



Bruce W. Thomas, SMA '74

Bruce Thomas entered Staunton Military Academy (SMA) in the fall of 1970 from Cleveland, OH, and graduated in 1974 as Captain, B Company and President of the Senior Class.

After graduating from SMA, Bruce earned both a B.S. Degree in Education in 1978 and an M.A. Degree in Counseling in 1980 at Bowling Green State University (Ohio). In 1993 he received his Ed.D. in Early and Middle Childhood Education from Nova Southeastern University (Florida). He did Post-Doctoral Study from 2002 - 2007 at Cleveland State University (Ohio), Kent State University (Ohio) and Harvard University (Massachusetts).

Dr. Thomas has 33 years of K-12 school experience and 10 years of teaching experience at the college/university level. Over the span of those 43 years, with some overlap, Dr. Thomas has served as a teacher, school counselor, building principal, and school superintendent. He has lectured across the country in the areas of school leadership, academic improvement, keeping alternative learners in school, and student success. He has published numerous professional journal articles centered on changing the current paradigm in education to focus more closely on meeting the needs of both high and low achieving students.

Dr. Thomas has been a Senior Lecturer at the University of Akron (Ohio), College of Education/Curricular-Instructional Studies and Counseling Department, since the spring of 2008. He is continuing in that capacity while serving as Superintendent of Albert Einstein Academy in Westlake, OH, a position he accepted in 2013. Prior to teaching at the University of Akron he served as a visiting assistant professor at Cleveland State University.

Dr. Thomas has the following Certification/Licensure in Ohio: School Superintendent, all levels; Administrative License, Grades 4-9 and 7-12; School Counselor, k-12; Teacher Certification, Education k-12; and Career-Based Intervention (CBI) License, all levels. He also has National Board Certification as a Chemical Dependency Counselor.

Bruce is married to Kristen (Elliott) Thomas and is the proud parent of a blended family of 6 children

eal.as.org/who and Bruce W. Thomas, Ed.D. Curriculum Vitae.
Edits by Kelly McGavock, SMA '59

Addendum: Following are some of the comments made by students of Dr. Thomas at the University of Akron on www.ratemyprofessors.com/ShowRatings.jsp?tid=1426461 :

“I just finished his class. The class had 37 students and he knew everyone's name by the 2nd class meeting. He engaged us in learning and everything we talked about was presented in a way that was meant to help us apply that knowledge. I am glad I took a class from Dr. Thomas and will attempt to find another class next semester to take from him.”

“This is a first for me in 3 years at the University of Akron.....not wanting a class to end. I am waiting to see what Dr. Thomas is teaching next semester before I complete my registration....another first!”

“A professor who cares about his students. His class is really good. He is always available for extra help. He is fair. I am enjoying his class.”

“He is very clear and helpful. He is understanding of situations and is really concerned that you understand the material. I really enjoy his excitement about the topics he teaches.”