

Congratulations, 2018 CELA Graduates!



**WE AT CELA ARE SO PROUD OF OUR 2018
8TH GRADE GRADUATES! EACH OF THEM WILL
CONTINUE TO LEAD AND EXCEL IN THEIR
FUTURE ENDEAVORS!**

Here are excerpts of graduation speeches that were presented on Thursday, June 7th by four of the graduates. You can learn more about CELA and read the full speeches at CELAedu.org!



What CELA Means to Me

By Tierney Ordway

As many of you know, CELA has the unique opportunity that not many other schools offer. Each middle schooler is paired with a younger student; this pairing is called Chapel Buddies. The Chapel Buddies attend chapel and Chapel Families together. Over the past three years, my chapel family has grown so close, and it is another bond that I value deep in my heart. I have created friendships across the grades that I could not have made without the opportunity. My chapel family leader has been such a mentor to me and has taught me so much about Jesus' word. Through chapel families, I am very fortunate to have mentors and the opportunity to be a mentor. These important lessons and skills that I have obtained through my chapel buddy and chapel family will help me and guide me later in my life. I am and will be forever grateful for CELA providing me with a family through Faith.

What CELA Means to Me

By Alexis Wangerin

I have learned a lot at CELA. I have changed a lot at CELA. I have become ME at CELA. Personally, I know I have become more confident at CELA. That comes from that leadership part of this school. When I first came to CELA in sixth grade, I considered myself only as a sports girl. I didn't think I was that smart, I didn't think I could dance, and I did NOT think I could sing. Then I did something I never thought I would do—I tried out for the musical, Peter Pan Jr. I wasn't too sure about my choice, but I followed through with it. I didn't have a lead role, but I had a line or two and sang two or three songs along with everyone else. But I changed. In sixth grade, if someone had told me that in eighth grade I would be an outgoing Pick-A-Little lady who sang solos, danced, and had more than two lines, I guarantee you that I would not have believed them. If I hadn't gone to CELA and had smaller classes and an amazing community of people around me, I might not have even thought about trying out for a musical, or chapel choir, or so many other opportunities I have had here.



What CELA Means to Me

By Caroline Daniels

At CELA, I was given so many opportunities to grow in my education. I can now say that I love to learn! There was not a class that I didn't enjoy. The staff here at CELA invest so much into the students and the students see this. I was inspired to continually strive for my best. We are encouraged to grow beyond the core academics. Before CELA, I would have considered myself a Christian and I knew all the well-known Bible verses. But I wouldn't say I had a personal relationship with Christ. Once I came to CELA, that all changed. Jesus became a priority, and He became my friend. In CVLD, we are taught how to live like Christians and how to be servants of God, sharing His word in all we do. The biggest change I have seen in myself since going to CELA is my confidence and my ability to lead. CELA has made me a leader - a leader that takes on challenges and is not afraid to be different and bring about change. CELA has been amazing and has placed me on the right path for the future ahead of me.

What CELA Means to Me

By Gloria Tornehl

CELA has pushed me to be the best student I could possibly be. By having small class sizes our teachers can adapt to every student's needs and help us to succeed. As I attended CELA for the past three years, my parents and I could see my academic grades excel. Before I came to CELA, I was a follower. I would do what everyone did, and I would not share my ideas or thoughts. CELA taught me that everyone has a voice, and you need to take action. I am now a strong, confident Christian leader. I not only learned how to be a leader, I learned how to be Christian leader and act how God would want His children to act. CELA has shaped me into the young leader I am today. As I graduate from 8th grade, I am going to take all of the lessons I have learned from CELA. I can take away a profound education, amazing qualities of a leader, and my newfound faith. I feel so prepared for high school and the years to come.