



MINNESOTA
COMMUNITY EDUCATION
ASSOCIATION

Presentation Slides



Presenters



Cory Franson
Community Education Director
Elk River Schools



Matt Dickhausen
Executive Director
MN Community Education
Association

Objective

- Understand the history and role of MN community education
- Understand the role of community education in supporting all Minnesotans
- Current Challenges
- Current Opportunities

What is MN Community Education?

124D.18 Purpose of Community Education Programs

The purpose of sections [124D.18](#) and [124D.19](#) is to make maximum use of the public schools of Minnesota by the community and to expand utilization by the school of the human resources of the community, by establishing a community education program.

124D.19 COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROGRAMS; ADVISORY COUNCIL.

Subdivision 1.Authorization.

Each school board may initiate a community education program in its district and provide for the general supervision of the program. Each board may, as it considers appropriate, employ community education staff to further the purposes of the community education program.

History of Community Education

- The formal movement of Community Education started in the 1950's in Flint, Michigan. The legend of Frank Manley, a teacher in the Flint, Michigan schools who convinced philanthropist Charles Stewart Mott to create an after-school program in the local school has been retold hundreds of times. Manley saw the untapped potential in the school buildings which were left unused after 4PM during the school year and closed down in the summer. His dream was to improve the neighborhoods by making the local schools a focal point for health, recreation and adult education classes.
- Michigan was the first of 18 states over the next 10 years to pass community education legislation.



History of Community Education in MN

- 1968 Mpls Schools establish the first Community Educational Services Department.
- 1969 Governor Harold LeVander organizes a groundbreaking Conference on Lighted Schools.
- 1971 Minnesota was the 4th state to pass legislation with sixteen school districts approving Community School programs: **Alexandria, Anoka, Buffalo, Fairmont, Glenwood, Hastings, Mahtomedi, Marshall, Minneapolis, Montevideo, Mounds View, Osseo, Pipestone, St. Louis Park, Waseca, and White Bear Lake**
- Senator Jerome Hughes, Maplewood, was responsible for authoring the bill that brought funding to Community Education.
- **1972 MCEA is formed**
Every public school district in Minnesota levies for Community Education funding.
- **Our mission: to serve as a catalyst in communities, to work in partnership, to create stepping stones.**



MN Community Education

- Community Education serves all the 325 districts in Minnesota.
- Each district has created a system that recognizes each community member as both a learner in the system and a resource to it.
- Community Education is a catalyst serving communities to work in partnership to create stepping stones.



Funding Requirement for Comm Ed

A school district can have a community education program if they have:

- A licensed director (not required of districts with a population of 6,000 or less)
 - A Licensed Community Education Director is a district-level administrator, holding a license comparable to that of principals and superintendents.
- A representative advisory council that meets **at least 4 times a year**

Additionally:

- A policy to reduce and eliminate program duplication within the district must be adopted
- Districts must annually report information on each community education program that receives aid or levy

*** All funding in Community Education is managed in the Community Service Fund (04) and cannot be used for General Fund (01) expenditures and needs to be directly managed by the licensed community education director.**

MN Community Ed - Key Funding Sources

General community education revenue for a district equals \$5.42 for fiscal year 2007 through fiscal year 2024 and **\$6.35 for fiscal year 2025** and later, times the greater of 1,335 or the population of the district.



Youth service revenue. Youth service program revenue is available to a district that has implemented a youth development plan and a youth service program. Youth service revenue equals \$1 times the greater of 1,335 or the population of the district.

MN Community Ed - Key Funding Sources

Participant Fees

Community Education serves as the entrepreneurial branch of the school district, with most programs relying heavily on participant fees for the majority of their funding. For instance, Osseo Area Schools generate nearly 70% of their funding through user fees alone. This is pretty typical across the state.

MN Community Ed - Key Funding Sources

Youth after-school enrichment revenue. In fiscal year **2003 and thereafter**, youth after-school enrichment revenue for a district operating a youth after-school enrichment program under section [124D.19, subdivision 12](#), equals:

- (1) \$1.85 times the greater of 1,335 or the population of the district, as defined in section [275.14](#), not to exceed 10,000; and
- (2) \$0.43 times the population of the district, as defined in section [275.14](#), in excess of 10,000. Youth after-school enrichment revenue must be reserved for youth after-school enrichment programs.

Subd. 7. Community education aid. A district's community education aid is the difference between its community education revenue and the community education levy. If the district does not levy the entire amount permitted, the community education aid must be reduced in proportion to the actual amount levied.

MN Community Ed - Key Funding Sources

124D.135 EARLY CHILDHOOD FAMILY EDUCATION (ECFE) REVENUE.

Link: <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/124D.135>

Subdivision 1. **Revenue.** The revenue for early childhood family education programs for a school district equals \$120 for fiscal year 2014 and the formula allowance for the year times 0.023 for fiscal year 2015 and later, times the greater of:

(1) 150; or

(2) the number of people under five years of age residing in the district on October 1 of the previous school year.

Subd. 6a. **Home visiting levy.** To obtain home visiting revenue, a district may levy an amount not more than the product of its home visiting revenue for the fiscal year times the lesser of one or the ratio of its adjusted net tax capacity per adjusted pupil unit to the home visiting equalizing factor. The home visiting equalizing factor equals \$17,250 for fiscal year 2018 and later.

Subd. 6b. **Home visiting aid.** A district's home visiting aid equals its home visiting revenue minus its home visiting levy times the ratio of the actual amount levied to the permitted levy.

MN Community Ed - Key Funding Sources

124D.16 SCHOOL READINESS AID.

Link: <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/124D.16>

Subdivision 1. [Repealed, [1Sp2005 c 5 art 7 s 21](#)]

Subd. 2. **Amount of aid.** (a) A district is eligible to receive school readiness aid for eligible prekindergarten pupils enrolled in a school readiness program under section [124D.15](#) if the biennial plan required by section [124D.15, subdivision 3a](#), has been approved by the commissioner.

(b) A district must receive school readiness aid equal to:

(1) the number of four-year-old children in the district on October 1 for the previous school year times the ratio of 50 percent of the total school readiness aid for that year to the total number of four-year-old children reported to the commissioner for the previous school year; plus

(2) the number of pupils enrolled in the school district from families eligible for the free or reduced-price meals program for the previous school year times the ratio of 50 percent of the total school readiness aid for that year to the total number of pupils in the state from families eligible for the free or reduced-price meals program for the previous school year.

(c) The total school readiness aid entitlement equals \$23,558,000 for fiscal year 2016 and \$33,683,000 for fiscal year 2017 and later.

MN Community Ed - Key Funding Sources

124D.22 SCHOOL-AGE CARE REVENUE.

Subdivision 1. **Eligibility.** A district that offers a school-age care program according to section [124D.19 subdivision 11](#), is eligible for school-age care revenue for the additional costs of providing services to children with disabilities or to children experiencing family or related problems of a temporary nature who participate in the school-age care program.

Subd. 2. **School-age care revenue.** The school-age care revenue for an eligible district equals the approved additional cost of providing services to children with disabilities or children experiencing family or related problems of a temporary nature who participate in the school-age care program.

Subd. 3. **School-age care levy.** To obtain school-age care revenue, a school district may levy an amount equal to the district's school-age care revenue as defined in subdivision 2 multiplied by the lesser of one, or the ratio of the quotient derived by dividing the adjusted net tax capacity of the district for the year before the year the levy is certified by the resident pupil units in the district for the school year to which the levy is attributable, to \$2,318.

Subd. 4. **School-age care aid.** A district's school-age care aid is the difference between its school-age care revenue and its school-age care levy. If a district does not levy the entire amount permitted, school-age care aid must be reduced in proportion to the actual amount levied.

MN Community Ed - Key Funding Sources

124D.56 COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROGRAM REVENUE; ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES.

Subdivision 1. **Revenue amount.** A district that is eligible according to section [124D.20, subdivision 2](#), may receive revenue for a program for adults with disabilities. Revenue for the program for adults with disabilities for a district equals the lesser of:

(1) the actual expenditures for approved programs and budgets; or

(2) the greater of (i) \$0.34 times the population of the school district as determined according to section [275.14](#), or (ii) the district's adults with disabilities revenue for **fiscal year 2023**. If the district does not levy the entire amount permitted, the district's adults with disabilities aid is reduced in proportion to the actual amount levied.



MN Community Ed - Key Funding Sources

Adult Basic Education

1. State Funding

State Aid for ABE: Minnesota allocates funds specifically for ABE programs through a formula based on several factors, including enrollment and contact hours. Contact hours refer to the time students spend engaged in instruction or learning activities.

Supplemental Aid: Additional funds are provided for specific needs, such as serving students with low literacy levels or delivering instruction in rural or underserved areas.

2. Federal Funding

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), Title II: Federal grants are distributed to states to support adult education and literacy programs. Minnesota's ABE programs receive funds from this act to help adults gain the skills necessary for employment and self-sufficiency.

Other Federal Grants: Occasionally, Minnesota ABE programs may access other federal funding streams, such as grants for integrating technology or supporting English Language Learners (ELL).

3. Local Contributions

School Districts and Consortia: Many ABE programs are operated by school districts or consortia (collaborations of multiple districts), which may contribute local funds to support operations.

Partnerships: Local businesses, workforce development agencies, and community organizations may provide financial or in-kind support, such as facilities or materials.

4. Program Revenue

Student Fees: Although ABE is typically free for most learners, some programs may charge nominal fees for specific services, such as certification testing.

Grants and Donations: Programs may apply for additional grants or receive donations from private organizations, foundations, or individuals.



What does Community Education Look Like in Your District?

Traditional Community Education Programs include:

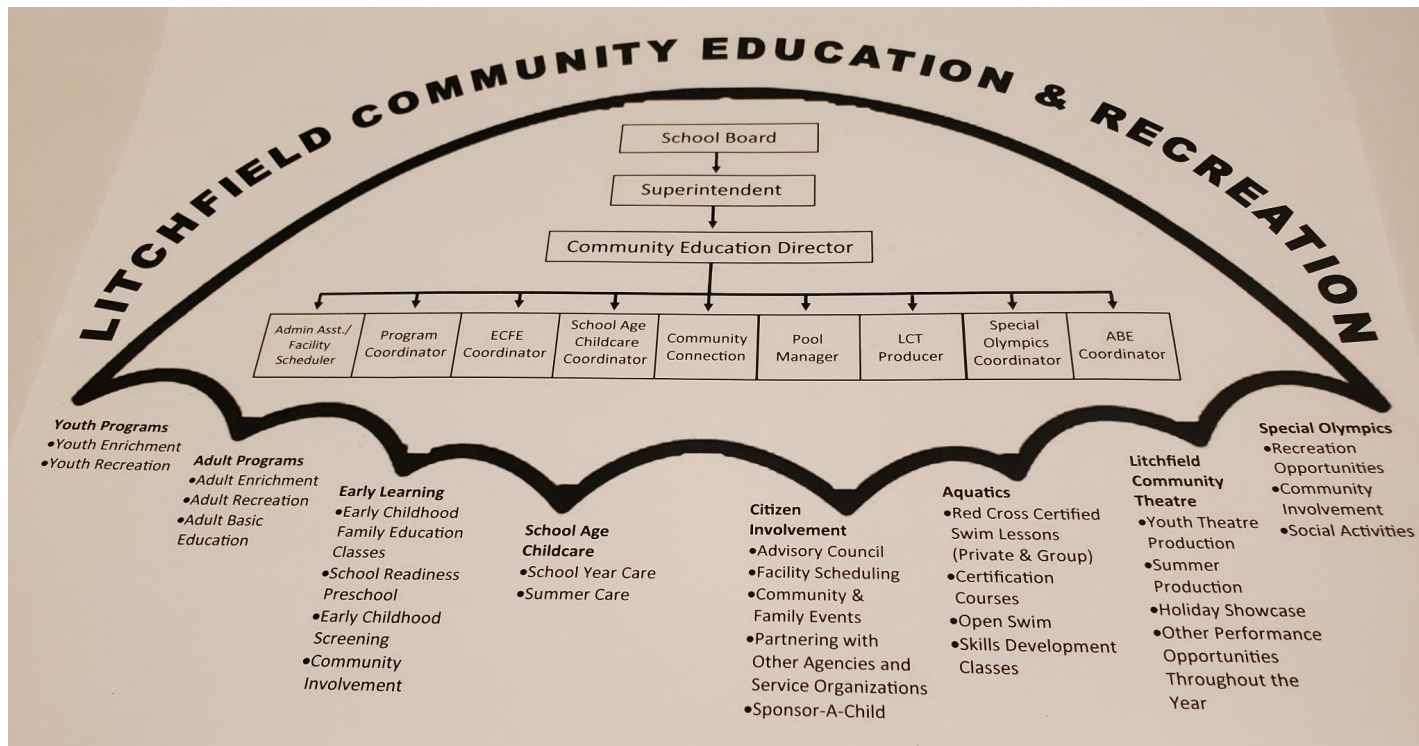
- Adult Basic Education
- Adult Enrichment / Senior Adult Programming
- Early Childhood Family Education
- Adults with Disabilities Programming
- Preschool / School Readiness / Voluntary Pre-K
- Early Education Screening
- School Age Care
- Youth Enrichment & Service

In some districts, other programs may also be under Community Education, including:

- Aquatics / Swim Lessons
- Community Center Operations
- Community Use of Facilities
- District Communications
- Drivers Education & Behind the Wheel Training
- Recreation (Youth - Adult)
- Targeted Services
- District Volunteer Coordination
- Middle School Sports
- Community Theater
- School Clubs
- And many more!



What does Community Education Look Like in Your District?



Community Education Starts with an effective Advisory Council

Subd. 2. Advisory council.

Each board must provide for an advisory council to consist of members who represent: ***various service organizations; churches; public and nonpublic schools; local government including elected officials; public and private nonprofit agencies serving youth and families; parents; youth; park, recreation or forestry services of municipal or local government*** units located in whole or in part within the boundaries of the school district; ***and any other groups participating in the community education program in the school district.***

Challenges

- Current bill proposals to allow fund transfer flexibility out of fund 4.
- School Readiness Licensure Requirements 2028 - Fiscal Implications (**Current 2017 Funding Levels**)
- Unemployment Insurance - Summer staffing & anticipated expense chargebacks to Community Education Programs.

Opportunities

2025 MCEA Legislative Priorities

1

Appropriately fund Early Childhood Preschool Programming to meet the diverse needs of Minnesota families and the delivery costs of a district's defined model.

- **Increase School Readiness funding** to accommodate the increased costs of offering school readiness programming due to the 2028 Teacher License requirement.
- Enable districts to use Voluntary Prekindergarten Funds (VPK) to support the service models tailored to their community's unique needs.

2

Expand the School Age Care Levy, which supports students with disabilities or who are experiencing temporary family or related problems, to **include three and four-year-old students** enrolled in the district. This change would provide needed funding to cover the additional costs of serving these children

3

Increase the Youth After-School Enrichment Levy to accommodate the increased costs of programming that have been rising since the funding was established in 2003.

4

Establish an ongoing funding stream for unemployment insurance and the impact on Community Education programs.



Opportunities



IMPACT

Jump starting children's educational journey.

For many children, preschool is the first time they have a chance to interact with other adults and children outside of their families. Anoka-Hennepin Schools provides preschool programming at Riverview Early Childhood Center in Brooklyn Park, whose mission is to build a foundation for success and provide the students with the skills they need to begin kindergarten. The preschool's high-quality early education is making a huge difference for our youngest learners.



PARTNERSHIP

Bridging the educational gap.

Shakopee Community Education has partnered with Mi CASA, which works to bridge educational gaps facing the local Latino population. This unique summer program is available to children and their families at little or no cost, providing arts, STEM and physical education programming as well as amazing connections among participants.



BELONGING

Offering support to reach one's full potential.

Breanna left high school in 10th grade and began working full-time. At 21, she joined Brainerd Adult Basic Education (ABE) to pursue her GED. While balancing work and living independently, she completed 105 hours of study in just three months and earned her GED. Bree then became an ABE volunteer and now serves as the part-time intake and assessment assistant, exemplifying the transformative impact of our programs through her dedication and resilience.

Fostering Community Connection

January to May 2025

Osseo Area Schools
Community Ed
Early Childhood & Family Education

Early Childhood & Family Education

Classes for families with children from birth to age five.



Everyone is WELCOME

Registration opens Nov. 25;
lottery held Dec. 18

Register online at
bit.ly/ECFE_Osseo or
call us at 763-391-8777.



En Español, Lus Hmoob, Bảng Tiếng Việt, Русский: 855-938-0586

Osseo Area Schools Early Childhood & Family Education Department started offering EC&FE Community Visits and EC&FE classes for Spanish Speaking Families. One parent described this opportunity in the following ways: "ECFE has impacted my family a lot. With my baby, Ariella, it was hard to separate (from mom), this program is helping in that process. She can share time with kids the same age and play together and play with toys together. Now she is happy and likes to explore. The teachers ask questions and when I have questions I ask and they always have answers. For example, I would like to start potty training, and they have good answers and ideas for that. I also enjoy hearing questions from other moms in the class and getting ideas from them."

Having opportunities to create new classes around language and identify have expanded our reach into our community to better serve families and allow them to engage with our school district at an early stage of their child's development!

Improving Graduation Rates

Meeting District Goals



**Roseville Area Schools
Community Education**

Under the leadership of Tad Hagen, Eric Thornton, Laura Freer and Cyndi Arneson, **Roseville Area Schools is committed to delivering competency-based learning that creates opportunities for our students to get back on track to graduation.** In the past, much of the district credit recovery efforts happened during the summer, but in recent years, **we have expanded the program with more opportunities for students to recover credits during the school year.** We offer a new embedded recovery course that allows students to recover credits during the school day, a daily after-school recovery session led by licensed content teachers and summer academy sessions, where we traditionally serve approximately 500 students. Our year-long commitment to credit recovery resulted in Roseville students recovering 627 credits during the 2023-24 school year. We look forward to continually offering our students opportunities to recover credits in Roseville Area Schools.



MINNESOTA
COMMUNITY EDUCATION
ASSOCIATION

Finding Qualified Candidates

Meeting District Goals



In partnership with the MN Department of Education, Shakopee Public Schools was awarded an **Early Childhood Grow Your Own Grant** in the spring of 2024, enabling scholarships for eligible adults committed to becoming **licensed Early Childhood teachers** in our district. Since then, we have **awarded grants to three adults in the fall of 2024**, including **two pursuing Early Childhood Special Education and one in Early Childhood Education**. In the winter of 2024, we awarded another grant to a **Special Education Para, who will begin her Early Childhood Special Education degree program in January 2025**, and another Para will start the same program in the summer of 2025. All recipients are dedicated to working in Early Childhood at Shakopee Public Schools while completing their degrees and plan to remain with us afterwards. **We are deeply grateful for this grant and the opportunities it provides for our staff to advance their education, opportunities they would not have without this support.**



Addressing Student Achievement

Meeting District Goals



Community Kids Preschool, a program of Winona Area Public Schools Community Education, **delivers high-quality, inclusive early childhood education to children ages 3-5.**

Led by licensed **Early Childhood and Special Education Teachers**, the program serves a diverse population, including children receiving Special Education services, English Learners (EL), and a **Free and Reduced percentage exceeding that of the district's elementary schools.**

The results speak for themselves: children from **Community Kids Preschool consistently enter Kindergarten with Fastbridge early reading scores 15-20% higher than children from other community settings.** These outcomes include **all students served**, reflecting the program's commitment to **excellence and equity for every child.**



MINNESOTA
COMMUNITY EDUCATION
ASSOCIATION

Fostering Student Engagement

Meeting District Goals



The Paynesville Innovation Center: Transforming Education through Creativity and Collaboration

The Paynesville Innovation Center is a testament to how community collaboration can revolutionize education. **Led by the Paynesville Community Education Department**, this project **transformed an underutilized media center into a thriving hub for student engagement**. The center encourages students to shift from consuming information to creating innovative solutions.

Through partnerships with local businesses and the community foundation, the center was equipped with cutting-edge tools and technologies. These collaborations ensured the Innovation Center became a space for hands-on learning and skill development.

Since its establishment, the center has empowered students to engage actively in their education, fostering creativity and lifelong skills through resources like **3D printing, robotics, digital design labs, laser engraving, screen printing, a virtual paint booth, CNC milling, and a video production lab**. It prepares students for the future by inspiring innovation and equipping them with essential tools for success.



MINNESOTA
COMMUNITY EDUCATION
ASSOCIATION

Fostering Student Engagement

Meeting District Goals



Meeting Changing Community Needs



Central MN Adult Basic Education is a consortium that covers 31 school districts across Central MN and has 19 active sites. Part of our mission states that we respect students, believe in their abilities, meet changing community needs, and provide a relevant instructional program. **In 2023-2034 we served 1,915 students and generated nearly 100,000 contact hours. Additionally, in the '23-'24 reporting year, we awarded 40 High School Equivalencies (GEDs, Adult Diploma, or Credit Recovery Diplomas).** We are currently growing at a rate of 20% compared to last year, largely due to an increase in immigrants and refugees, even in our smallest communities and in response we are adding classes. *We always strive to be a leader in our programming, including hosting statewide online transitions classes, like Health Care Common Core, or partnering with local businesses to offer career pathway classes to ready our learners for meaningful work.*



The TriDistrict Community Education Program

Partnerships



TriDistrict Community Education collaborates in Adult Enrichment, Adult Basic Education, and marketing general CE programs, while each district independently manages Early Learning and Youth programs due to their connection to elementary schools. This collaboration fosters idea-sharing and mutual support, significantly benefiting adult enrichment programs. A shared registration system simplifies access for community members, coordinates class schedules to prevent overlap, and boosts overall registrations, with 50-75% of participants coming from outside individual district boundaries—registrations that likely wouldn't occur without this partnership.



MINNESOTA
COMMUNITY EDUCATION
ASSOCIATION

Proctor & Hermantown Community Education

Partnerships

Learning for Life Together

The Proctor & Hermantown Community Education collaboration was established in 1993, and it continues to be a vital presence between the two communities and school districts. Its one-of-a-kind model in the State of Minnesota has seen tremendous growth, more than doubling its annual program offerings and budget since its inception. The collaboration is particularly strong in the areas of early learning, youth enrichment and development, and adult enrichment, allowing us to boost and strengthen learning for all members of our communities and their commitment to becoming lifelong learners.



Bemidji - PreK Collaborative Classroom - with BiCap Head Start



Partnerships

The collaboration has provided services to high risk children and families in our community by offering comprehensive services to all VPK children in the classrooms. Access to Mental health services, health, nutrition, enhanced curriculum and assessment tools with training and support, family support and professional training for teachers.

Bemidji - Partnerships with BECC - Bemidji Early Childhood Collaborative

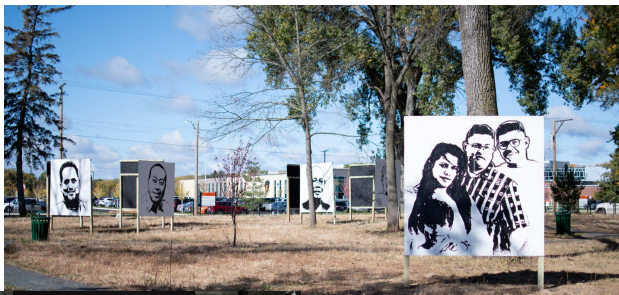


Partnerships

Bemidji Community Ed is a member of BECC and serves on their committees to provide early learning events for children birth to 5yrs and their families. They partner with BECC for the Week of the Young Child activities each year, MAP (movement and play) safe play events for families each week, and the Tiny Tots Wellness Fair which has over 500 participants.

Connecting Communities

Many Faces of the White Bear Lake Area



Community Partnerships

The Many Faces of the White Bear Lake Area is a community collaborative that consists of over 30+ organizations that work collectively to build community by connecting many stories of our area through events that invite personal reflection, a broadened understanding of community, and neighborly interactions.

We explore community connection through workshops, classes, art exhibits & demonstrations, book club discussions, community conversations, and interactive experiences.



MINNESOTA
COMMUNITY EDUCATION
ASSOCIATION



First Person Plural

Artist: Cadex Herrera

Murals painted to share & explore stories and contributions of immigrants from around world residing in the White Bear Lake area.

Questions?



Presentation Slides

