



CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

a ministry of XCF

ANNUAL REPORT

2024 - 2025

akilichristianhs.org



LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Dear Akili Supporters,

Inside this report, you will find information about Akili's growth and achievements from the previous school year. Akili's success is only possible thanks to the generosity and prayers of our supporters, and we hope that this report will give you cause to celebrate God's work in our community.

Akili's mission is to educate, train, and develop students into leaders who give back to their communities. This year, the school continued its mission by successfully graduating its second class of seniors! These 15 students are pursuing a diverse range of options for their futures, including in-state and out-of-state colleges, the military, and various trade schools. What is most important, however, is the Class of 2025's commitment to Christian fellowship and spiritual growth, and we are pleased to share that several members of this class are currently still involved in a church even after graduation - praise God!

In other news from this past year, Akili expanded its staff to provide additional services to students such as career counseling, individualized tutoring, and diversified sports programs. These services allow students to receive a holistic education and build community both inside and outside of the classroom, and we look forward to seeing how these additions improve school culture and outcomes.

Lastly, Akili moved into its new facility, Dwell Community Church's The Warehouse, in December 2024. This new facility includes an auditorium and gymnasium, both of which have already been used by the student body for sports practices and assemblies. We are grateful to Dwell for their generosity and provision of this excellent facility!

Thank you again for your continued support of Akili this year. God truly continues to provide for Akili in incredible ways, and we look forward to seeing how God uses our school this year to develop students into leaders!

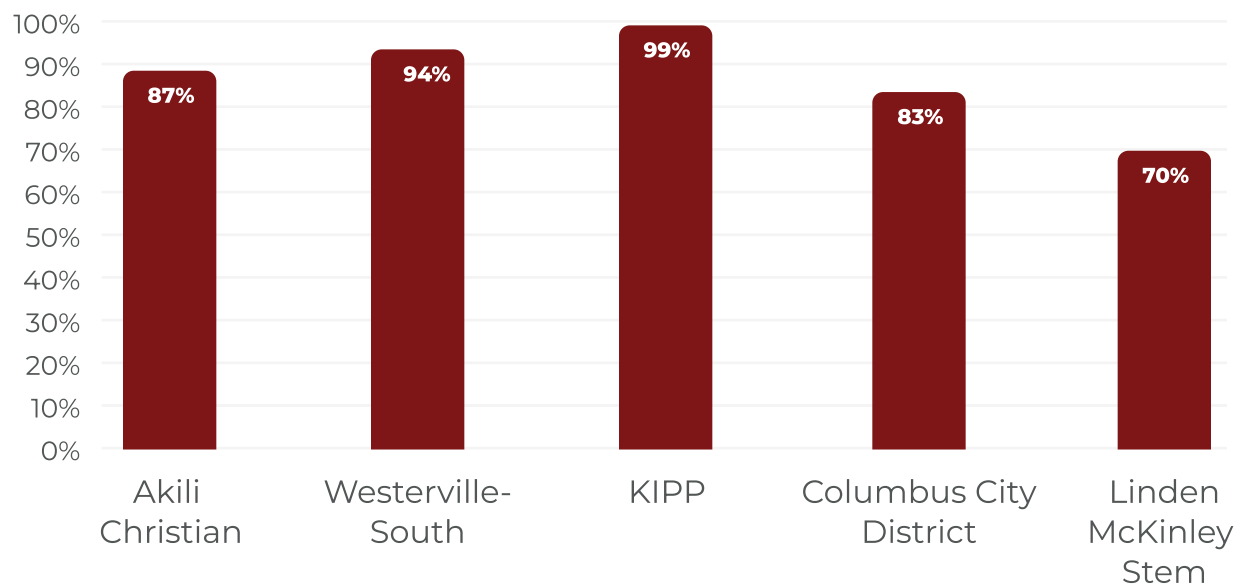
All the best, *Ariana Adkins* **Ariana Adkins**

EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES

At Akili, we are committed to inspiring students to take full advantage of the academic opportunities available to them. Our strong graduation rates reflect the motivation and academic success of our students.

We are pleased to report that 13 of 15 seniors graduated in May 2025. The two remaining seniors from the Class of 2025 were able to complete their requirements and graduate in August, meaning that by August, 100% of the senior class graduated.

4 Year HS Graduation Rates 2024 -25 School Year



See the State Report Card Website. <https://reportcard.education.ohio.gov/>. Type the school name or district name to find the grad rates. The State does not publish private non-public charter school graduation rates.

“

I wanted my son to have God in his life at all times. The school that he was at before, Columbus City Schools, no longer teaches God. Akili offered that for the students and the parents.

They make sure 100% that no student is left behind and that is what I love. I think that is what every parent should want. I would not have him anywhere else.

”

- Inez Towns

Parent



“

It is small and very intimate. Being in a space like that makes it feel more like a family instead of coworkers.

I am very appreciative of Akili because of the opportunities given to me.

”

- Kileopatra Amdeselasie

Student, Class of 2025

“

Akili has shaped me into being a version of myself. I learned that there is more to school than just joking and having fun with friends. You should be there for the academics and learn for your future.

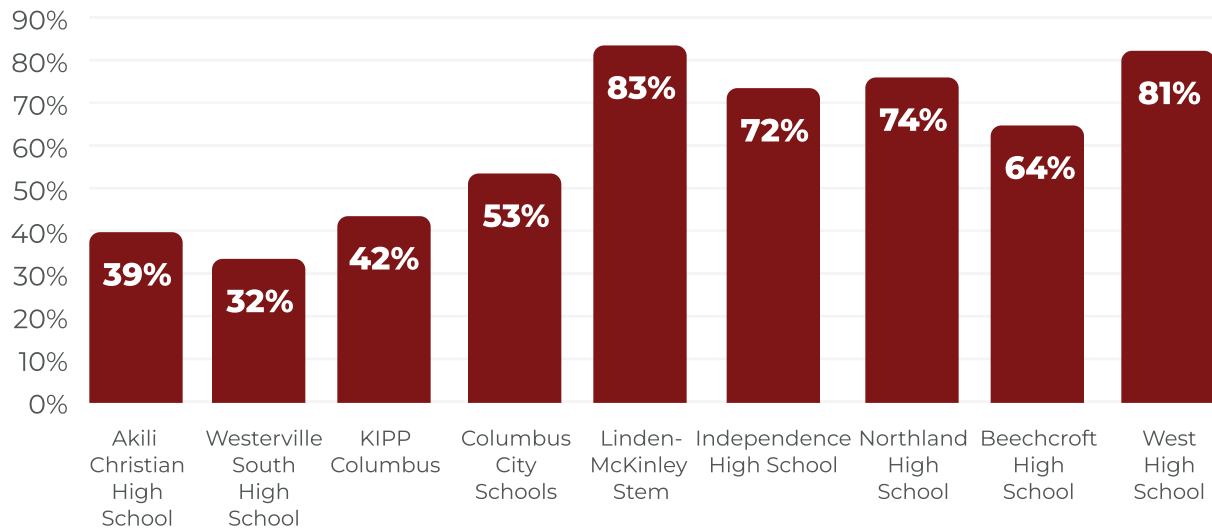
”

- Mike Watson

Student, Class of 2025

Low Student Absenteeism

Chronic Absenteeism Rates



For high school only district-wide chronic absenteeism rates, go to <https://reports.education.ohio.gov/report/report-card-data-district-attendance-rate-with-student-disagg>. District scores were derived from selecting the school district at the top of the web page and averaging the absenteeism rates for each grade level. Lower absentee rates show that students like coming to school.

According to Panorama Education, “Chronic absenteeism has profound and far-reaching consequences for students, extending well beyond missed school days. It can hinder the development of critical skills, reduce academic achievement, and create enduring challenges throughout a student’s life.”

Existing research indicates that students from lower socioeconomic backgrounds are disproportionately affected by chronic absenteeism. One study found that children from low-income households are nearly three times more likely to miss a significant number of school days. Compared to their counterparts in Columbus City Schools, Akili students are absent far less frequently. Although our students face the same challenges as those at public schools, Akili’s early intervention plans, individualized connections with families, and enjoyable, safe atmosphere have successfully decreased absenteeism.

LIFE COACHING

Students who make progress in their functional life skills are better prepared for a successful transition into responsible adulthood. To prepare students for their futures, Akili provides access to Life Coaches, adult volunteers who assist students with the skills needed to be successful as adults such as obtaining a driver's license, applying to jobs, and creating a budget.



“

I appreciate having someone who cares and helps me out. He's helped me learn how to drive which has been nice because my mom hasn't had time to do that. He has also helped me get more into God by inspiring me to read the Bible more.

”

- Garventz Leconte

Student, Class of 2027

“

For me, life coaching has been a rewarding experience because of the friendship I have been able to form with my student and by helping him attain practical skills that can aid him throughout life. It's exciting for me to think about how simple skills like driving and budgeting can enable my students to pursue a career, build a family and lead a vibrant spiritual life.

”

- Life Coach

IT TAKES MORE THAN A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

At Akili Christian High School, we are deeply committed to preparing our students for success beyond high school by building strong partnerships with local businesses and professionals.

During the 2024–2025 school year, Akili students engaged in a variety of opportunities to explore potential career paths. Eight guest speakers from diverse professional fields visited the school to share their experiences and encourage students to consider a wide range of career options. In addition to these presentations, students attended the Job and Resource Fair at the Columbus Metropolitan Library, and upperclassmen had the opportunity to tour The Ohio State University and Columbus State Community College.

This year, we are proud to highlight our most significant collaborations with Nationwide Children's Hospital and Columbus State Community College for College Credit Plus (CCP). Six students participated in the College Credit Plus program, earning college credits while working to complete their high school degree. During the 2024-2025 school year, one of our students participated in a paid 8-week veterinary internship with Nationwide. This opportunity provided hands-on experience in a professional setting and was described by the student as a "great experience" that broadened her understanding of career pathways in veterinary medicine. This partnership continues to serve as a model for future student internships and career exposure.



Internship Experience at Akili



“

My internship at Nationwide helped me see what it's really like to work in a professional setting. I learned a lot about the veterinary field, and it made me more confident about my future. It was also very helpful because I could ask anyone anything about what they do. Everyone encouraged me to ask them questions and understand what they do in a day because everyone I met did different things.

”

- Ashyra Harris
Alumna

College Credit Plus Experience at Akili

“

Seeing the people in my class taking college classes together and being able to do work together has been fun and brings excitement that I know we can do it.

”

- Jazelle Saffell, Class of 2026

A Note from the School Counselor

Brittany Johnston



School Counselor

“As Akili’s school counselor, I work with students to help them overcome barriers that are interfering with their success at school. Some of this work includes meeting with students individually to help equip them for whatever obstacles they are facing, coordinating with outside organizations to provide cohesive support for students facing mental health crises or other concerns, and providing referrals to resources for students and families in need.

As a proactive measure to improve school culture, we are running our second year of ROX, an evidence-based girls’ group aimed at building strong student leaders who are knowledgeable in navigating relational conflicts, creating healthy relationships, and promoting physical and online safety. I’m excited to work with this group of freshman and sophomore girls and hope this will lay a strong foundation for future leaders at Akili!”

Brittany Johnston, School Counselor: Brittany began working at Akili in January 2024. She earned her master’s degree in social work and previously worked as a school social worker at Columbus City Schools. Brittany also enjoys serving in Renegade, a ministry for inner city youth at Dwell Community Church.

CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

While education and career readiness are critical, they are not sufficient on their own. At Akili, we believe in a holistic approach — one that also encourages students' relational and spiritual development, laying the groundwork for lifelong success.

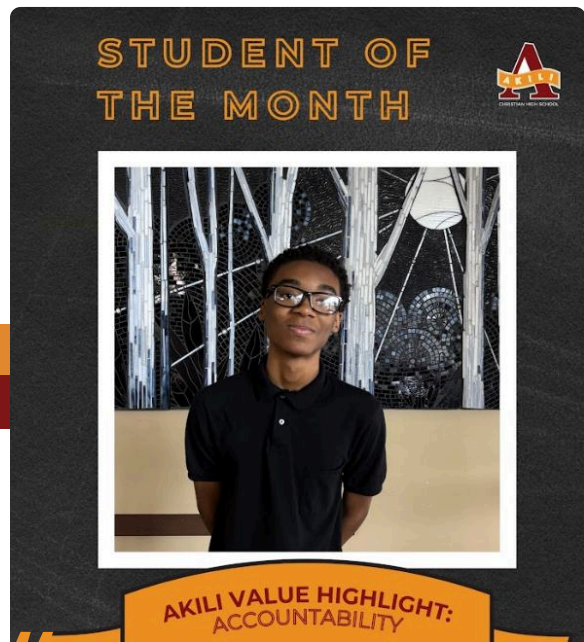
During the 2024-2025 school year, 28 students participated in an offsite Dwell Community College High School Bible Study, where they grew in faith and built meaningful peer relationships. Many of these students met regularly with youth group leaders for one-on-one mentoring.



I like group. It's a really welcoming and comforting environment. Everyone is really nice, and we have a good time. I've learned more about trusting God and His timing for things in my life. Everybody isn't perfect, and you need Christ. I've personally become more patient and learned to rely on God.



- Neree Watson, Class of 2029



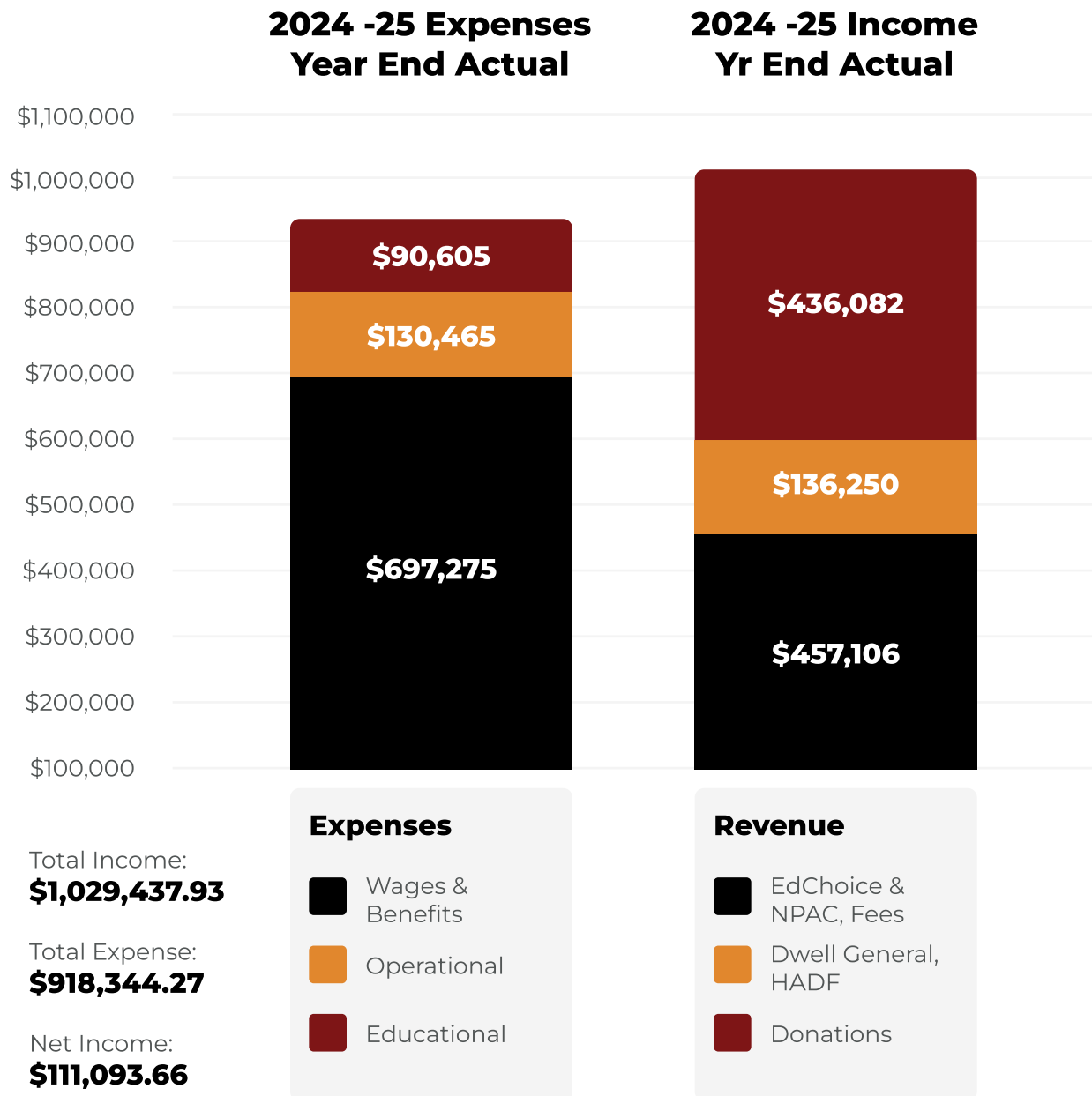
I personally have grown at Akili by becoming a more devout follower of Christ. I've been able to develop awesome Christ-focused relationships with friends, as well as see academic growth. Akili is such a comfortable environment to be in. It's a very accepting school, and it's great for anyone coming from a new school.



- Tony Brazell, Class of 2027

FINANCES

Through generous donations, God faithfully provided for Akili, meeting the fundraising goal for the 2024–2025 school year. We are deeply grateful for His provision and for the generosity of our supporters.



WHAT YOUR GIVING CAN ACCOMPLISH

A gift to Akili will change a life, just like it has with Ashyra, Tony, Neree, Garventz, Jazelle, Kileopatra and Mike.

Here are some ways your donation helps:

- \$250 Provides a life changing experience for one student at Dwell Community Church's Epic summer camp.
- \$750 Provides a full year of lunch for one student.
- \$2,000 Provides field trips for the entire school year to enrich and enlarge each student's world.
- \$3,500 Supplies each classroom with enough materials for the entire school year.

There are two ways to give to Akili. You may give through Akili's website, and you can also give through the Every Child Every Family website. Every Child Every Family is a scholarship granting organization that allows donors to redirect their state tax dollars to a scholarship fund. Please see Every Child Every Family's website for more information.



Our School Board

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Principal
Calumet Christian School

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Executive Pastor
Dwell Community Church

Several Akili School Board members ended their terms of service in September. We gratefully acknowledge Jon Hoerle, Alex Richards, Steven Denman, Sarah Searcy, Gabby Miller, Morgan Zahler, Kevin McCormac, and Andrew Bogart. All of you have supported Akili's mission in invaluable ways.

Special thanks to those who have come alongside Akili's mission

- The Dwell Community Church community for its continued support in helping underwrite Akili and providing the many volunteers who pray regularly and contribute their time and resources to help students thrive.
- Equip Skills Center which graciously teaches and trains our students in automotive technology.
- Our partnership with Columbus State Community College and the College Credit Plus program.
- School Choice Ohio for administrating and promoting the Every Child Every Family scholarship granting organization (SGO). Every Child Every Family has made it easy for donors to use their state tax dollars to support Akili students.
- The many generous donors who support Akili financially. Because of these generous donors, Akili is able to provide an excellent education at no cost to students and their families.

Supporting Akili

If you would like to support our students and advance our mission, please visit our [website](#) and click the “Donate” button located in the top right corner. Alternatively, you may scan the QR code below.

CONTACT

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Columbus, Ohio 43214

GIVE



<https://akili-christian-high-school.givecloud.co/fundraising/forms/8NDR96EK>

¹ Sam DeFlitch, “The Effects of Chronic Absenteeism in Schools,” Panorama Education, Accessed Sept 30, 2025, <https://www.panoramaed.com/blog/the-effects-of-chronic-absenteeism-in-schools#:~:text=Chronic%20absenteeism%20has%20profound%20and,challenges%20throug%20a%20student's%20life>.

² <https://reportcard.education.ohio.gov>