# Achieving Academic Success, Transforming Lives

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ENGLAN

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96 Cherry Hill Drive Beverly, MA 01915 | 978.921.1103 | www.newenglandacademy.net

## **OUR MISSION**

To provide a challenging academic curriculum in a supportive environment in which each student can develop his or her academic, social and emotional skills in preparation for college and life.

### **STUDENT PROFILE**

The curriculum and program at New England Academy is specifically to meet the academic and social/emotional needs of students in grades 6-12, in a non-behavioral school setting.

- with average to superior intelligence
- who wish to pursue post-secondary education
- with an identified social and/or emotional disability (including anxiety disorder, school phobia, non-verbal learning disability, depression and high-functioning Autism Spectrum Disorders)
- who are invested in their education
- who do not have a history of acting out behaviors

How do you know if your child is going to be an anxious kid? What do you do if the first word out of their mouth is 'uh-oh'? In the third grade, I hid in the cubbies when faced with an MCAS exam and by 8th grade I felt I would never be able to step into a school ever again. I had conceded that my life was going to be a series of extended hospital visits, an endless purgatory controlled by my fears.

#### THEN I FOUND NEA.

When I walked into NEA, it was like a switch just flipped. Here I was understood. Here I was "normal". Here I found support and understanding. Here I found a second family.

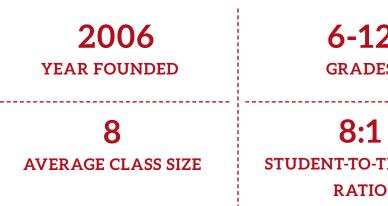
Some of the things I've seen and some of the changes that I've witnessed in myself, and others, are nothing short of extraordinary. I feel so fortunate to have met all these people and had all these experiences. I am proud of my school. And I find myself wanting to scream it from the rooftops. I want people to know just how special this place is....

### **KELSEY, VALEDICTORIAN,** NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY, CONNECTICUT COLLEGE



### NEA AT A GLANCE

New England Academy provides an academic experience that challenges students to their full potential, while engaging in a therapeutic environment that supports their social and emotional growth. Our students have the cognitive and academic skills to be successful, but social and emotional barriers stand in the way of that success. The heart of New England Academy's mission is to provide students with the skills and confidence they need to succeed in college and beyond.





### **ACCREDITATION**

Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

New England Association of Schools and Colleges

School Code: 220-129

New England Association of Schools and College

Schools

National Honor Society

6-12 GRADES \_\_\_\_\_ 8:1 STUDENT-TO-TEACHER

93 TOTAL STUDENT POPULATION \_\_\_\_\_

Female- 45% **Male- 55%** STUDENT RATIO



**STUDENTS ACCEPTED TO 4-YEAR COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES:** 



NATIONAL AFFILIATIONS

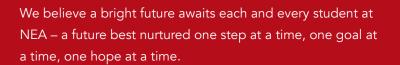
New England League of Middle

### NATIONAL COLLEGE **AFFILIATIONS**

Endicott College National Honor Society North Shore Community College

## **OUR STUDENTS**

NEA was founded on the core belief that every student can be successful and that every student should have the opportunity to live a happy, healthy and productive life. We believe that a school can offer an academically challenging and engaging curriculum within a nurturing environment in which each student's individual social and emotional needs are recognized and supported. Many students that are "falling through the cracks" of education today have the cognitive ability to be academically successful, yet lack the ability to access these skills and talents. Many times, students' social and emotional struggles stand in their way. At NEA, we help students learn how to overcome these barriers.





### **STUDENT LIFE**

As part of the daily coursework at NEA, we offer students a wide variety of enrichments. Enrichments are offered on a semester basis, allowing students the opportunity to take a variety of courses to stretch their interests, provide new experiences or pursue a passion. Students take some required enrichments as part of our curriculum; for instance, college planning and transitions classes, and we also offer enrichments such as: art, drama, cooking, student council, photography, music, film analysis, health, fitness, experiential learning, yearbook and model U.N.

#### ACADEMICS

The academic programs at NEA are designed to reflect our strength-based approach to instruction, where the needs of the whole child are addressed in the academic, social, and emotional realms. Through rigorous, grade level curriculum and high academic standards, our students are prepared to achieve their full academic potential.

Our students are enrolled in either college prep or honors level courses in core curriculum subject areas. Our 8:1 student/teacher ratio ensures that students receive small group and individualized instruction. Overall, the academic programs at NEA are designed to prepare students to excel in collegiate studies, and this is successfully reflected in our 100% college acceptance rate.

### **POST-SECONDARY PLANNING**

At the heart of New England Academy's mission is our desire to prepare students for college and life. Students and families receive support and assistance to complete every step of the college process from exploration to admission. Junior and Senior level students meet one-on-one with the Director of Guidance and participate in Post-Secondary Planning and transition courses which enables them to explore their interest areas and future areas of study or employment. Additionally, during their senior year, students have the opportunity to take a community college course for credit and participate in a community based internship prior to graduation.

### **ARTS AND MUSIC**

As part of the mission to engage the whole student, New England Academy's arts program integrates a variety of artistic media into the school day, both as a therapeutic tool and as a means of normalizing self-expression. Our visual art and music curriculum is an opportunity to uniquely engage the students in areas of strength and interest not always visible in the classroom.

The arts at NEA provide our students with an alternative form of social connection and a chance to share their accomplishments with their families and peers. In addition, the arts promote the development and strengthening of a spectrum of coping skills for when words fail to express the complexity of an experience.

#### ATHLETICS

The athletic program at New England Academy is built around teamwork, sportsmanship, and having fun. The students have an opportunity to build their athletic skills through instructional practices and competitive games, while at the same time strengthening their character. The commitment that the players and coaches have to one another and the NEA community parallels the team-oriented philosophy of the school and is what Knights athletics is all about.



NEA has been a life saver, and gave me hope when I had none. And I'm sure it's the same for many other kids. It's like a great community where I almost never feel judged by other people. It gives me a chance to rise to my full potential, and be myself. NEA has enabled me to be on the right track and I have hope to be successful because of this school.

TOMMY, STUDENT



### SUPPORT SERVICES

We believe that the school-based counseling support each student receives at NEA is critical to his or her academic success. To this end, each student is assigned a counselor who meets with them regularly, coordinates communication between teachers, families and other members of the student's support team, and works to ensure that the proper balance of support and challenge is being provided on a daily basis. Students have access to their counselors throughout the school day ensuring issues are dealt with in a timely and proactive manner. Once a student finds social and emotional confidence and safety, their academic skills, abilities and talents can truly flourish.



In addition to working towards success in academics and day-to-day life, counselors at NEA also support students in areas including, but not limited to, anxiety management,

executive functioning strategies, social skill development, self-advocacy peer issues, feelings of depression, test anxiety, study skill development, learning strategies and school-based concerns. When a student receives support commensurate with their needs, they are more readily able to reach their full potential, rising to meet challenges that may otherwise seem insurmountable.

When I was five I was diagnosed with selective mutism and social anxiety disorder. My anxious behavior got worse as I got older and by high school I stopped going. My parents found NEA and for many weeks we'd drive down and park outside and I'd have a panic attack about just going into the building, let alone attending class. I eventually went in and the longer I was at NEA the more I realized that everyone there was on my side. For the first time in my life, I was part of a community of people that supported me and wouldn't let me hide from the world anymore. Halfway through my sophomore year I signed up for an NEA Vocal Performance Group. I have always loved to sing, had never been able to ever perform. As a result of that leap of faith, something incredible happened. I was able to, quite literally, find my voice. Since then, I performed at Arts Night, at talent shows, and I even performed a Senior Solo in front of 250 audience members. The same timid, anxiety-ridden girl who was diagnosed with selective mutism at age five has been completely transformed with the support and guidance that comes from an institution run on miracles.

EILEEN, ALUMNI, CLASS OF 2012

### CAMPUS

The environment at New England Academy is both dynamic and tranquil. The school is in a brand-new, state-of-the-art, 40,000-square-foot facility. Our facility offers ample classroom space, a library, science labs, fitness center, dance, music and art studios, full size gymnasium with running track, soccer field, student lounge and courtyard — all specifically designed to meet the needs of our students.

### THE BUILDING AND CAMPUS FEATURES:

- Two story, 40,000 square foot, stancampus building
- Outdoor green spaces, including a courtyard
- Large classrooms, each equipped v
  edge technology
- Modern science labs with dedicated
  experimentation
- Contemporary library space



nd alone	٠	10,000 square foot gymnasium
	٠	Indoor running track
a student	•	Fitness Room/Yoga Studio
	•	Athletic field
with cutting	•	College Resource Center
	٠	Art studio
ed space for	•	Music/recording studio



# A World Of Possibilities Awaits You

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