



THE EAGLE UPDATE

ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER - August 29, 2025

Grandparents' Day at ACA!

Grandparents' Day will be held Friday, September 5, from 4:30-6:00 p.m. ACA students grades Kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to bring their grandparents. The guests will get to meet the teachers, visit the art room and gym, tour the school, and more! They'll get to make a bookmark to take home as well. We've also invited food trucks to join us in the parking lot with food available for you to purchase if you'd like.



If your child does not have a grandparent who can come, feel free to invite a grandpal from church or your neighborhood. If your child's grandparent cannot attend and you want to bring your child to the event, feel free to attend this Grandparents' Open House event with them.

Parking & Pick-Up

- Thank you to parents that are following directions for pick up and drop off. The elementary/east side is doing really well!
- Please use this year's signs that you received at back to school night; please DO NOT use signs from previous years. They are specifically color-coordinated for specific dismissal times to help us know when you are supposed to be picking kids up. If you need another sign printed, please contact the [office](#).
- Remember that the parking lot has cones to block parking from the elementary side. If you need to park, you need to come in on the west side and follow along the car line to park in senior parking. If you park in the morning, please be very quick - all of the spots south of the gym are used for senior parking and we may need to ask you to move if a senior needs their parking spot.
- Parents CANNOT enter the parking lot earlier than their dismissal time. If you attempt to come earlier than your child's dismissal time, you will be expected and asked to circle the block until their designated pickup time (even if you're just two minutes early). Parents are allowed to come later than their designated pick-up time, too.

First Grade Parent Meeting

First Grade parents - reminder that there is an important first grade parent meeting on Thursday, September 4 from 5:30-6:30 in the auditorium. This will be an overview of first grade and include instructions on how to use JMC and Google classrooms, which will be very important for you to know how to use and navigate throughout the year. This meeting is for parents only, and childcare will not be provided. One parent must attend this meeting, and it's helpful to have both parents attend the meeting.

Elementary Schedule Changes

Lots of changes to our elementary schedule are happening this year! Many are to help us provide the educational minutes that help our students to be successful and support our value of academic excellence. We wanted to provide you some insight as your children may have some questions regarding the new schedule.

- Some students may be wondering why they have only one PE class each week. Mrs. Williams teaches BG-12th grades. While they only have it once a week, they do get a longer amount of time with Mrs. Williams

for PE class.

- Some may be wondering why they only have one recess time - we lengthened their lunch recess and removed the afternoon one. We are still well above the state requirements which state 30 minutes a day of being active, and we have that every day!

With just a few of these small changes. we are able to better ensure that our students are receiving the academic minutes they need to be successful and still get the fun and necessary movement in recess and PE!

2025 Legacy Gala - Gather & Grow

We hope to see you at this year's gala! We're sharing a big announcement, and you'll want to be there in person to hear it! Saturday, October 4 at 5:30 at the FFA Enrichment Center. [An invite with all of the details is available here.](#)

[Purchase Tickets](#)

Career Fair

We're excited to host a career fair on Thursday, September 11, for our students to explore jobs and businesses in our community! If you are interested in hosting a booth at our career fair and talking to our students about what you do, [please fill out the form](#). Space is limited to 50 exhibitors.

Dress Code Reminder

Please review the new dress code requirements in the [handbook](#). As a reminder:

1. All shirts must have a sleeve; no tank tops or tank dresses, please.
 2. Shorts must reach mid-thigh.
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Activities Calendar

All of our activities are on [Bound!](#) We have linked this [calendar to our website as well](#). Please be patient as it may take a few seconds to load on the page.

Parent Prayer Group

All parents are invited to meet at 8:00 on Tuesdays in the lobby to pray for our students, staff, and school.

ACA Apparel Store

The [ACA Apparel store](#) is available now and will close Monday, September 1. We have heard that many of you would like a "Pursue Jesus" shirt! The ones our teachers were wearing at Back to School night are exclusive to the teachers, but we will add one for parents and students to purchase in our next store.

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!

Many volunteers are needed for next year--especially on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and volunteers who are willing to serve as substitute volunteers!

Serve once a month, once a week, or choose a more-flexible "as needed or substitute" role!

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 both volunteer background

check forms and turn them into the office.

Volunteer Roles:

TA's (Teacher's Assistants) and 3rd Parent Helpers-This shift is from 10:40am-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.

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, 3rd Parent Helpers, 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:

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

Monday--The 4th Monday of each month.

Tuesday--The 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month

Wednesday--The 1st Wednesday of each month

Thursday--The 3rd and 5th (where applicable) Thursdays of each month

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

No regular shift openings at this time. Volunteers are welcome to join the "substitute list" for these openings!

Substitutes are always needed regularly throughout the school year!

Substitute Lists

Consider joining the substitute lists (Lunch Service, TA, and 3rd Parent Assistant)! 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

Note Regarding Friday, September 26 on Lunch Website and September Lunch Calendar

Both the lunch website and the printable lunch calendar mistakenly list lunch items for Friday, September 26th. With school not being in session that day, no lunch will be served. Both of these calendars will be updated and re-posted. When the lunch website calendar is edited, families who ordered lunch for 9/26 will receive an email notification of the cancellation as well as a refund for any lunch items purchased.

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

30

Varsity Volleyball at Skip Anderson Classic

September

No School - Labor Day

1

September

4

High School Retreat at Ankeny Baptist Church
4:30 - Varsity Girls Cross Country at West Central Valley
5:00 - Varsity Boys Cross Country at West Central Valley
5:30 - First Grade Meeting at ACA
5:30 - JV 2 Volleyball at Ballard
6:30 - JV 1 Volleyball at ACA
6:00 - Board of Directors Meeting

September

8

5:30 - JV 2 Volleyball at ACA
6:30 - JV 1 Volleyball at ACA

September

9

4:30 - MS Volleyball at Grand View Christian
5:30 - JV Volleyball at Twin Cedars
7:00 - Varsity Volleyball at Twin Cedars

September

11

Middle School Retreat at Ankeny Baptist Church
6:30 - JV Volleyball at Mormon Trail
7:30 - Varsity Volleyball at Mormon Trail

September

12

4:00 - MS Volleyball at Des Moines Christian

September

13

Varsity Volleyball Tournament at Aplington Parkersburg



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