



## **William K. Eaton School Fact Sheet**

**WHAT:** A North Central Association accredited, self-contained school providing regular junior high and high school classes with special education programs for emotionally-disabled and learning-disabled students in A New Leaf Residential Treatment Centers including Dorothy Mitchell Residence, Helaman House and Larry Simmons Residence.

**WHO:** Provides education to our residential youth, ages 11-18. Eaton also offers alternative schooling to students in public schools.

**WHERE:** 960 N. Stapley  
Mesa, AZ 85203

**WHEN:** During the 1991-92 school year, A New Leaf's educational program began the steps necessary to create a fully-accredited centralized school to provide regular education services as well as special education. In April, 1993, A New Leaf received full accreditation from the North Central Association. The William K. Eaton School was opened for the 1993-94 school year, and is named after founding board member Bill Eaton.

**WHY:** To help students overcome challenges by creating a positive educational experience while maintaining a link to the overall treatment milieu.

**CONTACT:**  
(480) 461-4200

**A New Leaf: Helping Families... Changing Lives through Domestic Violence, Homeless, Community and Youth Programs.**

Employment Opportunities: Human Resources (480) 464-7466, apply online.

Call (480) 969-4024 for reasonable accommodation on information, services and employment.

Hearing impaired call TDD (800) 367-8939.

[www.turnanewleaf.org](http://www.turnanewleaf.org)

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **1. Is it a charter or associated with Mesa Public Schools?**

Eaton School is a private school that is approved by the Dept. of Education. It is within the Mesa Public Schools boundaries, but is not a part of their district.

### **2. What is the curriculum like?**

The curriculum includes the required classes of English, Science, Social Studies, Math, and PE for students from 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. We also offer a limited number of electives. The entire curriculum includes the Arizona Standards.

### **3. What about the teachers? Are they certified?**

All the teachers are certified in the subject area that they are teaching and also have special education certification.

### **4. Can my child earn high school credits there? How does that work?**

We are North Centrally accredited, which means that our credits are recognized. The school has a block schedule. Students are enrolled in 2 classes that last for 1 hour and 50 minutes each day for 35 days. One full credit is earned at the end of the block for these two classes if the student earns a passing grade. They also have a 50-minute class, in which they read and do some refresher math. They must complete the entire semester before earning a half credit for this class. During the course of the regular school year a student can earn 6 credits. He/she also has the opportunity to earn another credit during our summer session.

### **5. Can my child graduate from Eaton?**

Each year, we have a dozen or so students promoted from the 8<sup>th</sup> grade to high school. We require 20 credits to graduate and over the years have had a number of students complete their high school requirements and graduate from high school from our school.

### **6. How does the school get all my students past records?**

At intake, a request for records is signed by the parent/guardian. That is faxed to all the schools that the student reports having attended. Most of the schools are relatively quick in getting us records.

### **7. What if my child has been expelled from many schools, do you get all of his/her past records?**

Because we have the signed requests, schools are willing to provide us with information.

### **8. My child has struggled in school. How does he/she get accepted into your school? Can he/she get kicked out of your school?**

All the students who don't have their GED are accepted into the school. It is part of their overall treatment. The school works closely with the residences. If a student refuses to comply after many different attempts, that could be grounds for the students to be terminated from the program. We make every attempt to work with their individual needs.

### **9. My child has always had trouble in school, how do you address behavior issues?**

The teachers set clear expectations and follow through with those. How they behave at school is tied into the phase and rewards at the residence.

### **10. How does the evaluation process work when my child enters the program?**

The principal works directly with your child's home school. The home school is responsible for doing an evaluation or reviewing a current evaluation and making a determination as to whether the child qualifies for special education services or not. If the child does qualify, an IEP(Individual Education Plan) is developed to address the child's specific needs. If the child has a current IEP, then that is reviewed and revised if needed.

### **11. What is an IEP?**

An IEP is a plan that is good for one year that addresses the child's strengths and needs. It includes academic and transition goals tailored to the child's specific needs. It states what accommodations are needed in class and on testing and what level of services the child needs. The document is signed by all parties and then carried out by the teachers at the school. Progress toward the mastery of these goals is reported every seven weeks when report cards come out.

### **12. Who will contact me regarding my student's grades and school behavior?**

Report cards are sent home every 7 weeks. Behavior is addressed in the comment area. School behavior is also summarized each month at your child's staffing. If your child is involved in an incident at school, the school personnel will notify you directly. If you have questions, you are more than welcome to call the school and we will let you know how your student is doing.