

FALL 2018

# outreach

"All our dreams can come true if we have the courage to pursue them."

**Walt Disney**

Film Producer and Visionary



**EA** education alternatives

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### THANKSGIVING BREAK

November 21-23

### WH "BE KIND" ASSEMBLY

November 29

### WH, BEDFORD, CF "KICKED"

December 7

### WINTER BREAK

December 24-January 4

### END OF QUARTER

January 18

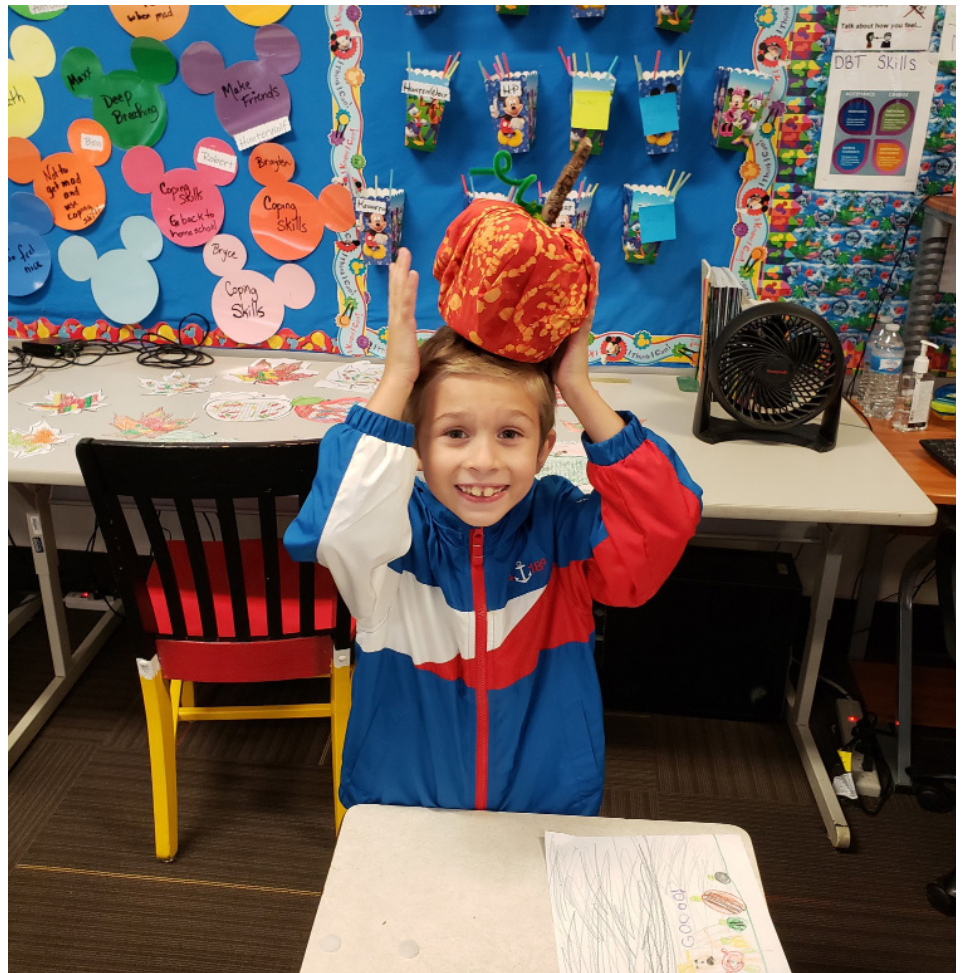
### MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY

January 21

Find us on Facebook for a full list of upcoming events.

## Welcome Back to School.

This fall begins Education Alternatives' 20th year, and we're off to an excellent start. This fall, we've continued our tradition of providing engaging, affirming, and interactive programming for our students in partnership with our highly-trained team of educators and intervention specialists. This quarter, our students and staff explored nature, mastered new life skills, learned mind-stretching science, created captivating art, celebrated successes large and small – and had fun! This issue of Outreach gives an inside look at the incredible things our students do every day. We are eager to share them with you.





# TEACHING life skills

## LIFE SKILLS LABS

An important part of Education Alternatives' day treatment program is fostering **positive life skills** and preparing students to live and work independently. Each campus takes a unique approach, from field trips to class work. This fall, Kent students took a special trip to a local laundromat for an inside look at how to manage household chores with confidence. Students brought in dirty laundry, purchased vending cards and used the washers and dryers with assistance. The manager explained how the laundromat functions and answered questions. Older Kent students learned cooking, kitchen basics, safety, and how to construct simple meals. At the end, they enjoyed quesadillas, English muffin pizzas, and – for younger students – home-made trail mix! This fall, our Ravenna campus opened a new **Independent Living Lab**. Students took a deeper dive into financial literacy with hands-

on activities teaching pricing, budget, and the difference between needs and wants. The facility includes space to learn laundry, cooking, and more!



## FRIENDLY COMPETITION

Nothing gets students excited to learn quite like a little friendly competition. In Ravenna, students worked on reading and reading comprehension skills by competing classroom-by-classroom to see who had the literary chops to read and summarize the most books. Motivated students used their free time to read new books,

describe the stories they read to teachers, and illustrate each scene to engage their imaginations. For the artistically inclined, Ravenna also hosted an Artist of the Week submission contest for budding illustrators to share their masterpieces with the building Director. Students built confidence and social skills, learned more about their strengths, and challenged themselves to set and reach goals through this fun, interactive game.



## OUTDOOR EXCITEMENT

Fall brings colorful scenery and cooler temps – and students and teachers alike feel the pull to head outdoors! Students spent active time learning pick-up soccer with staff, enjoying an impromptu hot-dog-and-chips tailgate to celebrate the Browns' first win, and building interpersonal skills playing staff-supported pick-up basketball.



In Bedford, students earned a special trip to CiCi's for pizza before heading out to the Metroparks for a well-deserved field trip! Still other Bedford students learned the science behind the caterpillar life-cycle, including an exciting outdoor butterfly release. Ravenna students even brought the outdoors in with some seasonally delicious home-made applesauce.

EA also provides **expanded opportunities** for students with **specific needs** in addition to traditional day treatment.

**ECHO** is a fully education-based alternative to EA's day treatment program for youth who have been suspended or need credit recovery. This Fall, ECHO served even more new students and continued a strong tradition of success at treating the whole student – mental health, education, and personal development.

**CORAL AUTISM PROGRAM** is specifically designed for students on the autism spectrum. Coral's goal is improving students' abilities to interact and communicate. This fall, Coral served many more new students via licensed intervention specialists trained in Applied Behavioral Analysis. Several EA campuses also implemented sensory rooms in keeping with recent autism research.

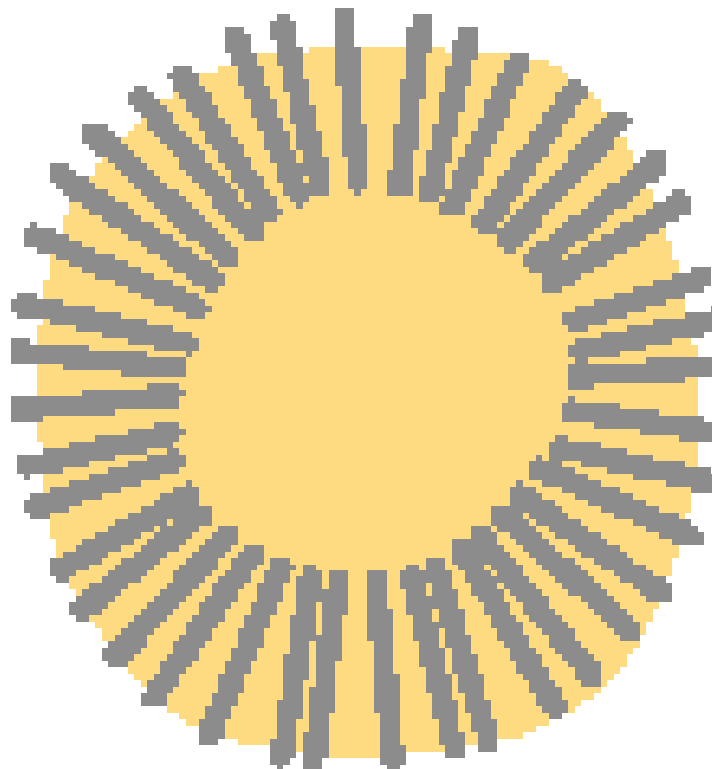


# BUILDING confidence

# What's going on at EA?

## SCIENCE AND CONSERVATION

In our fast-paced, increasingly wired world, science and technology literacy is key to long-term success. Education Alternatives teachers spent time stoking interest in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) by teaching everything from motion and propulsion to environmental conservation, recycling, and more. In Kent, students flexed their STEM muscles (and challenged their fine motor skills) and built balloon-powered cars to race. In Brook Park, students explored the intersection of art, design, and environmental responsibility by making water-bottle flowers. Younger students in Kent built emotional regulation tools of their own by creating upcycled sensory bottles.



## HALLOWEEN

Every Education Alternatives campus has spooky fun in store for students in late October! From Halloween parties to Trick-or-Treating, facilitators hosted Halloween crafts, challenged students to spooky math problems and Halloween spelling activities and even held pizza parties and costume parades! Our Elyria campus even welcomed families to join the fun with an activity-packed Fall Family night; each classroom created a unique experience for visitors, fostering a sense of community. Cuyahoga Falls students even participated in a donut-eating contest to enjoy the sweeter side of fall festivities.

# Welcome, new friends.

## New Teachers

Jennifer Anderson  
Kelsey Ansec  
William Brown II  
Jennifer Carmichael  
Samantha DiSanto  
Re'Ana Dixon  
Rachel Fowler  
Cher Gipson  
Sarah Gouch  
Debra Horner  
Seth Horning  
Jessica Lauro  
Sophorn Morgan  
Kelly Mull  
Heidi Skinner  
Matt Yanchar  
Mechelle Cave  
Cory Gallagher  
Devon Greer  
Katherine Joyce  
Nicholas McCoy  
Aaron Nixon  
Lacie Robinson  
Kyle Snyder  
Deneen Watson

## New Students

Conner F.  
Garrett R.  
Tristen M.  
Justice P.  
Anthony E.  
Michael H.  
Troy M.  
Elijah T.  
Rickey T.  
Lacey R.

Antonio W.  
Colin P.  
Mikeal C.  
Andre L.  
Kayla A.  
Matthew W.  
Armorion J.  
Josh M.  
Makaliah W.  
Karl E.  
Maxximillion S.  
Josiah W.  
Stefan B.  
Adrian R.  
Jamir R.  
Brian P.  
Alexander W.  
Jaahdarion J.  
Kennedy G.  
Ma'Kyah A.  
Tristan A.  
Cooper L.  
Cory P.  
Joseph H.  
Lauren G.  
Holden V.  
Andrew K.  
Angel M.  
Johnny Y.  
LeVon P.  
Trevon U.  
Jordy C.  
Landon H.  
Chenney W.  
Mackenzzy M.  
Ella S.  
Jaiwon W.  
Brayden B.  
Richard S.

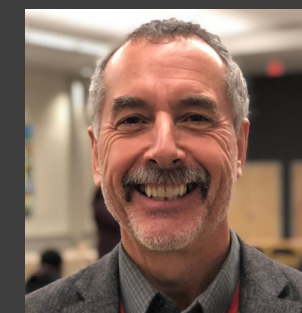
Nathan W.  
Rayon W.  
Neilani P.  
Austin S.  
Yorry T.  
Shane M.  
Emily S.  
Janyia K.  
Angel G.  
Joeseeph J.  
Vincent D.  
Daveon D.  
Aiden M.  
Jackson T.  
John S.  
Naveah H.  
Ariga G.  
Colton M.  
De'Mauri W.  
Phoenix L.  
Davaris B.  
Marchael J.  
Caroline K.  
Desmond M.  
Timothy G.  
Edward G.  
Colten C.  
Kylie S.  
Da'Vair W.



## A Note from our Executive Director

As Executive Director of Education Alternatives, I can hardly believe we are entering our 20th year of service to children and families in Northeast Ohio. What started with a vision – to give every child an opportunity to succeed, despite their challenges, has become a time-tested mission. When we say Education Alternatives' goal is "Healthy children. Healthy communities," we believe that mental health and accessible education services are the keystone of a strong and vibrant Ohio. We are committed to making this a reality every single day, and we are thankful for the families and school districts who partner with us, push us forward, and co-create EA's promise. EA is now the largest day-treatment provider in the state, and the only provider that's mental health programming is developed and overseen by a clinical psychologist. I sincerely believe our Fall quarter demonstrates that the best is truly yet to come. We look forward to serving you in the new year.

Sincerely,  
Jerry Swartz  
Executive Director





**EA** education  
alternatives

5445 Smith Rd, Brook Park, OH 44142  
(216) 332-9360 | [easchools.org](http://easchools.org)

## LOCATIONS

### **BEDFORD**

270 Union Street  
Bedford, OH 44146  
440.232.0214

### **BROOK PARK**

5555 Smith Road  
Brook Park, OH 44142  
216.453.1111

### **CUYAHOGA FALLS**

1225 Orlen Avenue  
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221  
330.945.4944

### **ELYRIA**

333 Naples Drive  
Elyria, OH 44035  
440.324.1168

### **KENT**

6662 State Route 43  
Kent, OH 44240  
330.956.7182

### **PAINESVILLE**

273 E. Jackson Street  
Painesville, OH 44077  
440.709.0053

### **RAVENNA**

310 Bennett Avenue  
Ravenna, Ohio 44266  
330.839.9966

### **WILLOUGHBY HILLS**

2882 Cricket Lane  
Willoughby Hills, OH 44092  
440.347.0716



Education Alternatives is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) that serves children of all ages with emotional and behavioral disabilities through specialized educational and mental health services.

[easchools.org](http://easchools.org)