

Thank you to our local HACAP for implementing Operation BackPack into Stewart Elementary about one year ago. Operation BackPack is a local Feeding America backpack program which is organized and implemented by HACAP. The program initially began in 2008 in Cedar Rapids with 50 students; it has now grown into a statewide program throughout Iowa. The program is made possible through local contributions and the generosity of local businesses and organizations; it is NOT funded by tax money or school funds. Studies show that children perform better in school when they eat three balanced meals a day. Unfortunately, not all students get proper nutrition at home; so Operation BackPack helps fill this void. Operation BackPack provides children with nutritious, kid-friendly foods, such as cereal, canned pasta, pop top soup, fruit cups and boxed drinks. The food is packed and delivered to the school by volunteers each Thursday that school is in session. Thank you to all the volunteers, contributors, local businesses/ organizations that help make this program possible!