



### Mission

To serve youth with emotional and behavioral disorders in a therapeutic setting, providing individualized academic instruction, counseling, and occupational guidance so they may become healthy individuals and responsible members of their community.

### We Believe

Children will grow emotionally, behaviorally, and academically when the underlying causes of their difficulties are addressed therapeutically.

Giving unconditional positive regard in a safe, structured school environment enables children to develop healthy, trusting relationships.

Providing individualized academic, therapeutic, and vocational instruction will develop competency and instill the desire to be life-long learners.

# Education Alternatives

November 2007

## Quarterly Update

### REACHING OUT TO EDUCATORS

**Central Office**  
7777 Exchange Street, Suite 4  
Valley View, OH 44125  
216-332-9360  
Executive Director – Gerald Swartz

**EA Bedford**  
270 Union St  
Bedford, Oh 44146  
440-232-0214  
Director – Courtney Bender

**EA Cuyahoga Falls**  
1225 Orlen Ave  
Cuyahoga Falls, Oh 44221  
330-945-4944  
Director – Mark Kinkead

**EA Elyria**  
1514 Lake Ave  
Elyria, Oh 44035  
440-324-1168  
Director – Noeleen Rothacker

**EA Strongsville**  
16939 Pearl Road  
Strongsville, Oh 44136  
440-238-0980  
Interim Director – Barbara Bangeman

**EA Willoughby Hills**  
2882 Cricket Lane  
Willoughby Hills, Oh 44092  
440-347-0716  
Director – Tajwana Thomas

This fall, Education Alternatives began working directly with educators in local schools through its new outreach and training program, EA Reach. As part of the program, EA clinicians Christine Swartz, Nancy Hawkins, and Jen Toker presented workshops for teachers on the Attachment Theory and methods to incorporate its principals in the daily operation of their classrooms. The concept for EA Reach has evolved over the years as district representatives expressed a desire to better understand our philosophy in working with troubled children and how to apply it in their own schools. By sharing our therapeutic understanding of emotional disturbances, we believe we can better serve children by helping others identify their needs and design interventions at the earliest level.



This fall, Education Alternatives presented workshops to educators from Berea City School District discussing the underlying brain-based causes of behavioral problems among children, as well as the therapeutic processes used to mediate them. After the presentation, EA's clinicians offered additional assistance through classroom observations, helping teachers integrate the understanding of mental health and the roots of emotional disturbance in their Individual Education Plans (IEPs).

Education Alternatives also participated in Padua Franciscan High School's annual enrichment series on October 3rd. Christine Swartz presented the mini-workshop titled "Beyond Assertive Discipline: Effective Methods for Dealing with Problem Student Behaviors." The workshop addressed the underlying causes of behavior problems in the classroom and methods to develop positive teacher-student relationships that will assist in the self-regulation of behavior.

# Agency Updates

## Dates to Remember

- **November 1** No School - Records Day
- **November 8** Evening Conferences
- **November 21** Noon Dismissal
- **November 22 to 23** Thanksgiving Break
- **December 22 to 23** Winter Break
- **December 24 to January 4** Winter Break
- **January 16** End of 2nd Quarter
- **January 21** No School - MLK Day
- **February 15** No School - In-service Day
- **February 18** No School - President's Day

## Winter is Around the Corner...

In the event of a snow day or other emergency that threatens the safety or health of students or staff members, please turn to your local news station for an update. Education Alternatives' name and location, (for example, Education Alternatives - Bedford) will be noted in the bulletin.



Closings will be posted on the following TV and radio stations:

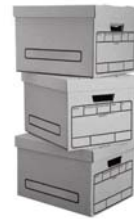
- |                 |                       |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 96.5 FM - KISS  | 1100 AM - WTAM        |
| 98.1 FM - WKDD  | 640 AM - WHLO         |
| 99.5 FM - WGAR  | Channel 3 - WKYC      |
| 105.7 FM - WMJI | Channel 8 - FOX       |
| 100.7 FM - WMMS | Channel 5 - WEWS      |
| 106.5 FM - MIX  | Channel 19 - WOIO     |
| 103.3 FM - WCRF | Channel 43 - WUAB     |
|                 | Channel 23 - PAX News |

## Welcome

Welcome to all new students! Education Alternatives is now serving over 320 students from Cuyahoga, Lorain, Lake, Geauga, Summit, Portage, and Medina counties.

## We've Moved!

Our corporate offices moved to:  
 7777 Exchange Street, Suite 4  
 Valley View, OH 44125  
 Phone - 216-332-9360  
 Fax - 216-332-9375



## Student Dress Code



Beginning this school year, Education Alternatives adopted a dress code for all students attending our program. We are currently observing that approximately 75% of students come to school in dress code

each day. We are pleased with these results and are continuing to work toward our goal of 100%.

Benefits of the new dress code:

- Safer environment for children
- Neutral learning environment
- Cost effective for parents
- Unity among students

## ATTENTION ALL PARENTS!!

All buildings now have dress code shirts for sale in a variety of sizes and colors. We are selling them inexpensively in order to benefit those who are in need. The cost of the shirts range from \$1.00 for youth sizes and \$2.00 - \$3.00 for adult sizes. Please contact the main office of your child's school for more information.

# EA Cuyahoga Falls



## FOLK TALES

The Elementary Room completed a literature unit on folk tales that included activities from the curriculum areas of reading, math, science, and social studies. As a culminating activity, students prepared chicken noodle "Stone Soup" that was enjoyed by the entire school.

## COOPERATION SCULPTURES

Each classroom is working together to create a collaborative sculpture, where each child is responsible for an individual piece that is combined with those of their classmates. The project emphasizes cooperation among students as they agree on the sculpture's layout and fuse their pieces together. Once the projects are completed, they will be hung in the school for display.

## CARE PACKAGES

Our school's Girls Group will begin working to create care packages to donate to other agencies in the area with children who are needy or experiencing a crisis in their lives. The care packages will contain hand-picked activity packets, toiletries, a stuffed animal friend, and words of encouragement.

## CONGRATULATIONS!!

To the following students who had an outstanding first quarter. We are very proud of you!

<b>HONOR ROLL</b>	Ms. Brown Jocelyn J. Gabriel L. Courtney S.	Ms. Neilson Preston G.	Mr. Sidle Dylan K.
<b>MERIT ROLL</b>	Ms. Brown Jessica C. Jesse E.	Ms. Neilson Dakota D. Christopher P.	Mr. Sidle Jessica C. Dalton M.
<b>PERFECT ATTENDANCE</b>	Ms. Brown Brian L.	Ms. Neilson Keith H. Christopher P.	

# EA Strongsville



## WELCOME!

To our new junior high teacher Ms. May who comes to us with four years of experience as an intervention specialist with Tuscarawas county schools.

## SCIENCE IN THE METROPARKS

As part of EA Strongsville's science curriculum, we attended a program offered by the Cleveland Metroparks to increase our understanding of the natural environment. The program was led by two naturalists at Hinckley Lake who educated us on the wildlife that relies on the lake's resources for survival. The students' outdoor experiences will continue in the spring when we attend the Floating Water Lab and participate in chemical, physical, and biological water quality tests from a boat on the lake.

## WHO LET THE DOGS OUT?

EA Strongsville would like to extend a big "thank you!" to the Strongsville City Police Department for sending Officer Drlik and Officer Mertz to our school. Our classrooms just finished a unit on drug and alcohol awareness and the two officers were happy to answer questions, tell stories, and show us pictures on the topic. They also brought Tesco, the police dog, and demonstrated his ability to track down paraphernalia that was planted by the officers. Thanks again to the Strongsville Police for this fun and educational experience.



## CONGRATULATIONS!!

To the following students who had an outstanding first quarter. We are very proud of you!

## PERFECT ATTENDANCE

Ms. Maxwell Mary D.	Ms. May Jeffery D. Deeana S.
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## HONOR ROLL

Ms. May  
Jeffery D.  
Christina P.  
Deeana S.

## MERIT ROLL

Ms. Maxwell Mary D. Timothy S.	Ms. May Ryan G. Peter S.
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## CD COVERS

Students in one of our ninth grade classrooms were asked to design their very own CD covers that would describe their life so far. The projects have turned out great!

## SCRAPBOOKS

Our students in Kindergarten through third grade are assembling scrapbooks to encapsulate the various experiences of the school year. Throughout the rest of the year, students will collect stories, copies of class work, and photographs to include in the project.

## CHESS AND CHECKERS CLUB

The students at EA Elyria chose to start their own chess and checkers club. The name of the club is C<sup>2</sup>, or C-Squared. The club meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:00 to 2:30 pm. The club's membership is available to all students who earn the privilege through the level system and adhere to the dress code. Students will be electing club officers during the second quarter.

## STUDENT COUNCIL

EA Elyria is holding elections for the student council, which will begin next semester. Students who have followed the dress code and have made it to Level 2 on the IAM Level System will be able to run for the offices of president, vice president, secretary or treasurer. The student council serves as a meaningful opportunity for students to be involved in school activities.

## THANK YOU MARCO'S PIZZA!

EA Elyria's Classroom 4 would like to thank Marco's Pizza for their generosity in allowing students to sell pizza to raise money for their school. The students will sell pizza at the price of \$1.25 per slice to raise money for the classroom's activities and shirts for the new chess club. Thanks again to Marco's Pizza for sponsoring this event.

## FOOD DRIVE

EA Elyria held its second annual food drive at the beginning of the second quarter. Students were asked to donate any non-perishable food items such as canned and boxed goods to go to needy families for the holidays.

## CONGRATULATIONS!!

To the following students who had an outstanding first quarter. We are very proud of you!

### HONOR ROLL

<b>Ms. Rothacker</b> Matthew D. Tawanna M. Jeffrey W.	<b>Ms. Cummings</b> Brandi C. <b>Ms. Parkinson</b> Jessica D. Paul W.	<b>Ms. Becka</b> Marlin G. Joseph G. Angela S.	<b>Ms. Buchdrucker</b> Joseph C.
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### MERIT ROLL

<b>Ms. Parkinson</b> Tony P.	<b>Ms. Kostecke</b> Keith B.	<b>Ms. Pennington</b> Fred G. Joseph M. Daniel P.	<b>Ms. Buchdrucker</b> Sir Byron P. Darian T.
<b>Ms. Becka</b> Cedric W.	<b>Ms. Cummings</b> Nicole E. Evan G. Jessica O.		
<b>Ms. Pavlic</b> Anthony F.			

### PERFECT ATTENDANCE

<b>Ms. Cummings</b> Evan G.	<b>Ms. Pavlic</b> David B. Anthony F.	<b>Ms. Pennington</b> Fred G.	<b>Ms. Buchdrucker</b> Joseph C.
<b>Ms. Parkinson</b> Jessica D.			

## Portage County Collaboration

This fall, Education Alternatives collaborated with the Portage County Education Service Center, Valley Counseling, Inc., and Children's Advantage in the operation of the Cooperative Learning Program (CLP) for at-risk students in Portage County and the surrounding area. The academic and therapeutic services provided by the CLP address the individual needs of the students whose behavioral and/or emotional difficulties require an alternative learning setting.



The CLP was first initiated in 1976 through a collaborative effort between the Portage County Board of Education, Portage Children's Center (currently Children's Advantage), and ten participating school districts to serve at-risk youth in the county. To increase the effectiveness of the CLP, the current collaboration integrates a more therapeutic approach with the academic programming, further improving outcomes for students. Included in the therapeutic components of the program are Education Alternatives' philosophy, based on Attachment Theory, and the IAM Level System.

## Continued Focus on Reading

This school year, Education Alternatives is incorporating the Wilson Reading System into classrooms across the agency. The Wilson Reading System, a highly-structured, research-based reading program, is designed to meet the needs of struggling readers of varying age levels ranging from elementary through high school.

Our two Reading Specialists continue providing additional support at our Willoughby Hills and Bedford sites as they work closely with classroom teachers and provide one-on-one instruction to students requiring intensive reading interventions.

Newly purchased book and novel sets for each grade level have recently been incorporated into our students' daily reading instruction. The books selected for use in our classrooms include classic pieces of literature with themes that encourage personal and social growth in our students.



# EA Bedford



## EA BEDFORD DRUMLINE

The EA Bedford students demonstrated their musical talents in a drum performance at the building's Open House on November 8th. The performance was a conclusion of a drum program offered through Young Audiences where students learned about the history of drumming, the different types of drums, and various rhythms with drummer Neil Chastain. Mr. Chastain is a



composer and percussionist, specializing in improvisation and electronic music. Students participated in his workshops twice a week and greatly enjoyed the experience.

## STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The students of EA Bedford are holding elections in the first week of December to elect the officers for student council. Throughout the fall, the school has witnessed a whirl of campaigning from the candidates and both staff and students are eager for the results. The first items on the council's agenda are to vote on school colors and a mascot to show off their school spirit.

## FOOTBALL TEAM

For the second year, EA Bedford boys have participated in the school's football team. So far, the team is off to a great start with the junior high school boys beating EA Willoughby's boys 32 to 16. The high school boys will have an opportunity to play EA Willoughby in December. Also in December, the junior high school boys will travel to Cuyahoga Falls for their next game.

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT EA BEDFORD

### Second Quarter Parent Gathering

January 15th, 2008, 9:30 - 11:00 AM.  
All are welcome.

## CONGRATULATIONS!!

To the following students who had an outstanding first quarter. We are very proud of you!

### HONOR ROLL

<b>Mr. Vansant</b> Jesse A. Lamar M. Jamar M. Ryan R.	<b>Ms. Holland</b> Jerome G. Christopher K. Kayla R.	<b>Ms. Marino</b> Dywane A. Darren C. Deandre D. Lavelle H. Deonta R.	<b>Mr. Lambdin</b> Tyrell A. Darien R. Anthony Z.
<b>Ms. Flory</b> Kadeem D. Zesmenn S.	<b>Ms. Foster</b> Eriona B. Tevin H. Dominique H.	<b>Ms. Smith</b> Kayla T.	<b>Ms. Holbrook</b> Brenee R.
<b>Ms. Sady</b> Noah H. Aloni W.	<b>Mr. Seton</b> Kriston J.	<b>Ms. Dallet</b> Chantae W.	<b>Night School</b> Justin B. Carlicia C.

### MERIT ROLL

<b>Ms. Marino</b> Aaron M. Je Rone R.	<b>Ms. Holland</b> Aaron C. Brianna C. Matthew M. Mason Z.	<b>Ms. Flory</b> Douglas D. Jeffery H. James T.	<b>Ms. Dallet</b> Harvey M. Dylan M.
<b>Ms. Smith</b> Brandy F. Shadyna H. Sarah K. Minnie M. Tanisha N. Porsha S. Melissa S.	<b>Mr. Seton</b> Darrion B. Justin G. Joseph T.	<b>Ms. Foster</b> Nicholas P. Benjamin R. Allen T.	<b>Ms. Sady</b> Joshiara B.
<b>Ms. Kramer</b> Keyonta W.	<b>Ms. Holbrook</b> Asim A. Brittany D. Deborah J.	<b>Mr. Vansant</b> Deron E.	<b>Mr. Lambdin</b> Brandon C. Robert R.
		<b>Ms. Rockwood</b> Jamaal N.	<b>Night School</b> Asim A. Qyaira F. Toya M.

### PERFECT ATTENDANCE

<b>Ms. Flory</b> Douglas D.	<b>Mr. Seton</b> Eric W.	<b>Ms. Smith</b> Sarah K.	<b>Mr. Lambdin</b> Tyrell A.
<b>Ms. Foster</b> Tevin H, Allen T.	<b>Ms. Holland</b> Aaron C. Matthew M.	<b>Ms. Dallet</b> Ryan G. Brad M.	

# EA Willoughby Hills



## PEER READING PROGRAM

For the second year in a row, the EA Willoughby Hills Student Council started the year off with their Peer Reading Program, which was included as one of their three primary goals on this year's agenda. The Peer Reading Program involves the high school and middle school council members reading to the younger children in the building throughout the school year. Each week, the older students spend thirty minutes reading to the children in each of the two youngest classrooms. So far, the feedback has been excellent!

## EA WILLOUGHBY'S APPLESAUCE CHEFS

After Mrs. Doyle, Ms. D'Amato, and Mr. Thomas's Kindergarten through third graders read about Johnny Appleseed's life, they had fun applying his history to their school subjects. In Social Studies, they compared and contrasted his modes of travel and communication with those of today. For Science and Math, students brought apples to school and made bar graphs to measure the different colors. Then, as a group, the class wrote their own applesauce recipe. Each student peeled, sliced, and mashed the apples and added the ingredients for the applesauce with some help from Ms. Thomas and enjoyed their snack as a class.



## A CLASS FULL OF HAMS

Ms. Hazek's classroom arranged a production under the direction of Mr. Crenshaw. The class decided to perform the classic story, "The Bremen Town Musicians", which is about a group of animals who decide to become musicians after they are no longer of use to their masters. However, Ms. Hazek's class put their own creative spin on the Grimm fairy tale by acting out animals who are on their way to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Downtown Cleveland to become famous rock stars. In addition to having fun during the activity, the play allowed the class to practice their teamwork and communication skills to make the production a success.

## CONGRATULATIONS!!

To the following students who had an outstanding first quarter. We are very proud of you!

### HONOR ROLL

<b>Mr. Andrus</b> Michael A. John G. Timothy K.	<b>Ms. Schenck</b> Terrance C. Lateeka F. Robert M.	<b>Mr. Troup</b> Allante B. Octavious O. Michael R.	<b>Ms. Smith</b> Christopher M. Braelyn R. Jasmine S.
<b>Ms. Wittine</b> Pierre R.			

### MERIT ROLL

<b>Ms. Morrison</b> Justin B. Marshawn B. Darrion C. Austin W.	<b>Ms. Wittine</b> Freddie C. Charles H. Rayshawn J.	<b>Ms. Ziegler</b> Charles C. Joseph G. Branden M.	<b>Ms. Hazek</b> Altonio M. Shashawn W.
<b>Ms. White</b> Lamonte A. Demetrious B.	<b>Ms. Doyle</b> Keandre G. Destiny M. Christopher N. Jordan W.	<b>Mr. Andrus</b> Donte M. Sybil O. Rhonda P. Ervin S. Dontez S.	<b>Ms. Blazetic</b> Mariah H. Patrik L. Staneil P. Ryan R. Andrew S. Chantell W.
<b>Ms. Smith</b> Greg H. T'Angela S.	<b>Ms. Schenck</b> Raheem S.		

### PERFECT ATTENDANCE

<b>Ms. Doyle</b> Montez J.	<b>Mr. Troup</b> Dakota D. Michael R.	<b>Mr. Andrus</b> Timothy K. Sybil O.	<b>Ms. Hazek</b> Christian F. Shashawn W.
<b>Ms. White</b> Ericka L.	<b>Ms. Morrison</b> Justin B. Isaiah B.	<b>Ms. Ziegler</b> Joseph G. Branden M.	<b>Ms. Smith</b> Greg H.
<b>Ms. Schenck</b> Robert M.			