

Laiken Daub

Mrs. Little

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ELA

### What CELA means to me

Since the start of my experience at CELA, I feel like I have grown as a student, as a person, and as a Christian. When I first came to CELA in third grade, I felt overwhelmed and not prepared to start at a new school. The teachers and students here instantly made me feel welcome and inspired belief in myself along with the desire to pursue excellence. I am now confident not only with my academics, but in myself as well. CELA's three pillars are Christian values, academic excellence, and leadership. I feel that I now have a solid foundation and understanding of the pillars which has prepared me for high school and beyond.

Looking back at my time at CELA, I notice how much my faith in Jesus has changed. I have begun to understand and grasp what Christianity is truly about and started to grow an incredible relationship with Jesus. The CVLD classes taught Christian values as well as how to insert them into my life to become a better person and help others become better people. Because of CVLD class, I now feel ready to share the love of Jesus and bring what I've learned into all aspects of my life.

The academics at CELA are truly extraordinary. All the teachers were always willing to do anything to help me understand and grasp the concepts we were learning. They find ways to connect with every student and take time out of their own schedules to help if needed. They

always care for the wellbeing of their students and want what is best for them. Without them I wouldn't be where I am today. I absolutely feel academically prepared for the next step in my education.

Finally, I believe that CELA has boosted my confidence as a leader in many ways. CELA provided me with many opportunities to get out of my comfort zone and act as a leader. Through regular core classes and electives like public speaking and leadership, I have learned leadership skills to become the best person I can be. I was also given the opportunity to become an older chapel buddy to Grace Recht. This experience has helped me become a mentor to her and has brought me so much joy throughout the year. CELA also encourages students to try new things. The chance to play sports, to participate in musicals, and to join clubs was so enriching for me as a leader. I now find myself feeling more ready and confident to share my own opinions on subjects and lead inside and outside of the classroom.

In conclusion, I am so thankful for my time here at CELA. Thanks so much to all the teachers, administrators, and parents who have made CELA into such a special place. I know that I have grown so much as a student, as a person, and as a Christian and all I can do is be thankful to all the people who led me along the way. Thank you again!