



CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

a ministry of XCF

ANNUAL REPORT 2021 - 2022

akilichristianhs.org



LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Hello,

Thank you for taking time to read the Akili Christian High School Annual Report. We are thrilled to share the challenges, successes, and joys of the 2021-2022 school year with you.

Although the pandemic has been incredibly difficult for educators and students alike, we feel positive about this past year and the future. It was nothing

short of a miracle to start the school during the early stages of the pandemic in 2020. Our faith was tested and our commitment to students was challenged as we brainstormed creative solutions to start and maintain in-class instruction and investment. Thanks to our parents, students and teachers, we were able to do so with few disruptions.

When Akili started, our board of directors adopted the Swahili name, “Akili,” because it means “wisdom.” The Old Testament book of Proverbs also demonstrates that wisdom is needed for a productive and fulfilling life. Thus, we felt “Akili” would be a fitting name for our school.

Since its inception in July 2020, Akili has operated with one goal in mind: to develop students into community leaders. Now, more than ever, our communities need people of character who can lead others effectively. We believe our students are the next generation who will fulfill that mission.

I hope this report leads you to consider how to pray for and support what God is doing in this school community.

Ariana Adkins

Ariana Adkins

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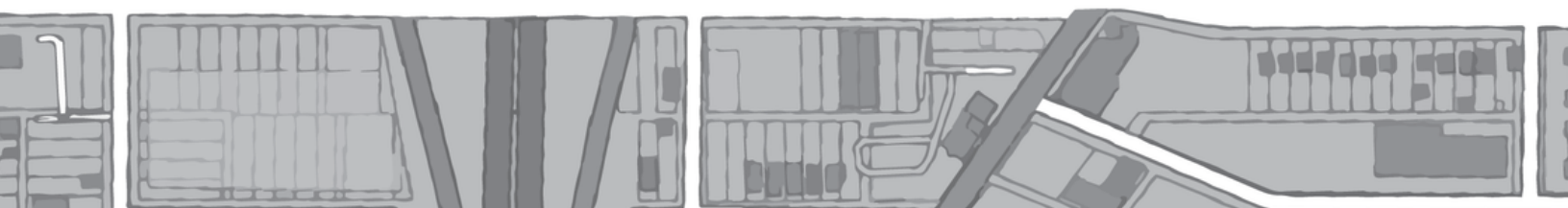
OUR MISSION AND STRATEGY

Our mission is to educate, train, and develop leaders who give back to their own communities in meaningful ways. We hope to accomplish this through academic achievement, career readiness pathways, and involvement in the Christian community.

We know that high school graduation is a key to success in life. Yet we also realize it takes more than a high school diploma to experience productive outcomes. Students need a pathway for accomplishment in this competitive and complicated world. Akili offers pathways for career development by enabling students to get started through the trades, tech industry, or college coursework. To that end, Akili continues to develop partnerships within each of these disciplines so that students can get involved in relevant internship and shadowing opportunities while they attend Akili.



Although Akili students have the desire to pursue potential careers, they need functional help in getting started. Our school offers something unique to help kids launch into adulthood. Each student receives a life coach who meets with them regularly to build a relationship with them while equipping them with skills for success in their functional life. Many students need help applying for a job. Others need assistance in obtaining their drivers permit and later, advice on how to buy a car. Our life coaches have a burden to help, and we are thankful for each of them.



Our “Web of Support” program helps students holistically. For each student, we provide a “Web of Support” team consisting of teachers, life coaches, school administrators, and church mentors. Each team meets together twice per year to discuss what they are seeing and how to advance the student to his or her full potential.



It’s not enough for students to gain a solid career direction or vocational skills. We also want students to grow in their relational and spiritual lives, setting a foundation that will enable them to build healthy marriages and family lives. We encourage our students to invest into a local church. If they get involved in a Dwell Community home church, they can receive one-on-one mentoring from a group leader, solid Bible teaching, and many opportunities to serve others. This kind of holistic investment will help students build relational skills, increasing their chances of a productive and successful family life and career.



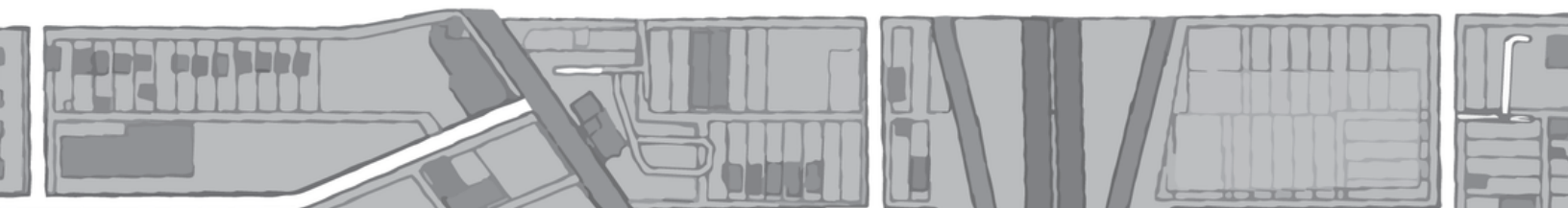
INITIAL EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES

The school is young—only two years old. We started the 2020-21 school year with one freshman class. In the 2021-2022 school year, these students became sophomores and we welcomed a new freshman class. We are offering a 3rd class in 2022-23 which will populate our school with freshman, sophomores, and juniors. A majority of Akili's student body graduated from 8th grade at Harambee Christian School, a high quality school serving families in South Linden.

Because Akili is so new, we won't have data that shows graduation rates or college and vocational placements. However, we can and should measure school attendance because high attendance rates are linked to graduation success.¹ 33% of Akili students were chronically absent in the 2021-22 school year, which is half of what Columbus City high schools experienced (65%) in the same school year.² Of course, this is an area we have targeted for improvement in the 2022-23 school year. With fewer resources than Columbus City or other area school districts, Akili will strive to compare equally or favorably with area suburban schools.

Akili sophomores took the state testing requirements and performed well, especially with all the disruptions from the pandemic. In order to graduate, Ohio requires students to pass state testing for Algebra 1 and English Language Arts 2 by the end of their senior year. 60% of Akili sophomores passed the Algebra 1 test while 68% passed ELA 2. The good news is that students have another two years to become proficient in these disciplines. We are confident they will pass with flying colors. These scores compare favorably with Sophomores in Columbus City high schools.³

We also know that small student-to-teacher ratios are an important factor for good academic outcomes. Akili has an very low student to teacher ratio of 1 to 12. Columbus City Schools averages 1 teacher to 15 students.⁴ Akili also offers one on one tutoring and other interventions when students fall behind.



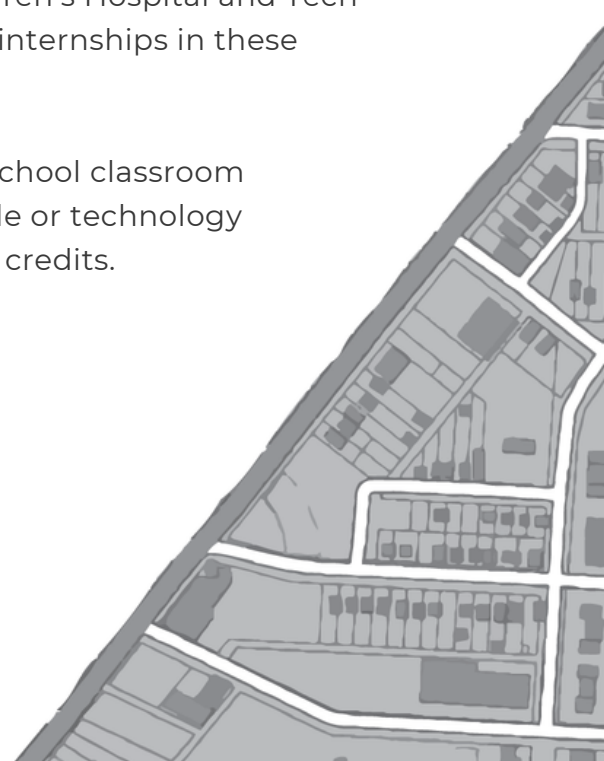
DEVELOPING COLLEGE & CAREER PATHWAYS

Akili offers three college and career pathways: College Preparatory, the Trades, and the Technology industry. For our college prep pathway, Akili partners with Columbus State Community College through its College Credit Plus program. This enables many Akili juniors and seniors to take college classes for free while they go to high school. Columbus State is only a few minutes away from Akili, making it very convenient for students.

We developed partnerships with Equip Skills Center⁵ and Franklinton Rising⁶. Equip Skills center offers freshmen a 6-week class, introducing them to the automotive repair industry. If they show interest and aptitude, they can move on to other classes while receiving hands-on training. Franklinton Rising offers shadowing experiences and internships for upperclassmen. It rehabs homes in Franklinton with experts from various trades who give hands-on training to students and young people.

Many students will be interested in the technology fields that may not require the traditional four-year college degree, like medical imaging or computer programming. Akili's partnerships with Nationwide Children's Hospital and Tech Corps⁷ will provide relevant shadowing experiences and internships in these expanding fields.

Most seniors will spend half their time outside the high school classroom getting started on their certification in these various trade or technology opportunities while others complete college coursework credits.





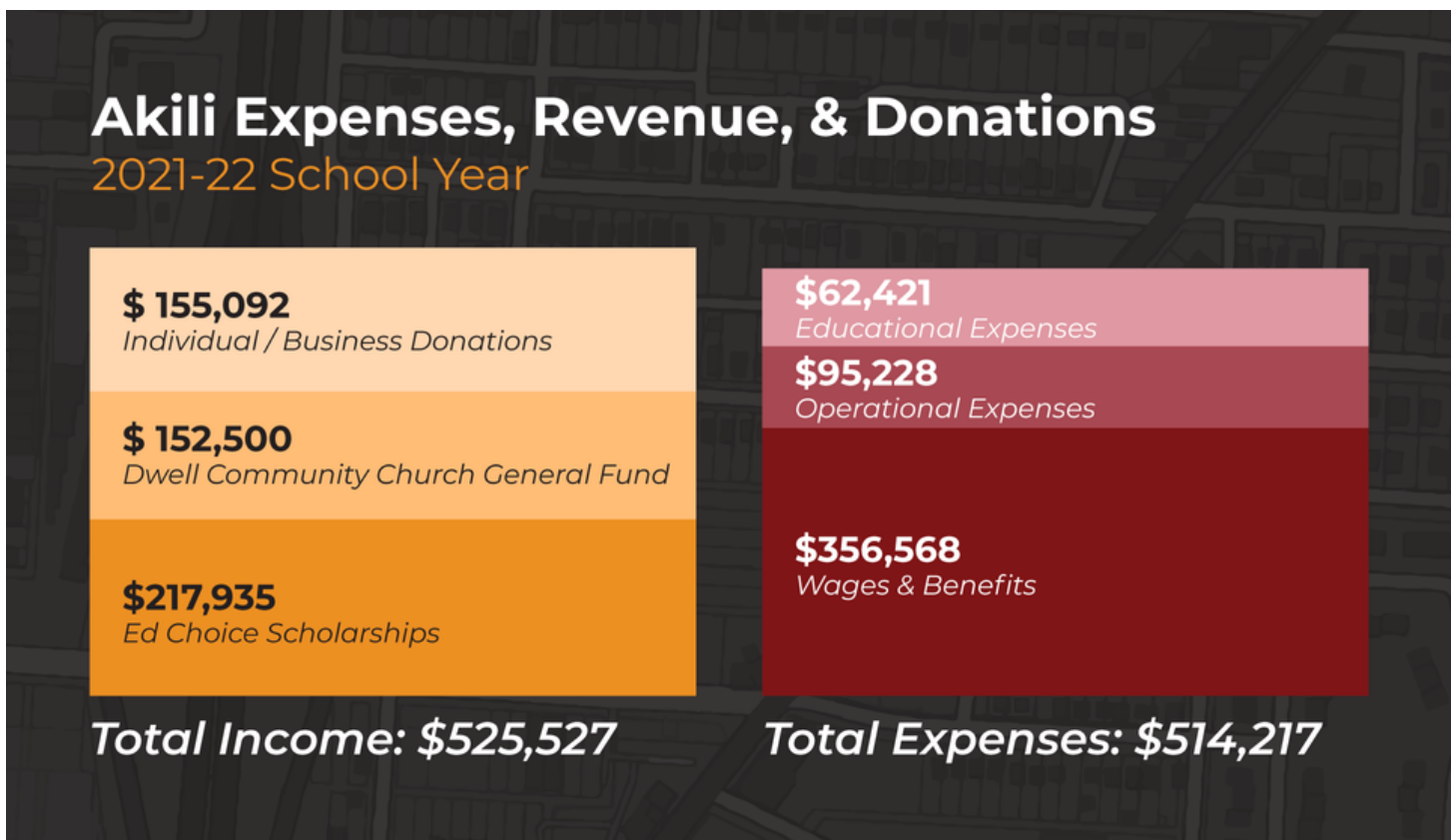
HOLISTIC OUTCOMES

Through the investment of life coaches, teachers, bible study leaders and healthy peer friendships, we believe Akili students will see holistic outcomes, such as smaller percentages of teen pregnancy, delinquency, substance abuse and other high-risk behaviors. Our hope is that students will become invested members in their respective communities and in their local church, eventually affecting outcomes in their immediate neighborhoods and spheres of influence.



WHAT DONATIONS COVER

Revenue and Expenses by Source



How Your Donation Impacts

- \$13,750 provided a year of high-quality education for a student at Akili who didn't have an EdChoice Scholarship
- \$7,750 covered the difference between a student's EdChoice Scholarship and the actual cost of annual tuition.
- \$5,000 provided a year's worth of curriculum for the freshman class.
- \$2,000 provided 4 field trips for the entire school.
- \$1,000 provided daily breakfast and lunch for a student for the entire year.
- \$250 provided a life changing experience for a student at Summer camp.

ABOUT US

Our School Board:

Joe Botti

Board Chair, Superintendent of Akili and Calumet Christian Schools

Vince Alger

CPA Akili Treasurer. Director of Finance, American Dairy Association Mideast

Ari Adkins

Principal of Akili

Carole Bucklew

Studios on High Gallery

Steven Denman

Director, Lab Business Analytics at Cardinal Health

Pat Houston

Technology Development Chemist at Franklin International

Sarah Searcy

CPNP-PC,
Nationwide Children's Hospital

Alex Steinman

Executive Director,
Harambee Christian School

Larry Williamson

Teacher, Harambee Christian School

Jay Young

Associate Director of Enterprising Networking, Ohio State University

Sam Zafris

Vice President on the Community Impact Team at JPMorgan Chase

OUR EXTENDED FAMILY

Our special thanks to those who have come alongside Akili's mission:

- Franklin University for their hospitality in hosting our school.
- The Dwell Community Church community for its continued support in helping underwrite Akili and the dozens of volunteers who pray regularly and contribute their time to make programs work.
- Equip Skills Center which graciously teaches and trains our students.
- Our partnership with Franklinton Rising for allowing our students to intern and learn more about the trades.
- Our partnership with Nationwide Children's Hospital
- Our partnership with Columbus State Community College and the College Credit Plus program
- To Missions Increase for its sacrificial and ongoing equipping in developing ministry champions.

If you are interested in helping us financially, please go to our [website](#) and click on the “Donate” button in the top right corner. Or, scan the QR code below. It will take you directly to our giving page. We hope to gain 100 new monthly donors in the 2022 -23 school year!

If you would like to subscribe to our monthly prayer newsletter, please go to our website and find the “Get Involved” tab. From there, scroll down to the “[Pray](#)” graphic.

CONTACT

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GIVE



aplos.com/aws/give/AkiliChristianHighSchool/

[1] “Attendance is a key factor in influencing student engagement, learning, and academic success as well as high school graduation.” <https://www.publicschoolreview.com/blog/what-is-the-impact-of-high-school-graduation-rates#:~:text=The%20number%20of%20absences%20a,ninth%2Dgrade%20year%20is%20significant>.

Accessed Feb 8, 2023. See <https://www.daytondailynews.com/local/chronic-absenteeism-rising-in-local-schools-across-ohio/7Y3KGF7TY5AC3BRAUVEZ6GIHXQ/>. Accessed

[2] <https://www.axios.com/local/columbus/2022/09/22/student-absences-columbus-skyrocket>. Accessed Sept 30, 2022.

[3] Columbus City School data accessed from the Ohio Dept of Education Website for the 2021-22 School Year, <https://reportcard.education.ohio.gov/district/achievement/043802>. Accessed February 8, 2023

[4] US News & World Report, <https://www.usnews.com/education/k12/ohio/districts/columbus-city-school-district-100504#:~:text=Teachers%20at%20Columbus%20City%20School%20District&text=The%20student%2Dto%2Dteacher%20ratio,average%2C%20at%2015%3A1>. Accessed February 8, 2023

[5] Equip Skills Center. <https://www.equipskillscenter.com/>

[6] Franklinton Rising. <https://www.franklintonrising.org/>

[7] Tech Corps. <https://techcorps.org/>