



Ankeny Community School District

Annual Report

2024





District Overview



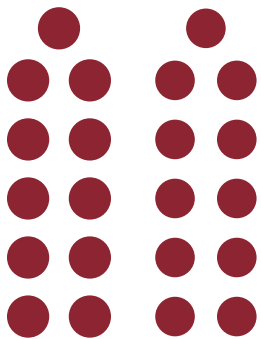
1
PRESCHOOL

11
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOLS

18
SCHOOLS

4
MIDDLE
SCHOOLS

2
HIGH
SCHOOLS

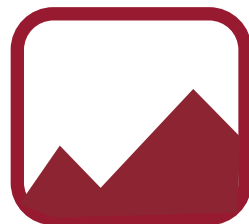


STUDENT
ENROLLMENT

12,752

7th
LARGEST DISTRICT
IN IOWA

100+
YEARS OF
SUCCESS



FREE & REDUCED
PERCENTAGE

16.4%



**DR. ERICK PRUITT,
SUPERINTENDENT**

Dear Ankeny Community,

As we reflect on another incredible year in our school district, I am filled with gratitude for the collective commitment of our students, staff, families, and community partners. Together, we continue to make remarkable strides in preparing every learner for success today and in the future.

Guided by our strategic plan and DEI Framework, we focus on what truly matters: creating opportunities for every student to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. Our strategic plan, with its pillars of Rigorous and Relevant Academics, Talented People,

and Supportive Environments, drives everything we do. Together with our DEI Framework's objectives of effective instructional practices, effective leadership, and meaningful family engagement, we are building a district that supports all learners and reflects the values of our vibrant community.

This year, we celebrated significant milestones and achievements:

- **Advancing Postsecondary Readiness:** We began planning for our innovative hub, a dynamic center designed to expand opportunities for career pathways, workforce development, and real-world learning. This project represents our vision for a future-ready district.
- **Welcoming Abbie Grove Elementary:** Our 11th elementary school opened its doors, providing a welcoming and supportive learning environment for students in a rapidly growing part of our district.
- **Strengthening Literacy:** We implemented a new literacy curriculum aligned to research-based practices, equipping our educators with tools to inspire a love of reading and build foundational skills for every learner.
- **Launching Transitional Kindergarten:** This program bridges the gap for our youngest learners, ensuring a strong start to their educational journeys.

These achievements are possible because of the extraordinary people in our district—dedicated educators, talented staff, engaged families, and supportive community members. Together, we foster a culture of innovation, inclusivity, and collaboration.

As you review this year's annual report, I hope you feel as proud as I am of the work we've accomplished and the plans we are building for the future. Our shared commitment to excellence ensures that Ankeny Schools will continue to lead, innovate, and inspire for generations to come.

Thank you for being a vital part of our journey.

Dr. Erick Pruitt



Guiding Documents

Mission Statement: The Ankeny Community School District engages all students in an educational experience that equips them with the skills to flourish in and contribute to an ever-changing world.

- ▶ **Strategic Plan:** Key initiatives
- ▶ **DEI Framework:** Guiding principles
- ▶ **Profile of a Graduate:** Path to the future
- ▶ **Annual Goals:** Measurements toward success



District Annual Goals The Ankeny Community School District's primary goal for the 22-23 school year is to ensure the academic growth of every student while decreasing the disproportionality or underrepresentation of students meeting or exceeding benchmarks and behavior expectations.				
Reading	Math	Science	Academic Behavior	Safe & Env
Increase the percentage of students in demographic groups that are performing at or above proficient in reading on standardized assessments from spring 2022 to spring 2023.	Increase the percentage of students in demographic groups that are performing at or above proficient in math on standardized assessments from spring 2022 to spring 2023.	Increase the percentage of students in demographic groups that are performing at or above proficient in science on standardized assessments from spring 2022 to spring 2023.	Increase the percentage of students in demographic groups that are performing at "meeting" on work habits standards from spring 2022 to spring 2023.	Increase the students in demographic groups reporting a welcoming environment local and state.

Graduate Profile

Alongside the development of a strategic plan, the district convened a task force of staff, parents, and community members to develop a graduate profile, a vision of what would be true for all ACSJ students by the time they graduate from high school. This document will work in concert with the strategic plan to establish a North Star for the district's work over the next five years.

KNOWLEDGEABLE
Students will have a strong academic foundation and the fundamental skills needed to thrive in the world after high school.

AUTHENTIC
Students will be reflective, self-aware, accountable, and independent thinkers who have post-secondary plans that align with their personal and professional goals.

ENGAGED
Students will demonstrate concern for the well-being of others and actively work to make a positive impact in their communities.

UNDERSTANDING
Students will model empathy, open-mindedness, and skill in effectively communicating and building relationships with a wide variety of people.

CURIIOUS
Students will be lifelong learners who embrace knowledge, think critically, challenge assumptions, and seek opportunities for growth and improvement.

ADAPTABLE
Students will persist through changes and seek solutions to challenges without losing sight of themselves, their commitment to others, or their long-term goals.

Rigorous & Relevant Academics

Strategic Plan: All ACSD students will graduate prepared for postsecondary success.

DEI Framework: Effective instructional practices and procedures: Communicating to students they are capable learners; Equitable opportunities and multiple pathways to achieve the Iowa Core; Connected learning communities; Student voice and choice.

Ankeny Community School District Long-Range Goals

- The percentage of students scoring proficient or higher in reading, math, and science will reach 100% by 2029.
- Provide for a safe, welcoming, inclusive learning environment that nurtures diverse aspirations of all learners.

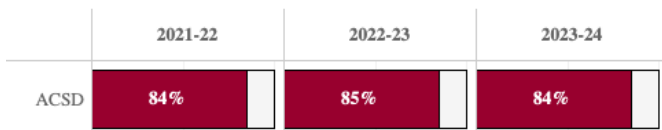
2023–2024 Annual Improvement Goals and Results

The Ankeny Community School District’s primary goal for the 2023–2024 school year is to ensure the academic growth of every student while decreasing the disproportionality or underrepresentation of students meeting or exceeding benchmarks and behavior expectations.

Reading: Increase the percentage of students that are performing at or above proficient in reading on standardized assessments from spring 2023 to spring 2024.

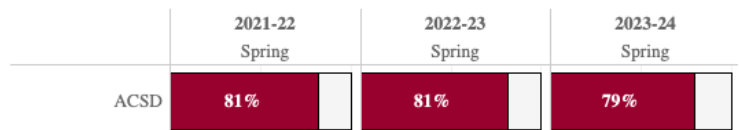
ISASP English-Language Arts Grades 3-11

Level: Whole District



FAST Reading Assessment Grades K-1: EarlyReading, Grades 2-5: CBM-R, Grades 6-7: aReading

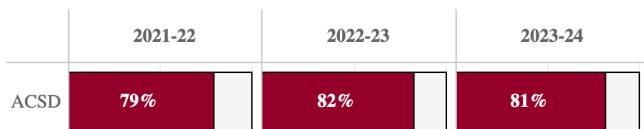
Level: Whole District



Math: Increase the percentage of students that are performing at or above proficient in reading on standardized assessments from spring 2023 to spring 2024.

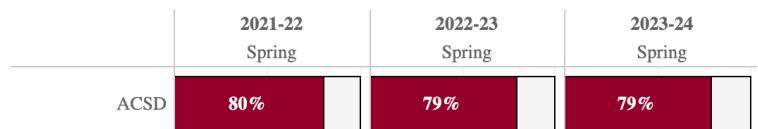
ISASP Mathematics Grades 3-11

Level: Whole District



FAST Math Assessments Grades K-1: EarlyMath, Grades 2-7: aMath

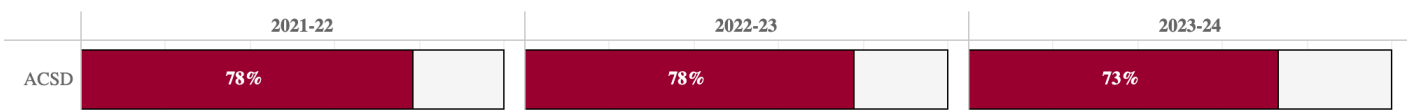
Level: Whole District



Science: Increase the percentage of students that are performing at or above proficient in science on standardized assessments from spring 2023 to spring 2024.

ISASP Science Grades 5, 8, and 10

Level: Whole District



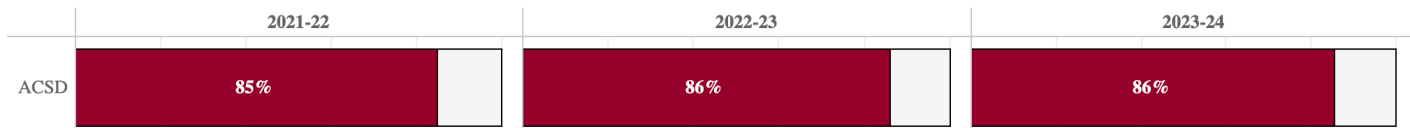


Rigorous & Relevant Academics

Academic Behavior: Increase the percentage of students in demographic groups that are performing “meeting” on work habits standards from spring 2023 to spring 2024.

Report Card Work Habits Grades K-12; Spring Term Only

Level: Whole District



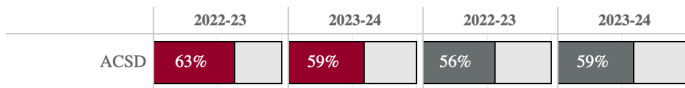
Safe & Welcoming Environment: Increase the percentage of students in demographic groups reporting a safe and welcoming school environment as measured by local and state surveys.

District Conditions for Learning Survey* Results

■ 3rd-5th Grades ■ 6th-12th Grades

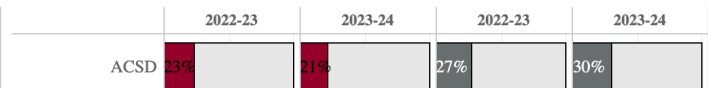
Physical Safety

(The extent to which students feel safe from harm while on school property)



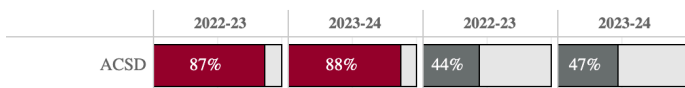
Emotional Safety

(The extent to which students feel safe from verbal abuse, teasing and exclusion.)



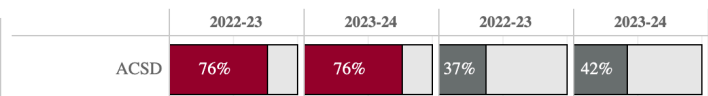
Student-Student Relationships

(The extent to which students demonstrate care and respect for, and collaborate with other students in their school)



Adult-Student Relationships

(The extent to which students feel connected to and supported by the adults in their school)

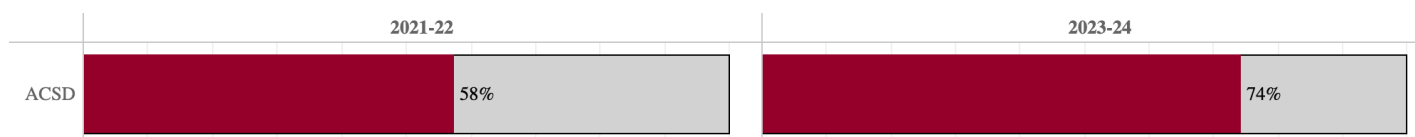


Postsecondary Planning: Increase the percentage of students in grades 6-12 engaged in postsecondary planning activities.

Postsecondary Planning

Grades 6-12; All grade-level planning activities complete

Level: Whole District



Rigorous & Relevant Academics

Postsecondary Readiness Data Graduation Rate

Ankeny: 94.43%
State: 87.46%

Drop-Out Rate

Ankeny: 0.81%
State: 2.12%

ACT District Composite Score *(represents 58% of graduating Seniors completing the ACT)*

Ankeny: 23.2
State: 21.4

Special Programs

Talented & Gifted (Ankeny Extended Learning Program)

1,417 Students Served

11% of total student population

Special Education

1,527 students

11.9% of total student population

439 Staff

3:1 Student to staff ratio

Language Instruction Education Program

501 students eligible to receive ESOL programming

Percentage of Students Earning College Credit while in High School

Ankeny: 90.25%
State: 68.99%

Postsecondary Intent for Class of 2023

AHS: 85.7%
ACHS: 84.9%
State: 61.3%

3.9% of our total student population

40 languages represented

Leader in Me

Prairie Trail Elementary achieved Lighthouse distinction in 2024. This recognition comes as a result of implementing Leader in Me with fidelity in the area of leadership, culture in academics.

Northeast Elementary and Westwood Elementary were recognized as 2024 Lighthouse Academic Honor Roll Schools.

Transitional Kindergarten

Ankeny Schools launched a transitional kindergarten (TK) program for the 2024-2025 school year, intended to give children additional time to develop the necessary social and academic skills to bridge preschool and kindergarten.

145 students enrolled in the transitional kindergarten program in its first year.



Talented People

Strategic Plan: ACSD will have an effective teacher in every classroom, an effective leadership team in every building, and an effective, student-focused staff working across the district.

DEI Framework: Effective Leadership: Guidance and governance, Diverse and highly effective staff.

Application and Hiring Data

Application & Hiring Data	As of July 2024
Total Hires	803
Total Applications	3,819



Employee Retention

ACSD is committed to creating an environment in which staff can grow and build meaningful careers. While we know there will always be some attrition as people retire or move on to new opportunities, we strive to be an employer of choice, a place where a strong majority of our staff will return to work each year.

2022-2023 Retention Rate <small>*Certified and Academic Administration Only</small>	2023-2024 Retention Rate <small>*Certified and Academic Administration Only</small>
91%	92%



Talented People

Employee Leadership and Career Pathways

In an effort to support employee growth and development, the district has been developing multiple career pathways and leadership opportunities for employees. Career pathways offer employees a variety of opportunities within the organization to grow, take on different roles, and learn new skills. As a result of implementing more career path opportunities for employees, the District is striving to support greater career satisfaction, employee motivation, and responsiveness in meeting departmental and organizational objectives.

Current leadership and career pathways include:

Custodians Career Pathway:

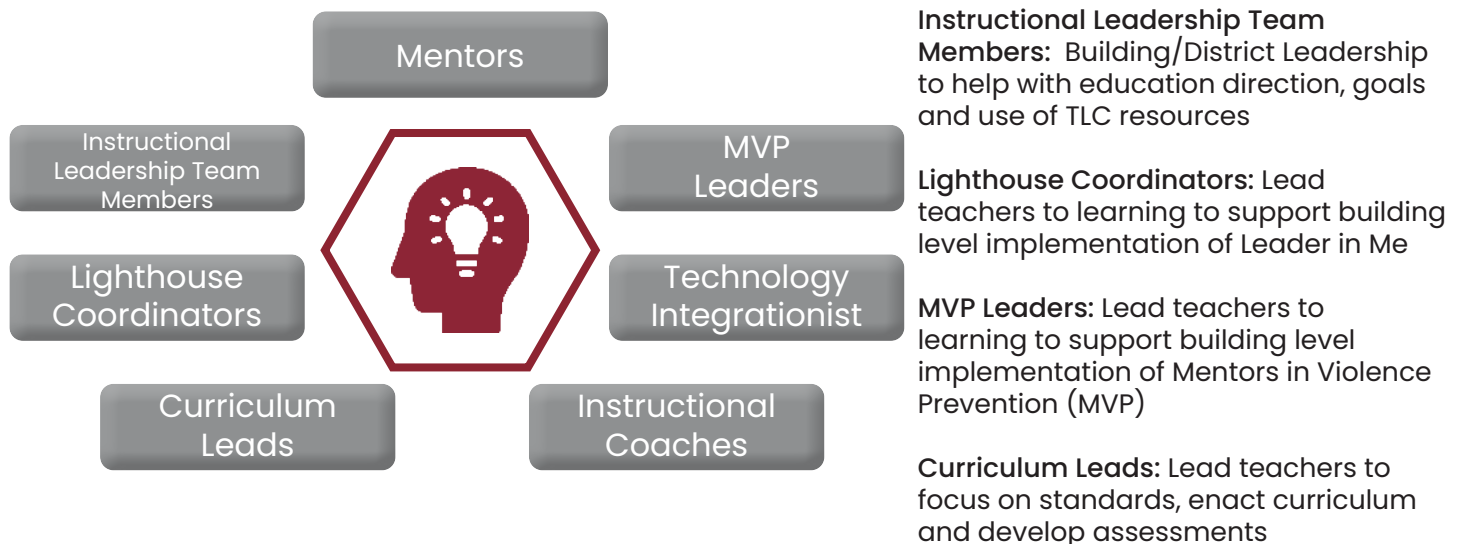


Administrative Assistant Career Pathway:



Teachers Leadership Opportunities:

Mentors: Promote growth and development of beginning teachers to impact student learning



Technology Integrationist: Collaborates with and supports teachers to leverage technology tools into curriculum to extend student learning

Instructional Coaches: Work one-on-one or in small groups to provide guidance and training for engaging students and improving their learning. The district has instructional coaches at the building and district level and in the areas of general education and special education.



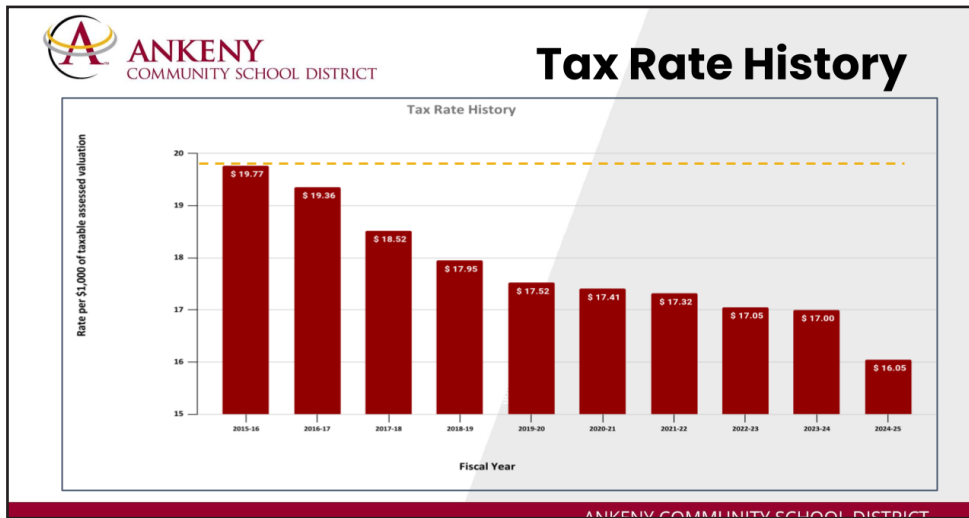
Supportive Environments

Strategic Plan: Every ACSD student will have the opportunity to learn and grow in a collaborative, dynamic, and secure environment.

DEI Framework: Effective parent and family engagement: Multidirectional flow of communication; Positive relationships between the school and families.

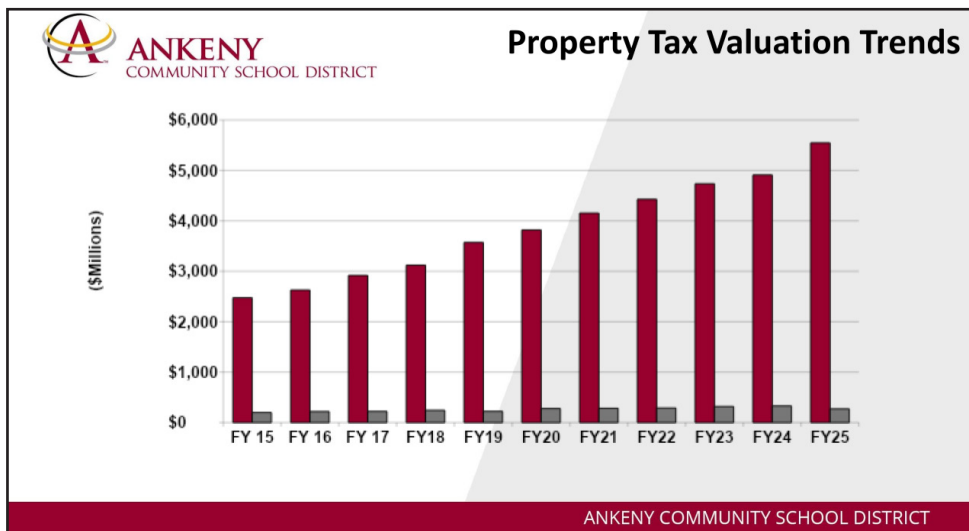
Tax Rates

The district has reduced its tax rates by \$6.30 since 2011.



Valuation Trends

With a 95-cent reduction in 2024-2025, the district's rate falls to \$16.05 per \$1,000 of valuation.



Supportive Environments

Strategic Plan: Every ACSD student will have the opportunity to learn and grow in a collaborative, dynamic, and secure environment.

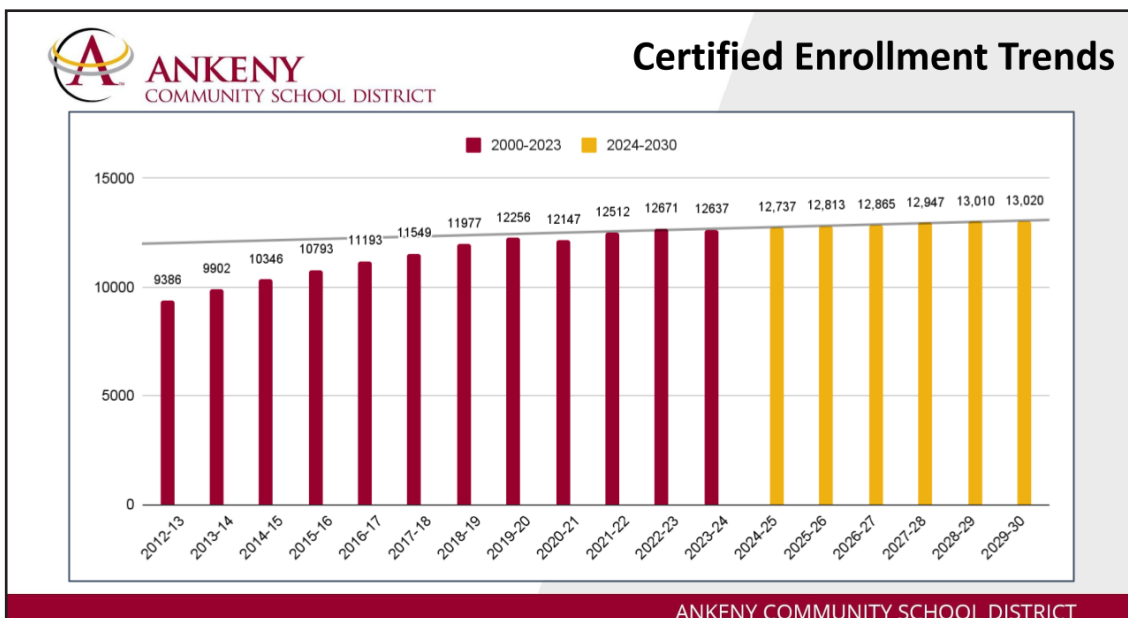
DEI Framework: Effective parent and family engagement: Multidirectional flow of communication; Positive relationships between the school and families.

2023-24 Audited Budget, All Funds

Revenues		Expenditures	
Local:	\$102,841,664	Instruction:	\$107,315,378
State:	\$109,963,747	Support Services:	\$58,448,174
Federal:	\$6,335,498	Non-Instructional:	\$6,419,475
Other:	\$597,671	Other:	\$55,062,549
Total Revenues:	\$219,711,580	Total Expenditures:	\$227,245,576
Estimated Ending Fund Balance: \$55,489,105			

Enrollment Trends

Finances are generally planned and based on the number of students served by the district. The following chart shows that for the 2023-2024 school year, certified enrollment has decreased by 34 students over the previous year.





Supportive Environments

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District Communications Data

Website Average Monthly Unique Views

32,429

E-Newsletter Average Monthly Views

19,186

	Followers Number of followers/ subscribers (Total)	Reach/ Impressions Number of times content was displayed (monthly average)	Engagements Comments, shares, clicks, reactions, replies (Monthly average)	Posts Number of Published Posts (Total)
Facebook 	10,567	72,791	2,376	172
Instagram 	2,140	6,645		107
LinkedIn 	1,971	9,446	74	50
YouTube 	2,263	15,715	1,548 Channel Views	43
Podcast 	2,989 total downloads		117 average monthly downloads	9 episodes

Nutrition Services Data

2023

158,386 Breakfasts

1,250,000 Lunches

2024 (first semester only)

79,000 Breakfasts

485,000 Lunches



Supportive Environments

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Comprehensive Facility Audit

The Strategic Plan calls for a facility audit to be revised every two years, with a year for implementation in between evaluations. In line with this objective, the district is currently engaged in a comprehensive review of all HVAC systems, roofs, and parking lots, as part of the ongoing facility audit process. Through the summer of 2024, the district pursued a complete replacement of the HVAC system at Northwest Elementary. Major updates are planned for the HVAC system at Prairie Ridge Middle School during the summer of 2025. This will be part of a multi-year effort to update the system.

The comprehensive facility audit also includes updates to athletic and activity facilities. In 2024 the district completed the restrooms and concession building at Southview Middle School, the football field turf at Ankeny High School, and the team room at the Ankeny Stadium. The district is replacing the football field turf at Centennial High School and the track at Ankeny High School in the summer of 2025.

The district also continues to update playgrounds and landscaping at the elementary schools.

Future Facility Needs

Innovative Hub Planning:

An outcome of the 2023 Facilities Master Plan was an innovative secondary hub that will allow the district to expand existing programs, such as Orbis, career & technical education courses such as our automotive and construction fields, provide greater opportunities for our partnership with Junior Achievement and more. The innovative hub will be a space that allows the district to add and enhance programs to strengthen our post-secondary preparation of all students. For example, in highly technical areas, such as health sciences, engineering, or electrical/plumbing, centralizing programs into one space allows the district to more efficiently provide specialized equipment and partner with industry experts in the delivery of curriculum and onsite learning experiences.

The design of the academic programming and facility has been the focus of the 2023-2024 school year. The Innovative Hub Core Team is leading committees to plan for the academic programming, community partnerships, staffing, 6-12 academic programming, and 6-12 athletic & activity offerings.



Supportive Environments

Following the opening of the hub, the district will also pursue a new grade-level configuration, as follows:

Preschool
Elementary (Grades K-5)
Middle (Grades 6-8)
High School (Grades 9-12)

Construction Projects



Abbie Grove Elementary: Abbie Grove Elementary School opened as the 11th elementary school in the district in August 2024.



Team Room at Ankeny Stadium: The district celebrated the completion of the Ankeny Stadium renovation project, which included the new team room and large meeting room space on the North end of the stadium complex. These spaces, designed with versatility in mind, feature separate areas for teams, officials, and trainers. The large meeting space, with its panoramic view of the athletic field, is adaptable to multiple uses, sparking curiosity about the exciting events and activities it will host. The addition of a bus drop-off and extra parking further enhances the stadium's functionality and our community's potential for growth.

The facilities master plan allows Ankeny Community Schools to build on its tradition of excellence and to set the standard for high-quality student experiences, opportunities, and achievement.

Supportive Environments

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DEI Framework: Effective parent and family engagement: Multidirectional flow of communication; Positive relationships between the school and families.

Legal Affairs

Legal Affairs works to ensure the district thoughtfully complies with federal, state, and local legal requirements. This includes ongoing review of proposed and newly-passed legislation, responding to records requests and subpoenas, coordinating with outside counsel in legal matters, and negotiating contracts for goods and services purchased by the district. Legal Affairs also drafts district policy, regulations, and administrative procedures to guide district actions. This year, Legal Affairs took nearly **613 contracts** to the school board for approval and wrote and/or updated more than **112 school board policies**.

Community Engagement

Total Number of Individuals/Organizations Who Rented District Facilities

37

Number of Community Engagement Classes

77

Number of Students Served through Community Engagement Classes

304

Before and After School Program

Regular Program Student Attendance

293 students

Number of Backpacks Distributed through Project Fresh Start

648

Number of People who Received Winter Weather Gear through Project Fresh Start

318

Number of Volunteers and Volunteer Hours

4,397 Volunteers

3,854 hours

Summer Adventure Camp Attendees

262 students

Ankeny Community School District does not discriminate based on race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, gender identity, age, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, physical attributes, physical or mental ability or disability, ancestry, political party preference, military affiliation, socioeconomic status, or familial status. Inquiries or grievances may be directed to Kenneth Morris, Jr., Director of Equity, 406 SW School Street, P.O. Box 189, Ankeny, Iowa, 50021-0189, (515) 965-9600, kenneth.morris@ankenyschools.org; or the Iowa Civil Rights Commission, Grimes State Office Building, 400 E. 14th Street, Des Moines, Iowa, 50319-0201, (515) 281-4121; or the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, John C. Kluczynski Federal Building, 230 S. Dearborn Street, 37th Floor, Chicago, IL 60604, (312) 730-1560, OCR.Chicago@ed.gov.