

# From the community: From “F’s” to “A’s” Special Ed Students Excel, Head Back to Home School Districts Next Year

A full class of elementary students at Aurora C.O.R.E. Academy, a special education school, have reached the highest possible level of academic and behavior development. (Posted by David Ormsby, Community Contributor)

## **Community Contributor David Ormsby**

(Aurora, IL) -- For the first time in 40-years, an entire elementary classroom of 10-special education children at Aurora C.O.R.E. Academy has reached the highest possible level of academic and behavior development, and many will reintegrate back to their home schools next year.

"At this year's Aurora C.O.R.E. Academy graduation, we have a full classroom of children who have reached academically and behaviorally our highest level of achievement, Level 5. This is no small feat," said Elizabeth Conran, president and C.E.O of The Menta Group, which operates Aurora C.O.R.E. Academy. "In the 40-year history of any our special education programs, we have never had an entire class achieve our gold-standard of accomplishment, Level 5, at once, and this means many will be able to return to their home schools next year."

The students were recognized at Aurora C.O.R.E. Academy's graduation ceremony on June 12 with each receiving their own laptop (Chromebook) as a reward for their success.

Conran noted that since December 2018 the children, whose grades went from "F's" to "A's and B's since entering Aurora C.O.R.E. Academy, had purposely planned and worked together to achieve the Level 5 growth.

"At the end of last year, the kids committed to themselves to act as a team to achieve Level 5 academic and behavior growth as a class," said Conran. "And they got it done."

Aurora C.O.R.E. Academy's 240 students, who have a range of emotional, behavioral, and academic challenges, come from nearby school districts in Kane and DuPage counties to achieve "social learning growth" and reboot their report cards, says Conran.

"We maintain high expectations for our students who come from multiple districts in Kane and DuPage counties, in terms of both academic and social-learning growth, countering the prevailing prejudices commonly found in the education of children with disabilities," said Conran. "Our educational program aims to meet both the developmental and individual learning needs of each student, and we never give up on them."

davidormsby@davidormsby.com

*This item was posted by a community contributor. To read more about community contributors, [click here](#).*