



Monthly Update

February 2024

Save on ECS School Expenses?

It is possible to pay your child's entire school bill tax-free through a 529 savings program! Current VA tax code allows families to spend up to \$10,000 a year per beneficiary from tax-advantaged 529 savings plans to cover the costs of *K-12 expenses* at private or religious schools. Learn more about this potential savings to you at <https://www.virginia529.com/>.

Legislative Information from ODACS

ODACS provides ECS much more than Bible, Fine Arts, and Academic competitions. One of the primary functions of ODACS is to monitor legislation on the state level that impacts Christian education. In recent years, ODACS has provided valuable assistance to ECS with VA code requirements for religious exempt programs and a variety of other critical issues ranging from school choice initiatives and tax credits for Christian education to student vaccination requirements and school van use. Please visit the ODACS website (www.vaodacs.com) to see how their work directly impacts you. If you wish to receive regular email updates from ODACS, please notify ECS (secretary@englesidebaptist.org) to be added to their contact list.

Cold Weather Reminder

ECS classes generally take outside recess breaks unless it is raining. While we will modify the length of our outdoor activities when it is windy or cold, we still expect students to be prepared to go outside (coat, gloves, hat, and snow boots when appropriate) for AM and PM recess as well as PE classes.

Regarding TuitionEP

Inclement Weather Notices

If you are not receiving notifications from TEP, please adjust your phone settings to ensure that banners, sounds, and badges are enabled as you desire. If you are not receiving TEP emails at your preferred email address, please contact Mr. Paddock via email kpaddock@englesidechristianschool.org.

Users of Auto-Pay Options

TEP's auto-pay feature currently covers only standard monthly billing: tuition, registered extended care, annual lunch plan. Auto-pay *does not* cover one-time fees like extended care drop-ins, field trips, monthly lunch orders, etc. Please check your account balance and fee notifications after the 1st of the month to ensure your account is paid in full by the 10th of each month to avoid a late payment fee.

Calendar Notes

Presidents' Day – Monday, February 19

ECS observes the Presidents' Day holiday on Monday, February 19. Classes will not meet and extended care is cancelled. Engleside Baptist Church and School offices will be closed.

ODACS Competition – Friday, March 1

Our annual ODACS Bible, Fine Arts, and Academic Competition for upper elementary students is scheduled for Friday, March 1, at Fairfax Baptist Temple Academy. ECS students in grades 4 through 6 participate in this annual event. ECS will release detailed information about the day's activities to participating students separately and will provide supervision only for these students. We will permit siblings of participating students to attend the competition at FBTA only if accompanied and supervised by a parent. ECS will open extended care on this competition day as necessary *for participating students only*.

K3 through Grade 3 classes and regular extended care will not meet on Friday, March 1.