your career pathway with our 9-12th graders.

If interested in hosting a table to share Please RSVP to the link below. More details to come for those participating.

What: College and Career Fair for Ankeny Christian Academy High School Students

When: Tuesday October 6, 2026

Time: 8:00am-12:00pm

What to Expect: Each exhibitor will be provided with a table to set up and sit at. We will have 4 hours open for you to talk with 9th-12th grade students.

[RSVP to the Fair Here!](#)

Board of Directors Meeting

The next board of directors meeting will be on Thursday, September 3. The agenda can be found [here](#).

Athletic Passes

If you are interested in purchasing an athletic pass, please see Michele Quick, ACA's athletic director. Cost is \$150/one pass and \$250 for two passes. The pass gets you entry in to all ACA regular season home games.

Eagle Eyes

We are inviting men to volunteer before school (7:30–8:10 AM) or after school (2:45–3:15 PM) to be an extra set of eyes on campus during drop-off and pick-up. Volunteers will also spend a few moments praying over our elementary and secondary students each day. If you are interested in learning more, please reach out to [Justin Porter](#), ACA's director of operations.

High School Fall Retreat 2026

Overview

This year our HS Fall Retreat will be held at **The Ridge** (825 NW 36th St, Ankeny, IA 50023) in Ankeny on Friday, September 4. Students can arrive starting at **7:45am**, with the retreat beginning at **8:15am**. We will end and dismiss

students at **2:30pm** to allow time for students and/or parents to get back to ACA for pickup of other siblings. This year's theme is simply "Hevel". We're taking a look at the book of Ecclesiastes together and how this poignant Old Testament text can be a tremendous help in navigating life today. Our speaker for this year's retreat is Todd Hessel from Ankeny Free Church.



Service

We are going to be partnering with Joppa Ministries in putting together 400 small homeless kits. Supplies for these kits will be provided. Each kit will also include a hand written note and will be prayed over by students. We are also currently looking for other service opportunities to do on-site during our retreat.

Lunch Opportunity

Lunch will be provided by Flame. We will have a taco bar (3 per student) with options of black beans, chicken, & beef, along with sides of chips & salsa. If you would like to help with serving lunch during our retreat, [please sign up here](#).

Help Build ACA Theatre

ACA Theatre is growing, and we'd love to connect with students and families who are interested in being part of the journey!

Students (Grades 8–12)

Are you creative? Love technology? Interested in theatre, art, construction, fashion, lights, photography, or design? We're looking for students who want to help design this year's musical in areas such as:

- Scenic Design & Construction
- Costume Design
- Properties
- Lighting
- Sound
- Hair & Makeup
- Graphic Design & Marketing

No experience is necessary—we'll help you learn! Students will work alongside experienced adult mentors, participate in workshops and training opportunities, and may even be eligible for Iowa High School Musical Theatre Awards (IHSMTA) behind-the-scenes recognition and scholarship opportunities.

Student Forms (Grades 8–12):

DESIGNERS: <https://forms.gle/eS5Rk937uHqPyyWE6>

Parents (all grades)

Whether your student is in elementary, middle school, or high school, we'd love to connect with you! Complete our Parent Interest & Volunteer Form to receive theatre updates, invitations to our Parent Orientation, and information about future opportunities as the program continues to grow. If you're interested in volunteering with costumes, props, hospitality, cast meals, set construction, photography, or other areas, we'd love to know that too!

Parent Interest & Volunteer Form: <https://forms.gle/YmxdDmhLF9AmAcjB7>

Save the Date! Join us on September 19 as we reveal the 2027 Spring Musical! Students 8-12th grade can RSVP here: <https://forms.gle/Bv6kDRSz3jATiA1X9>

ACA High School Musical Reveal Party

Students in 8th–12th grade are invited to join us for the ACA Spring Musical Reveal Party on Saturday, September 19, from 11:00 AM–2:00 PM in the Auditorium.

Come enjoy theatre games, team-building activities, pizza generously donated by Dough Co. Pizza in Ankeny, and an escape-room style official reveal of this year's spring musical! Students will also hear about audition information, behind-the-scenes opportunities, awards and scholarships, tech crew, and other ways to get involved in the production.

Students should register using this link: <https://forms.gle/za8fZaP8dwA6tUKJ9>

Once the RSVP is completed students will receive their first clue. We can't wait to reveal what's coming to the ACA stage this spring!

First Month of Club America Meetings Schedule

Club America at Ankeny Christian Academy will host its first meeting on Thursday, September 3 during lunch. If you are a freshman who is interested in becoming a member of Club America and you come to the first meeting, you will receive a FREE full size candy bar. There will be also be FREE pizza at this first meeting for everyone who attends. This will be to learn about Club America, open for questions and kids interested.

Club America will be hosting its second meeting the next Thursday on September 10, where they will be having a memorial type meeting in honor and remembrance of Charlie Kirk's one year. All attendees will be asked to wear red to reflect honoring his legacy with the series of memorable things they will do in this meeting.

Club America's third meeting will be September 17 where they will celebrate their one-year anniversary of being a chapter with fun activities and pizza.

The final meeting of the first month of Club America meetings will be a meet and greet for selected members to attend to meet a Club America surprise guest speaker. The guest speaker will be revealed the first day of high school chapel. If you have questions on Club America, please contact Mollie Ancell.

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-11:40am 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-11:40am approximately

Monday--extra volunteers welcome

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

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

Thursday--extra volunteers welcome
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!

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

Upcoming Events

These are taken from the [school calendar](#). Please note that schedules (especially with sports) could be different from what's listed on the calendar.

August

29

Varsity Volleyball Tournament in Albion

September

1

5:30 - JV Varsity at Woodward Granger

6:30 - JV Volleyball at Woodward Granger

7:30 - Varsity Volleyball at Woodward Granger

September

3

4:30 - JV Volleyball at ACA

5:00 - Varsity Cross Country Meet at West Central Valley

5:30 - JV Volleyball at ACA

6:00 - Board Meeting

September

4

High School Retreat at the Ridge

September

7

No School - Labor Day

September

8

4:30 - MS Volleyball at ACA

5:00 - JV Volleyball at Southview

6:00 - JV Volleyball at Southview

September

5:30 - JV Volleyball at ACA

10

6:30 - JV Volleyball at ACA
7:45 - Varsity Volleyball at ACA

September

11

Middle School Retreat
4:30-6:00 - A Grand Day at ACA

September

12

Volleyball at Aplington-Parkersburg



(515) 965-8114
1604 W 1st St.
Ankeny, IA 50023

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