Join Us in Tampa!

25th Annual NAEA National Conference
October 28-30, 2019

Registration is OPEN!!
Hotel: Tampa Marriott Waterside

Florida Alternative Educators Gather in Tampa

Florida Association of Alternative Educators (FAAE), gathered for a Professional Learning Day in Tampa, FL on February 8, 2019. They enjoyed a personal testimony from a former alternative student, currently an employee of Microsoft. After rousing round table discussions, the group came together to glean a deeper understanding about trauma, behavior, and strategies to best support those children and youth from guest speaker, Melvin Hayden, a trauma and behavior specialist. The group ended the day with their state meeting led by FAAE President, Dr. Chandra Tyson.
Bryan Gray and Adam Rich are administrators at the Alternative Learning Center (grades 6-12) for Hall County in Gainesville, Georgia. The learning center stresses daily social emotional lessons that are designed by teachers and support staff. Bulletin boards and classroom walls reflect the emphasis on social emotional learning. Bryan and Adam gave a tour of their facility to Sylvia Hooker, Georgia Association for Alternative Education, Board of Directors and Jacquelyn Whitt, Executive Director, National Alternative Education Association. A highlight of the visit was watching students enter the building at the beginning of the school day. Each youngster was greeted with a hearty handshake and a genuine smile by various members of the staff.

2019 Video Contest

“NAVIGATING THE FUTURE” - Tell the story of your alternative program in a 2-5 minute video or rap. This contest is open to middle and high school students who attend alternative education programs. Your video should communicate the message and mission of your program and relate it to the annual national NAEA conference theme “Navigating the Future”. Entries may express this theme in any genre or shooting style but must be submitted by link containing a YouTube URL.

THE PRIZES:
Winners will receive the following cash awards:
First Prize—$400.00  Second Prize—$300.00  Third Prize—$200.00

ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED by OCTOBER 12, 2019.
WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED at the NAEA conference.

Visit our website for more information!
We Want YOU!

NAEA Board Members are volunteers & dedicate a substantial amount of time & energy into supporting NAEA’s growth.

Applicants must reside in the regions they represent.

NAEA is seeking new NAEA Board Members from Regions 2, 4, & 8.

Check the NAEA Website for an Election Packet and application details or click below. Qualified applicants will be placed on the 2019 NAEA Election Ballot.

Five Key Steps to Building a Restorative Community
by Dr. Coby Davis & Alonzo Terrell

At Archer Learning Center, Springdale, Arkansas, we are working to build a restorative community. Since 2015, Archer has implemented restorative practices. This has had a direct impact on student discipline referrals and suspensions. Archer has approximately 200 students grades 10-12 and in the year prior to implementation, there were 500+ discipline referrals. During the first year of implementation, referrals were down by over 80%. These drastic changes align specifically to meeting and discussing behavior with students prior to traditional punitive consequences. Although in recent years the number of referrals has increased slightly, the number of alternative, restorative consequences makes up the majority of responses to student behaviors.

These changes took time and effort. Everyone in the building was involved and continue to be involved. We have employed restorative practices with new students and their families and it is part of our advisory curriculum for all students. Teachers at Archer are working to be restorative by using “circle” to participate in conversations about conflict, introducing students to our school and making decisions.
Get Involved with NAEA—

Submit Your Research

Your National Alternative Education Association has instituted an Annotated Bibliography of Alternative Education Research. I’ve submitted a few examples including Raywid’s seminal work on alternative education, “Job for the Future’s piece on ‘Reinventing Alternative Education’, and National Dropout Prevention’s meta-analysis, to get us started. [http://the-naea.org/
alternative-education-research/]

Your colleagues want your contributions! Submit works that you have found particularly useful using the simple template provided. NAEA members tend to most interested in the title and the What, How, Why of the work:

- **What** A description of the work and its findings
- **How** The methodology or some key terms like quantitative, qualitative, policy research
- **Why** The big picture – a rationale about why the work is important/valuable

NAEA looks forward to your submissions, so that alternative education research is accessible to NAEA members and all Alt Ed advocates. As you see, you will be recognized on a nationally available website for your contribution.

Get to know the NAEA Board!
President Pam Bruening

Dr. Pamela L. Bruening is the President and CEO of Progressive Bridges, Inc., an educational services company that empowers educators nationwide through cutting edge professional development, consulting, and curriculum research and product design. She is also the Founder and CEO of DeeperDive Learning, Inc., publisher of EdQuest, an innovative online professional development library for educators. Dr. Bruening has had extensive experience in consulting with more than 10 educational product companies nationwide to support cutting edge product development for effective vista analysis and intervention in K-12 classrooms, specifically in social-emotional learning (SEL). Formerly the Collier County, Florida’s Coordinator of Response to Intervention (RtI) and Positive Behavior Support (PBIS), Dr. Bruening oversaw the planning, implementation, data collection, and monitoring of one of the nation’s most accomplished and acclaimed RTI/MTSS programs.

Dr. Bruening holds a Doctorate of Education in Organizational Leadership and Human Resources Development and a Masters of Education degree in Reading. An educator for 30 years, Dr. Bruening is recognized as one of the nation’s preeminent experts in RtI/MTSS, PBIS, behavior initiatives, intervention, curriculum development, and alternative education. Dr. Bruening spent much of her education career in alternative schools, opening and leading a juvenile detention center and an expulsion program, as well as consulting to numerous juvenile justice programs and detention centers around the country. She has presented at many state, national, & international conferences over the past 8 years and teaches graduate level alternative education courses through New England College. While serving on the National Alternative Education Association Board of Directors, Dr. Bruening has supported the development of a growing Florida state organization and regularly promotes NAEA across the nation.
through her consulting opportunities. She also serves on boards of companies such as Continental, Inc. and Innovative Technologies in Print.

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Graduate Courses Available in Alternative Education at New England College

Get More Information Here

Florida Professional Learning Day took place in Tampa, FL on

Connect with Alternative Educators around the Globe!

Submit Articles

If you are interested in submitting an article for the NAEA newsletter please reach out to Justin DeMartin, Region 1 Director for more information. justin_demartin@yahoo.com