



ECS Update

February 2025

*Partnering with Parents
in the Lives of Their Children
for the Glory of God*

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.

ECS Online Book Fair (2/24-3/9)

Engleside will sponsor an online book fair through the Ready, Let's Read program. These books come vetted and will not include any objectionable elements. We will send out notifications via TEP with links for you to order books for your students. The book fair will run from February 24 through March 9. Look for additional information coming out later in February through your TutionEP app.

Regarding TutionEP

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 each month to ensure your account is paid in full by the 10th of the month to avoid a late payment fee.

Calendar Notes

Presidents' Day – Monday, February 17

ECS observes the Presidents' Day holiday on Monday, February 17. Classes will not meet, and extended care is cancelled. Engleside Baptist Church and School offices will be closed.

ODACS Competition – Friday, February 28

Our annual ODACS Bible, Fine Arts, and Academic Competition for upper elementary students is scheduled for Friday, February 28, at Fairfax Baptist Temple Academy. ECS students in grades 3 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.

K3 through Grade 2 classes and regular extended care will not meet on Friday, February 28