Ignite the Power of Learning
LETTER FROM PAT BRADLEY

Thank you for taking the time to explore Clayton-Bradley Academy. I want you to understand the unique opportunity students at CBA have to discover their talents, to wonder and think critically about their world, and to learn the process of working with other people in collaborative settings and in larger service to their community.

Clayton-Bradley Academy is a young school that opened in 2013 with the vision to truly reimagine education. As you walk through the CBA campus, what should you expect to see and hear? In our classrooms you will be greeted by student ambassadors, even in preschool. Because teacher instruction and student learning are based on the latest brain research, look for relational connections in everything we design and develop for students. Social and emotional learning is embedded in the culture of CBA.

Don’t expect to see any individual desks or students loaded down with textbooks at CBA. Teachers write their own curriculum, have autonomy to develop instruction, and plan collaboratively. Do expect to see students collaborating on problems and projects. Instructional rigor at CBA means students are challenged to solve problems at high levels and to apply their learning in new and different ways.

STEM is not just a buzzword at CBA. Science, technology, engineering, and math are deliberately embedded and integrated into the instructional culture. At all levels instructional content is integrated across subjects to help students understand the connections of their learning.

I am so excited to be able to share Clayton-Bradley Academy with you, and I hope that you will allow us the privilege to share the heart of CBA with you in person.

Sincerely,

PAT BRADLEY  Executive Director

Reimagining education

Clayton-Bradley Academy is an independent, STEM school in Maryville, TN. It was founded in 2013 by a group of parents and educators who were committed to designing a different kind of school. Since then, the school has grown from 77 to 300+ students. This growth continues with new upper school facilities.
Our Purpose

Mission

Clayton-Bradley Academy is dedicated to creating a student-centered, positive, and challenging environment where all students excel through:

- Critical thinking
- Problem-solving
- Collaboration
- LIFESKILLS and Lifelong Guidelines

Beliefs

Clayton-Bradley Academy is committed to the following:

- A clear and shared focus on student learning
- A rigorous and integrated curriculum
- High expectations for learning
- Effective school leadership
- Aligned instructional & assessment practices
- Focused professional development
- Safe and supportive learning environment
- Family involvement
- Respect for diversity

LIFESKILLS

- Caring
- Creativity
- Common Sense
- Cooperation
- Courage
- Curiosity
- Effort
- Flexibility
- Friendship
- Initiative
- Integrity
- Organization
- Patience
- Perseverance
- Pride
- Problem Solving
- Resourcefulness
- Responsibility
- Sense of Humor

Lifelong Guidelines

- Trustworthiness
- Truthfulness
- Active Listening
- No Put Downs
- Personal Best

Year-Round Calendar

Clayton-Bradley Academy follows a year-round educational calendar so that learning is continuous. Instructional blocks and vacations are distributed throughout the year in a “45–15” day calendar, in which students attend school for approximately nine weeks followed by three weeks of vacation. The longest break period is approximately five weeks during summer.
The CBA Difference

Instructional rigor at CBA means students are challenged to solve problems at high levels and to apply their learning in new and different ways.

PROJECT-BASED LEARNING

At Clayton–Bradley Academy, students integrate knowledge from all content areas in order to solve real-world problems. Projects are conceived from grade–level standards and built around an open-ended question that drives student investigations. Students are able to make choices about project topics and solutions and present their findings to others, building collaboration skills, critical thinking, creativity, and communication skills for future success.

STEM EDUCATION

STEM education is an interdisciplinary approach to learning that removes the traditional barriers separating the four disciplines of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics and integrates them into real-world, rigorous, and relevant learning experiences for students*. STEM education is driven by problem solving and discovery and places an emphasis on the process and design of solutions.

*Jo Anne Vasquez, et al. STEM Lesson Essentials

HIGHLY EFFECTIVE TEACHING

Clayton–Bradley Academy teachers are trained in the Highly Effective Teaching model, built on proven strategies and methods for teaching and learning. The five principles of Highly Effective Teaching design are:

1. Intelligence is a function of experience
2. Learning is an inseparable partnership of body and brain
3. Teachers understand that a child’s personality and temperament impact learning and performance
4. There are multiple intelligences to solve problems and produce products
5. Students are pattern seekers and program builders
Real World Impact

While freshmen in high school, these two students designed and built a 3D-printed prosthetic arm for their engineering course. Not only did the girls learn how to engineer a working prosthetic, they went an extra step to find a real-life recipient and size their prosthetic to fit her. In 2019, they traveled to Nashville to deliver the prosthetic to a six-year-old girl from Africa.

Fast Facts

- **STUDENTS**
  - Enrolled: 300+
  - Maximum class size: 20
  - Average student-teacher ratio: 8:1
  - Students on scholarship: 36%

- **CLUBS & CLINICS**
  - Vary by year and grade level. Include STEM Scouts, Kiwanis Kids, Chess, Art, Chorus, Theater, Gymnastics, Beekeepers, Outdoor Excursions, Dungeons and Dragons, and more.

- **TEAMS**
  - Speech & Debate, Cross Country, Flag Football, Volleyball, Tennis, Basketball, Cheerleading, and Soccer.
  - We continue to add new sports as student interest permits.

- **TECHNOLOGY**
  - 1:1 institution
  - iPad: Kindergarten – 5th grade
  - MacBook Air: 6th – 12th grade
  - Google Classroom integration
CREATIVE PROBLEM SOLVER

Rather than learning subjects in a vacuum, CBA students integrate content areas and look for ways to apply their knowledge, impacting their community and the larger world.

“One of the most memorable projects was the FLOW project freshman year where two friends and I helped redesign the sprinkler system to be more cost effective and water conserving. Our design was actually used to change many aspects of the new sprinklers put in at the high school campus.”

Jaimin Rasmussen, CBA Alum

ENGAGED CRITICAL THINKER

Rather than simply memorizing facts and performing on tests, CBA students dive deeper – owning their learning through discussion and projects and developing their unique passions and voice.

“My senior capstone project was writing a business plan and growing my YouTube consulting business. My biggest takeaway was being able to finish a business plan, pitch to investors, and go to YEA! Nationals!”

Hannah Rodríguez, CBA Alum
CONSCIENTIOUS CONTRIBUTOR

Rather than “surviving” school, CBA students thrive as they realize their importance in their school and become leaders who move their community forward.

THOUGHTFUL COLLABORATOR

Rather than focus only on themselves, CBA students collaborate with others to solve complex problems, developing essential social/emotional skills like negotiation, empathy, resilience, and creativity along the way.

“CBA offers a fearless, accepting and encouraging culture that is an amazing catalyst for individual and team based achievements.”

Amy Love, CBA Parent

LIFELONG LEARNER

Forbes argues that learnability is the single most important 21st-century skill students will need to succeed. “In an environment where new skills emerge as fast as others fade, success is less about what you already know and more about adapting your skills by growing and expanding your knowledge base, so you can use new information and skills to respond to whatever is happening.” CBA students become lifelong learners, gaining tools like adaptability and resourcefulness rather than content knowledge alone.

Natalie Peart, Contributor, Forbes Magazine
Family Gatherings

Students, faculty, staff, family, and friends gather together each Wednesday morning in the CBA Family Center to see various grade levels showcase their learning. These student-led programs can be video productions, skits, oral presentations, or other celebrations of learning. Family Gatherings not only build student confidence and presentation skills, but nurture our school community.

“Our child is coming home excited about learning and talking about new friends. He is more relaxed from being in a healthy environment where his individual strengths are recognized and encouraged...We are so pleased and grateful.”

CBA Parent
425 ALCOA TRAIL
MARYVILLE, TN 37804
865.494.1222

Learn more at:
CLAYTONBRADLEYACADEMY.ORG