



# East Lafollette Learning Academy

Where we help our kids be kids as they learn!

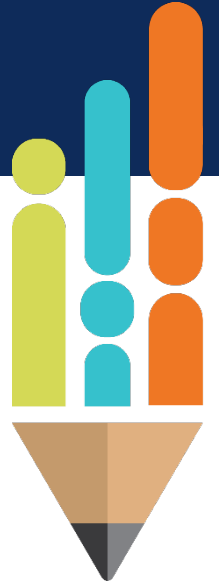


# Who We Are

Logo

- Harold Sanders – Administrator; A 28-year veteran in education; with 16 years in alternative school education.
- Lisa Lester – Educator; 11-year veteran in alternative school education.
- David Seals – Special Education Educator; 19-year veteran in education; 13 years in special education and 4 years in alternative school education.
- Dana Hoskins – Teacher’s Aide; 5 years of experience in education; 4 years in special education and 2 years in alternative education.
- Jonathon Bruce – School Resource Officer (SRO); 11-year veteran with the Campbell County Sheriffs Department; 8 years as an SRO, with 2.5 years in the alternative school setting.

# Our Current Student Make Up



53 Students served for the 2022-2023 calendar school year.

- 29 - Male
- 24 - Female

A further breakdown:

- 38 – High School
- 15 – Middle School
- 28 – Regular Education
- 24 – Special Education

# Why Are We Here?



## Reason for placement and percent of the total number.

- Repeated Bad Behavior – 23%
- Parental Request – 17 %
- Dab Pen – 13%
- Assault – 8%
- Marijuana, Bullying, Alcohol – each at 6%
- Sexual Harassment and From Facility – each at 4%
- Bomb Threat, Harassment, Cocaine, Porn, THC, Gun, Fights, Threat Against Staff – 1 referral for each infraction.

# How Has This Changed?

We have seen an increase in our parental requests:

- 2020-2021 – Parental requests, 9%
- 2021-2022 – Parental requests, 8%
- 2022-2023 – Parental requests, 17%

Why?

# Juvenile Operational Keystones for Educational Reformations

## Non-Negotiables: Responsibilities & Regulations

- Parents are responsible for transportation.
- Students must wear uniforms.
- Wanded and searched upon entry into the building.
- No personal items are allowed in students' possession.
- Phones are to be turned in upon entry.
- Not allowed to bring in outside food or drink.
- Complete chores/clean school
  - Taking responsibility and having pride for surroundings and the school.
- Not allowed to participate in home school activities.
- One at a time in the restroom.
- Daily communication with parents.

## Accountability Options

- Silent lunch
- Change rooms/Teachers.
- Stay in office with principal/lectured/ISS.
- Not be allowed to work on community service, if needed.
- OSS
- Expulsion
- Extended time assigned to alternative placement.
- Petition to court

# We Are A Family

Female 14 –

“We are like a family. We know we are loved.

Mr. Seals is like the dad. He loves us, but he will correct us if we mess up.

Mrs. Lester is like our mom. She loves us and will correct us if we are out of line, but she would rather Mr. Seals (Dad) do it. Mr. Sanders is like our papaw. He tries to encourage us to do right, but if we mess up, he will correct us. But, like mom, he would rather dad do it.

Miss Dana is like our mamaw. She loves us, encourages us, and helps us, and she lets any of the others punish us if we need it.”





# Community Stakeholders

- Food Life Services

They hand out food to anyone in the community every Tuesday. Some of our students each week volunteer, some for court ordered community service, to prepare bags and carry food to automobiles for the patrons.

- Mt. Paran Baptist Church

Brings food for our students and their siblings each week for the weekend.

# Our Success

- In the last 3 years, 21 of our 23 seniors have graduated on time. The 2 that did not; 1 went to a Virtual School and the other moved from our system.
- 4 of our students have enrolled and are attending or have finished certification classes at Tennessee College of Applied Technology.
- Several of our students volunteer during the summer to continue to work with Food Life Services on Tuesdays.

# Student Quotes

We asked some of our students and former students why they thought they were successful at our school when they had struggled at the other schools they had attended.

- Male, 18 :

“The teachers push you to finish your work. They put me in a good place in my life now, like finishing school a little early and going to TCAT for welding.”

# More Student Quotes

Female, 14 :

“ELLA felt like a safe place, and you wouldn’t have to worry anything happening. How we ate lunch in small groups of our peers selected by the teachers helped me with my anxiety. I liked that we had standards.”

# More Student Quotes

Female, 17:

“ELLA shows kids how to do their best and thrive. The teachers at ELLA are so kind and loving, and they want us to succeed in life. If it wasn't for this school and teachers, I wouldn't be where I am today. These teachers actually care for your well being.”

# More Student Quotes

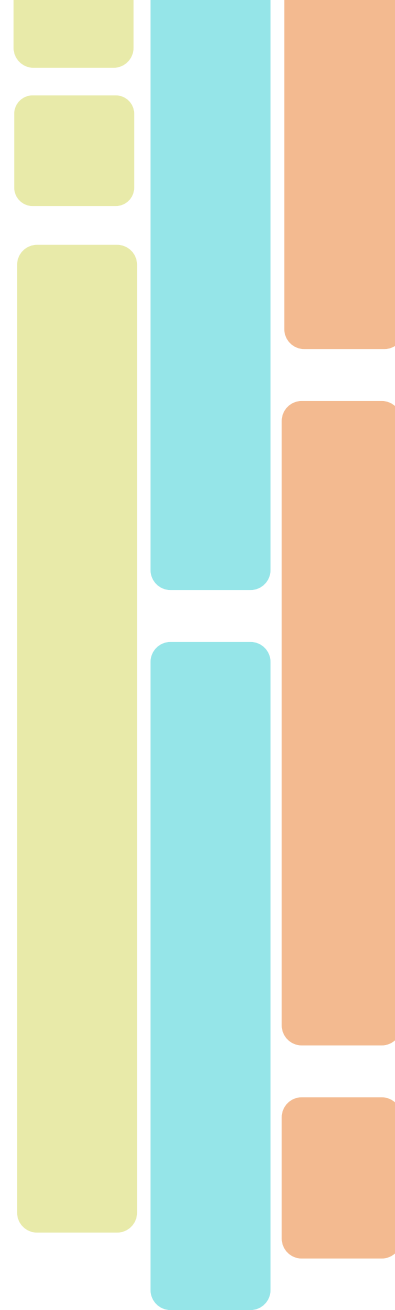
Female, 17:

ELLA is different because the teachers there care, not just about your grades, but your mental health. They help when you ask, and we are not labeled like we were at our other schools. At ELLA, they don't care if you are a "good kid", "bad kid", rich, or poor. They just love you. You end up becoming a family."

# More Student Quotes

Female, 16 –

“It is easier to feel at home and safe there. No matter the subject or how hard the talk is, the teachers and staff will always listen, without judgement. They open their class and arms to all students.”





# Thank You!

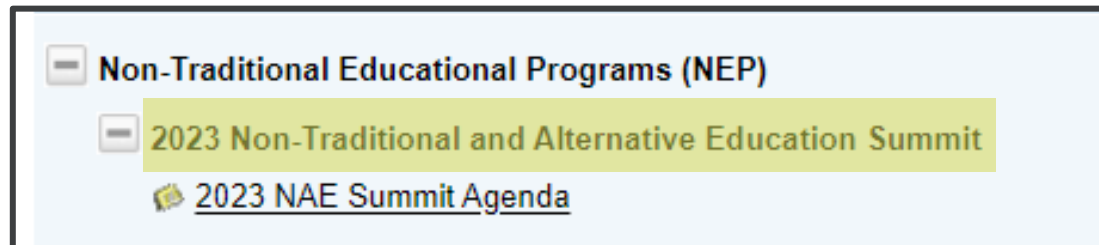
- Questions?
- If you get back to your school system and want to ask us questions, please call us at 865-321-1263.



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- All breakout session presentations may be accessed by going to ePlan.tn.gov and clicking on “TDOE Resources” along the left menu options. On the TDOE Resources page, scroll down to Non-Traditional Educational Programs (NEP), click on the + icon, and then select 2023 Non-Traditional and Alternative Education Summit to find all presentations by session title.
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