



What is an NEP Lab School?

So, you've chosen CAAS. So did we! The National Educator Program (NEP) is an organization that works with teachers and principals on outstanding classroom practice. We also work with schools on redesign, implementation of career academies, and continual innovation. NEP was founded in 1997 and since that time we have worked with educators from forty-three states and six nations. It was decided in 2007 that NEP would establish a relationship with one school to be our first - and only Lab School.

Our Lab School would accomplish three purposes: 1) It would be a place where NEP professionals would be embedded in classroom planning and instruction so we could conduct cutting-edge research and use the site as a model to other educators. 2) The Lab School would serve as the hub of a national network of schools, called the NEPwork, to exchange information and ideas on ways to maximize student achievement and teacher performance. 3) The Lab School would also serve as a showplace of outstanding student work, a hub for the student portion of the NEPwork exchange, and Lab School students would serve as hosts/hostesses at the NEP's annual national conference.

NEP has worked very hard since 1997 to establish a reputation of innovation, quality, and dependability. It was difficult to find a school that we believed had the leadership, quality of staff, and environment that would live up to NEP's reputation and demands of quality. I'm pleased to tell you the Cultural Academy for the Arts & Sciences lives up to these expectations and more. They have accepted our invitation to be NEP's flagship school and showcase of excellence.

What does this mean to you? Your student will benefit from collaboration of educators throughout the United States. Your child will also have unique opportunities for leadership and academic excellence that are not available at any other school in the country! Congratulations on your child's enrollment in CAAS.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Thompson, Director
National Educator Program