# Education Alternatives

## FALL '23



#### Greetings from EA!

The 2023-2024 school year is well underway, and we have so much to share. EA students have been busy with art projects, Halloween costumes, engaging lessons, and lots of crafts. In the following pages, we share more about what happened so far during this school year.

And in the spirit of the season, we want to say how thankful we are for the support of our EA parents, school-district partners, and dedicated EA staff. It is all of you that make the difference in our EA students' lives.

Sincerely,

Gerald Swartz Executive Director

#### **Important Dates**

Winter Break December 21 - 29

> Class Resumes January 3

Martin Luther King Day January 15 - No School

Teacher In-Service Day January 16 - No School



For a complete school calendar, find us online at easchools.org/calendar.

2023 Newsletter

## AUTISM EMBRACE DIFFERENCES Coral Autism Program



In 2015, Education Alternatives opened its first CORAL classroom for students on the Autism Spectrum. Since then we have focused on growing and developing an evidence-based program for neurodivergent students grades K-12. Across our agency, we now have over 70 students enrolled in EA's CORAL Program.

The CORAL Program is designed to provide evidence-based practices and interventions to support the individual needs of each student. We coordinate with related service providers to integrate speech therapy, occupational therapy, and physical therapy into the student's educational plans. We incorporate daily group activities which provide the opportunity to practice peer interactions and functional life skills. Our students go on community outings, and we have student-run businesses that help the students practice the skills they are learning in the classroom.

The teachers, therapists, and support staff that provide these services are all certified through OCALI's Autism Certification Program. They are also trained in Trauma-Informed Care, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, and Dialectic Behavioral Therapy. Our dedicated staff understands that all children are unique and deserve to receive an education that celebrates their differences while working toward their individual goals.

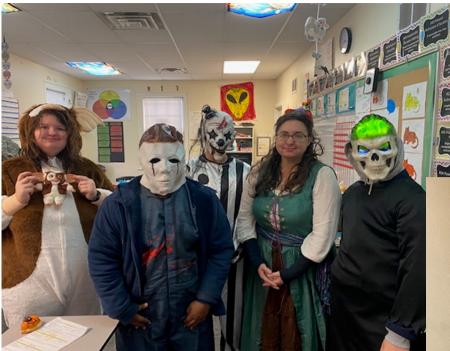
If you would like to learn more about the CORAL program, please visit our website at easchools.org/services/coral-autism-program.







## What's Happening at EA?



**Top:** EA Painesville students bring on the scares for Halloweens

**Right:** EA Painesville students sharing their beautiful artwork





**Top:** Crafting time at EA Bedford



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.

FALL '23



## VisionQuest

VisionQuest is a unique transition program for students with disabilities. Designed for students in high school through age 22 for whom traditional academics are no longer the primary focus, this program can help your child become more self-reliant and learn important life skills.

The VisonQuest program focuses on teaching skills like personal financing, housekeeping, hygiene, communication, and more. The skills that they learn will help them with employment opportunities, community involvement, and the overall development of healthy habits.

Here at EA we also have student-run businesses. With the help of EA staff, VisionQuest students are about to learn and develop their job skills to serve the greater community.

For more information about the Coral and VisionQuest programs, please visit us at: easchools.org/services/

DAILY CAFE & BAKERY

PawPrints is a custom apparel shop that the VisionQuest students are a part of that serves not only the EA community but the great community as well!



## REACH behavioral SEEKING WELLNESS FOR ADULTS, FAMILIES & CHILDREN

REACH Behavioral Health is EA's sister organization, offering mental health support to EA students and their families. Individual counseling is available in all of our buildings for all EA students who need the service. REACH has received four Accreditations through the international accrediting body, Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF), for its Day Treatment Program.

REACH also offers its services to the greater community regardless of whether or not they are affiliated with EA Schools. Their experienced, caring therapists are passionate about providing quality care so that their community can achieve healing and growth. Along with counseling help, psychiatric services are also offered to better help those who may need medication treatments.

If you are interested in beginning your journey of healing with REACH, there are four counseling offices in different areas to better serve the greater community. to Exce



**ELYRIA** 



**WESTLAKE** 



RAVENNA



WEST PARK

(216) 453-1112 www.reachbh.org

# What's Happening at EA?

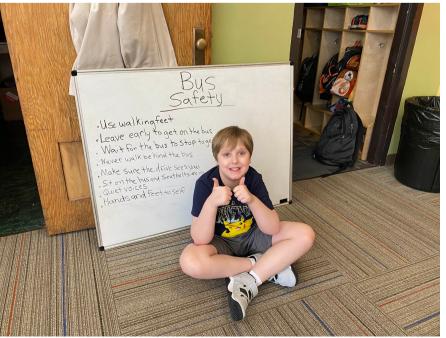




**Top:** EA Bedford student crafting spooky but cute pumpkins for the fall season

**Top:** Scoob-Dooby-Doo where are the treats? (Halloween at Ravenna)

**Right:** Ravenna student learning about bus safety





"Education brings about opportunities, and in turn inspiration." - Bill Frist

## Contact Us:

# **EA** education alternatives.

<mark>5445 Smith Road Brook Park, OH 44142</mark>

#### REACH LOCATIONS

#### **CENTRAL OFFICE**

5445 Smith Road Brook Park, OH 44142 216.453.1112

**ELYRIA** 992 N Abbe Road Elyria, OH 44035 440.406.5323

RAVENNA 507 E Main Street Ravenna, OH 44266 330.967.2846

WESTPARK 3951 Rocky River Drive Cleveland, OH 44111 216.675.6360

WESTLAKE 25000 Center Ridge Rd, Suite #4 Westlake, OH 44145 440.788.2948

### EA 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

#### PAINESVILLE

273 E Jackson Street Painesville, OH 44077 440.709.0053

RAVENNA

310 Bennett Avenue Ravenna, OH 44266 330.839.9966

#### SPRINGFIELD

3258 Nidover Dr. Akron, OH 44312 234.867.8260

#### WILLOUGHBY HILLS

2882 Cricket Lane Willoughby Hills, OH 44092 440.347.0716