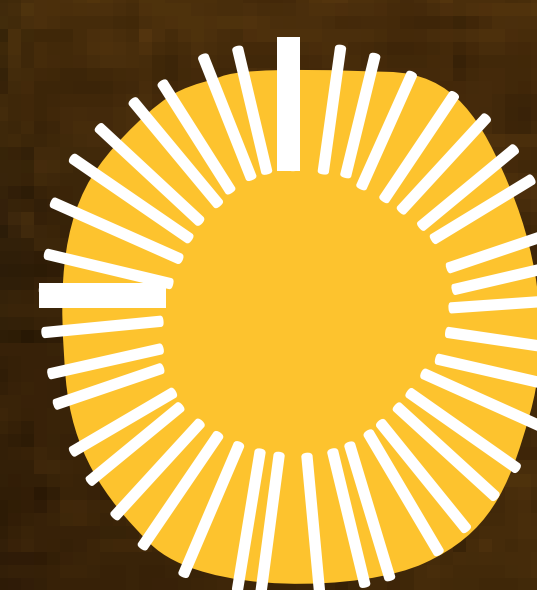


June 2025

outreach



EA education
alternatives

Congratulations, Class of 2025!

As we close out another incredible school year, we are thrilled to celebrate the achievements of the Class of 2025. Students from across our Day Treatment, ECHO, and VisionQuest programs who have reached an important milestone – not just in school, but in life.

Graduating from EA is about more than academics. It's about growth, resilience, and learning how to overcome challenges. Each of our graduates has had a different journey, but every one of them has worked incredibly hard to get where they are today. And we couldn't be prouder of everything they've achieved.

This year also marks a major milestone for EA: our 25th year serving students and families across Northeast Ohio. Something that makes this moment even more special.

We hope you'll enjoy this edition of our newsletter, where we take a moment to honor and reflect on 25 years of Learning for Life, as well as share some highlights of the past few months, a special student spotlight, and of course, a big shout-out to each of our graduates.

To all our students: Congratulations on everything you've achieved!

To the families, staff, and community partners who've supported them along the way: thank you. Your belief and encouragement make all the difference.

Best wishes and a happy summer to all,

The EA Schools Team

📅 Important Dates ▾

AUGUST

WEDNESDAY

13

**First Day Back
for Staff**

AUGUST

AUGUST

MONDAY - TUESDAY

18 - 19

**Staff In-Service
Days**

AUGUST

WEDNESDAY

20

**First Day for
Students**

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





EA education
alternatives

Celebrating 25 Years Of EA Schools



A heartfelt thank you
from our founder and
executive director.

The 2024–2025 school year marked EA's 25th year of serving children and families across Northeast Ohio. For a quarter century, we've provided special education, mental health services, and behavioral support to thousands of students – each with their own unique strengths and challenges.

When I founded EA, it was with the belief that a traditional, one-size-fits-all model simply doesn't work for every child. I envisioned a school where compassionate educators and support staff would meet each student where they are – academically, emotionally, and socially.

Today, that vision lives on across eight campuses, where more than 500 students are enrolled. And every time a child walks through our doors, I am confident they will receive not only a high-quality education, but also the care, support, and opportunity they deserve. Our goal has always been to open doors that might have otherwise remained closed, and to help each child build skills that last a lifetime. That's the heart behind our motto: *Learning for Life*.

To all the families, school district partners, and educators who have walked alongside us – thank you. Your trust, collaboration, and commitment mean the world.

I look forward to continuing this journey together in the years ahead.

With gratitude,

Gerald Swartz
Executive Director

What's Been Happening at EA?



Just Run, and other
outdoor fun



Chicks hatching at
Springfield!





EA education alternatives

What's Been Happening at EA?



Games, arts,
music, and much
more...



Awesome field trips...



Congratulations Graduates!



You did it!

Reaching this milestone has taken a lot of hard work, perseverance, and determination – and every one of you rose to the challenge.

We're so proud of the progress you've made and everything you've achieved along the way. It's been an honor to be a part of your journey!

We hope you take a moment to celebrate how far you've come – and all the exciting things ahead. This moment is yours, and you've earned every bit of it.

Congratulations again!

Your EA Family

Springfield

Tyler H
Domenick V
Dallas P.S
Destiny R

Cuyahoga Falls

Devin G
Aaron C

Bedford

Andre A

Painesville

Aiden G
Kylie H
Mikeal "Alex" C
Lyndzee "Dylan" S
Alexis S

Elyria

Carson T
Ashlynn S
Nicole S
Amari D.P
Dani J
Andrea K
Storm P

Brook Park

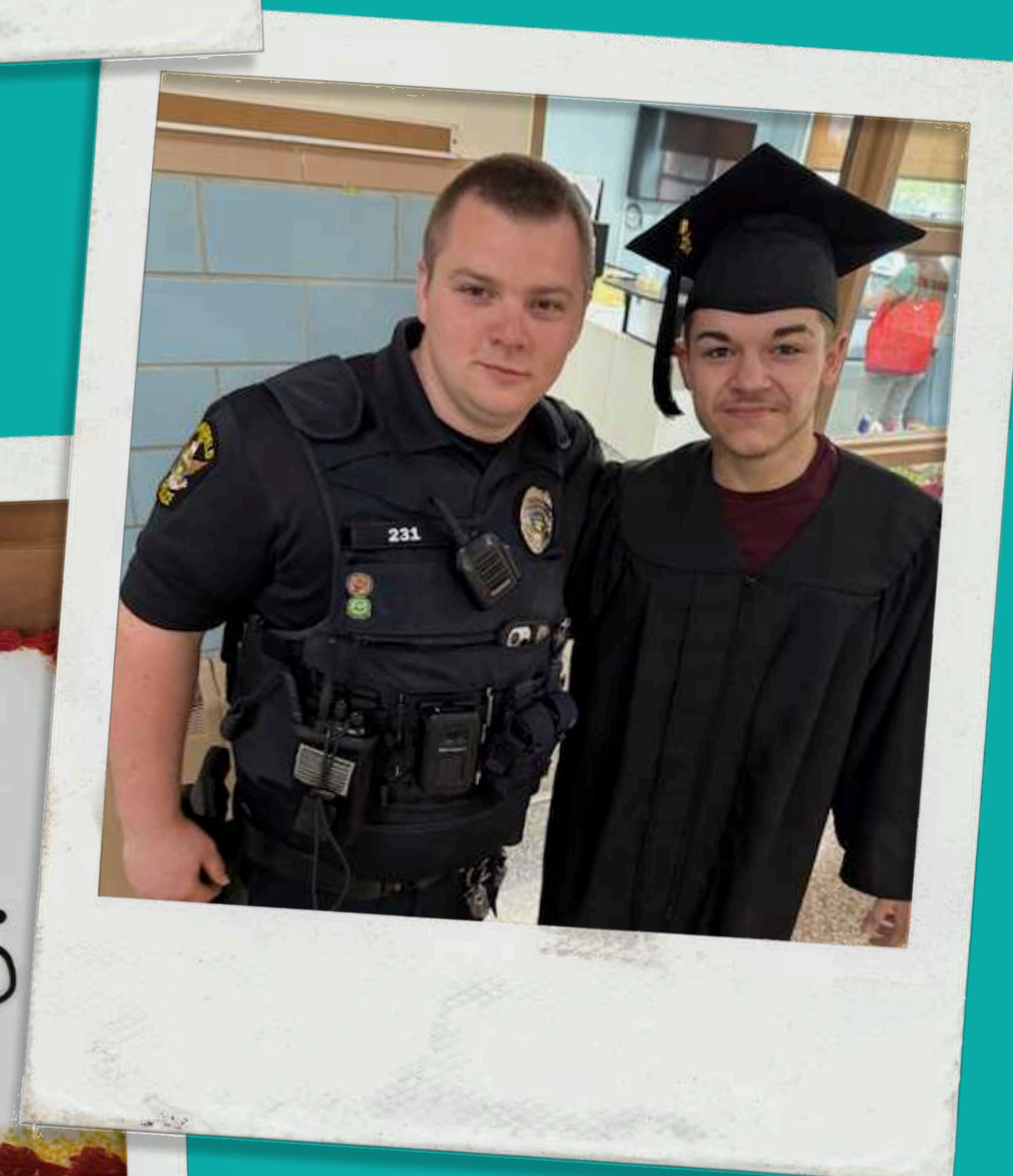
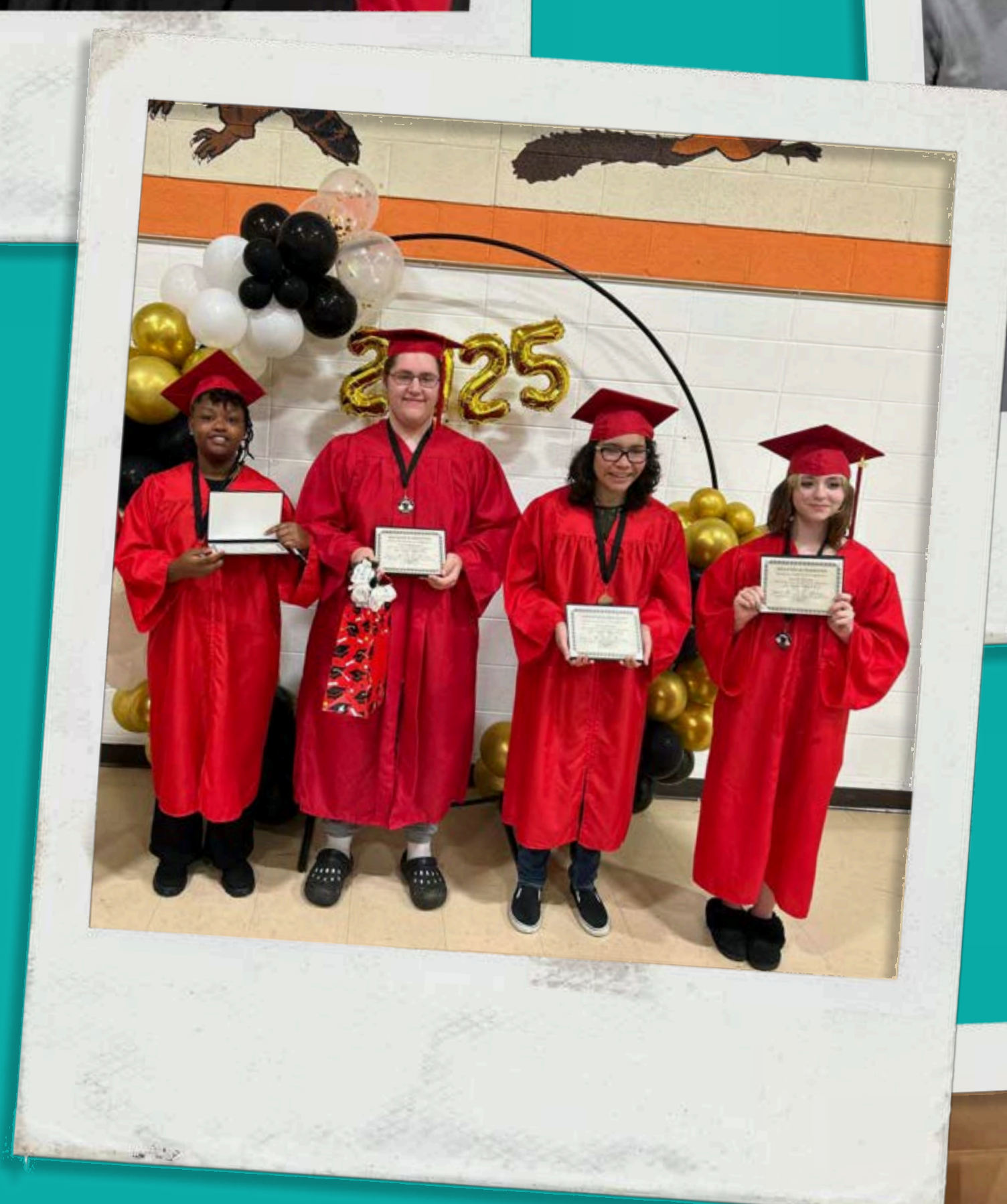
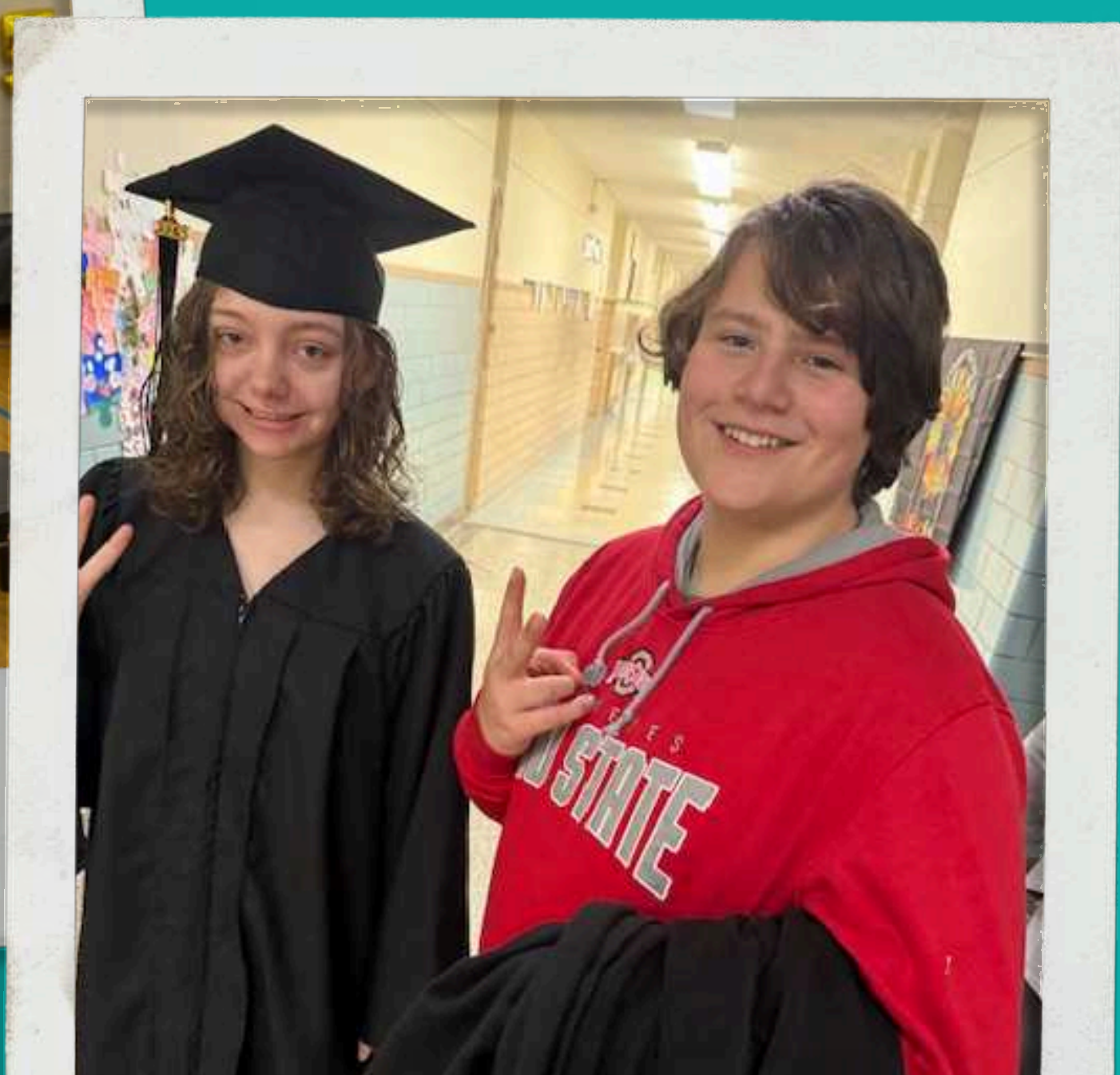
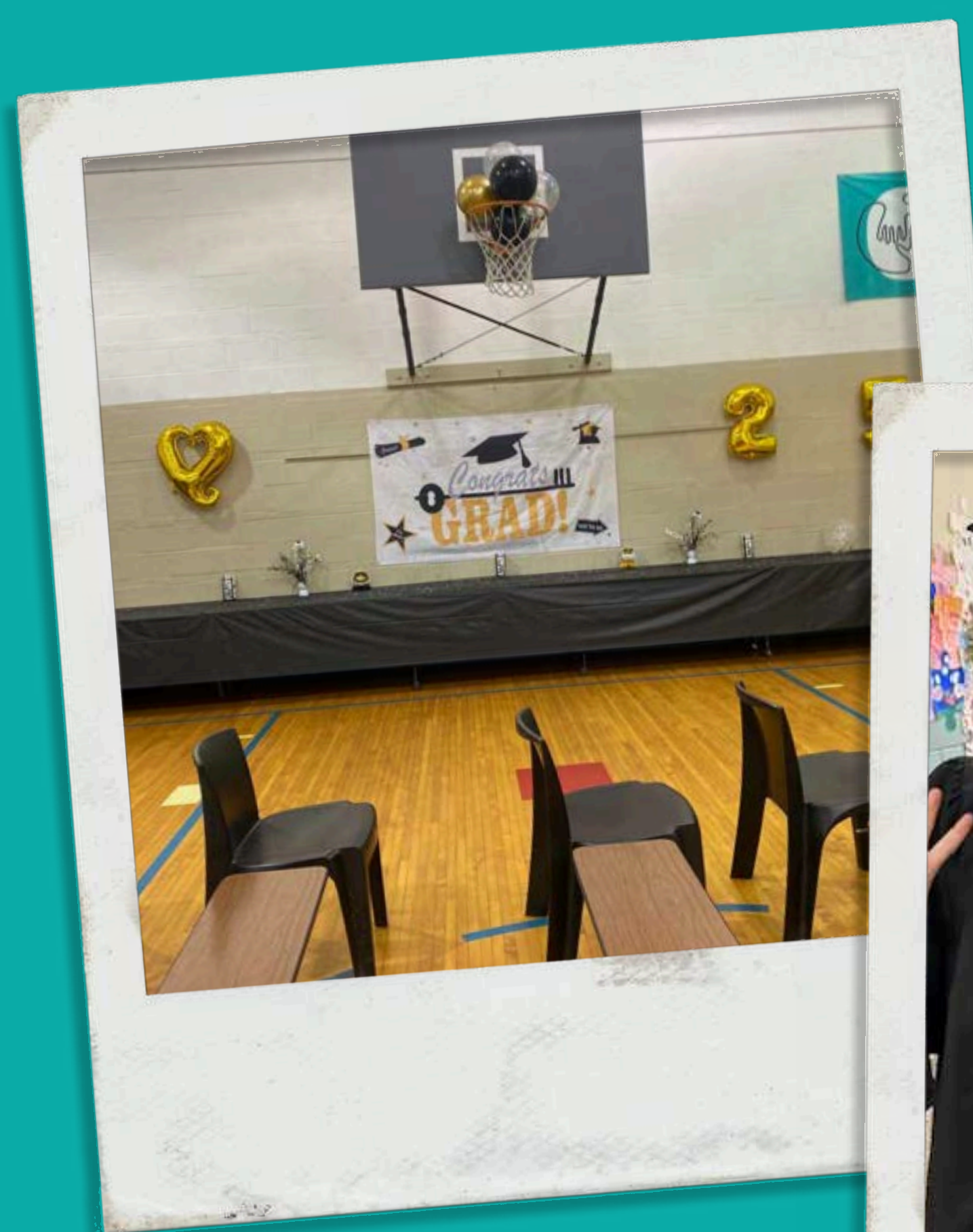
Augusta E
Ellen G
Aiden G
Connor K
Dylan M

Ravenna

Erica B
Josiah R
Anthony M
Landon W
Benjamin Y
Alyssa R
Matthew K
Izzy G
Austin O

Willoughby Hills

Ronald P
Kevin S





STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Christopher Triggs

Whether he's greeting customers at EA's café or focusing on his schoolwork, Christopher Triggs is showing what's possible when hard work meets the right support.

Chris, 17, has been a student at EA Brook Park for the past few years, and during that time he's grown into a confident and independent young adult. "The main reason I started attending EA Schools was to work on managing my emotions," he shares.

"I wanted to better myself and have a better future. EA has really helped by teaching me the coping skills I needed to manage my emotions and avoid negative situations."

But Chris's success hasn't been limited to the classroom. He's also become a valued member of the team at *The Daily* – EA's café, where he now works two days a week. What began with helping in the back has grown into a front-of-house role, where Chris packs orders, serves customers, and works the cash register. "I really like talking with the customers," he says. "One of the skills I've learned is small talk!"

The opportunity came thanks to encouragement from Rich Angell, EA's Brook Park Building Director. "Mr. Angell approached me about working here because he felt I was doing well at school and ready to take on more responsibility," Chris explains. And it's a decision that's clearly paid off. "I am so proud of Chris," says Mr. Angell. "He's worked so hard and come so far."

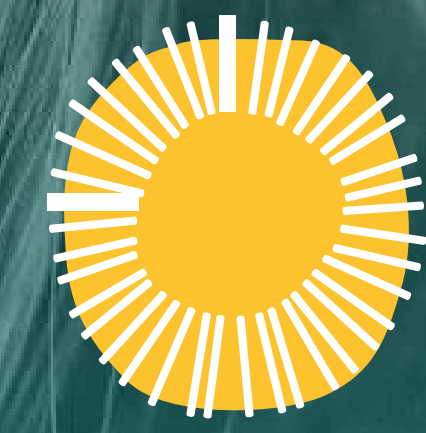
Reflecting on his time at EA, Chris is also able to see how far he's come. "I've improved my behavior to a point where I can be independent in my schoolwork and at *The Daily*," he says. "And I've learned how to push outside of my comfort zone and improve my social anxiety."

When asked to describe EA in three words, he was quick to respond with "discipline, independence, and easy going" – a combination that has clearly worked well for him. "I've loved that I can focus and work at my own pace," he adds. "And the teachers are talkative, understanding, and supportive. They've really helped me."

Looking ahead, Chris is excited to keep building on his progress – and especially to two big milestones on the horizon: getting his high school diploma, and his driver's license!

Before signing off, Chris has one final message: "I just want to thank all the staff at EA who have helped me get to where I am today."

To learn more about the programs and opportunities available at EA Schools, visit us at easchools.org



EA education
alternatives

LEARNING FOR LIFE

Alternative Schools in Ohio

EA Locations

BEDFORD

270 Union Street
Bedford, OH 44146
440-232-0214

BROOK PARK

5445 Smith Rd, Brook
Park, OH 44142
216-453-1111

CUYAHOGA FALLS

1225 Orlen Ave,
Cuyahoga Falls, OH
44221
330-945-4944

ELYRIA

333 Naples Dr, Elyria,
OH 44035
440-324-1168

CENTRAL OFFICE

5445 Smith Road,
Brook Park, OH 44142
216-332-9360

PAINESVILLE

273 E Jackson St,
Painesville, OH
44077
440-709-0053

RAVENNA

310 Bennett Ave,
Ravenna, OH 44266
330-839-9966

AKRON/ SPRINGFIELD

3258 Nidover Dr,
Akron, OH 44312
234-867-8260

WILLOUGHBY HILLS

2882 Cricket Ln,
Willoughby Hills, OH
44092
440-347-0716

Reach Locations

ELYRIA

992 N Abbe Rd N,
Elyria, OH 44035
440-406-5323

RAVENNA

507 E Main Street
Ravenna, OH 44266
330-967-2846

WESTPARK

3951 Rocky River Dr,
Cleveland, OH 44111
216-675-6360

WESTLAKE

25000 Center Ridge
Rd, Westlake,
OH 44145
440-788-2948

AKRON/SPRINGFIELD

2410 Massillon Rd.
Akron, OH 44312
330-269-5492

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.

enrollment@easchools.org • easchools.org/locations/