



MIDDLETOWN ADULT EDUCATION

District Highlights

A Five-Year Progress Update for the Middletown Board of Education

Board of Education Meeting · Tuesday, September 8, 2026



MIDDLETOWN ADULT EDUCATION

Welcome to
MIDDLETOWN ADULT
EDUCATION

TODAY IS YOUR DAY
MIDDLETOWN IS WAITING
SO GET ON YOUR WAY

← PLEASE USE BUZZER
TO ENTER THE BUILDING

DOOR 1

PLEASE
SA
NT



WHO WE ARE

Lifelong Learning for Middletown Residents

Middletown Adult Education offers academic courses, job training, English language instruction, and family education for adult learners across the community.

ABE

Adult Basic Education

GED

GED Preparation

CDP

Career Development Program

ESL

English as a Second Language

CIT

Citizenship Preparation

FL

Family Literacy

OUR COMMITMENT

“We believe that all students can achieve success, and we’re here to help you grow.”

— maect.org

TOWNS WE SERVE

- Cromwell
- East Haddam/Moodus
- East Hampton
- Madison
- Middletown
- Old Saybrook
- Portland
- Regional District #4 (Chester, Deep River, Essex, Centerbrook, Ivoryton)
- Regional District #13 (Durham, Middlefield, Rockfall)
- Regional District #17 (Haddam, Higganum, Killingworth)
- Rocky Hill
- Westbrook

398 Main Street, Middletown, CT 06457 | (860) 343-6044 | maect.org



Five Years of Growth

360

Students Enrolled, 2025–26

-15 vs. prior year (375 → 360 students)

+71%

Total Enrollment Growth

Since 2021–22, despite this year’s dip

5

Programs Tracked in This Data

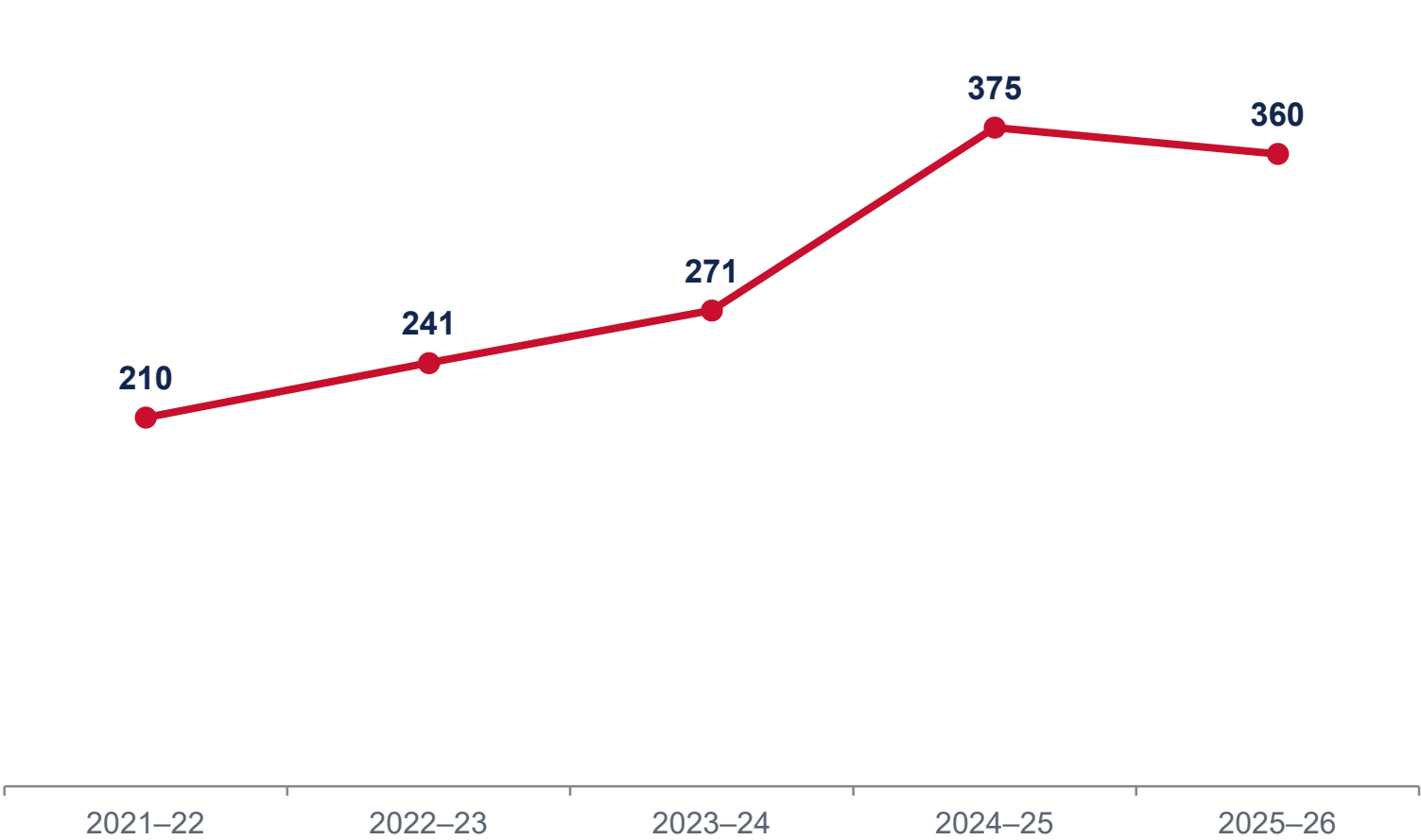
ABE · GED · CDP · ESL · Family Literacy

ESL kept growing this year, but GED and ABE both softened, pulling total enrollment down for the first time in five years.



Four Years of Growth, Then a Pause

All programs combined, 2021–22 to 2025–26



210 → 360

students, 2021–22 to 2025–26 (+71%)

Enrollment climbed for four straight years, with the sharpest jump — 104 students — in 2024–25, before easing back by 15 students this year.

This year’s dip is the first pullback in five years and is worth watching before assuming growth resumes automatically.



ESL & GED: Our Two Largest Growth Drivers



English as a Second Language

+112%

over five years

94 → 199

2021–22

2025–26

ESL is now our largest program, more than doubling since 2021–22 and still growing this year even as other programs pulled back.



GED Preparation

+69%

over five years

45 → 76

2021–22

2025–26

GED enrollment nearly doubled since 2021–22, though it eased this year after peaking at 86 students in 2024–25.



CDP & Family Literacy: Two Steady Growth Stories

Career development and family learning, five-year view



Career Development Program

+51%

over five years

41 → 62

2021–22

2025–26

CDP grew steadily through 2023–24 and has now held flat at 62 students for two straight years.



Family Literacy

+210%

over five years

10 → 31

2021–22

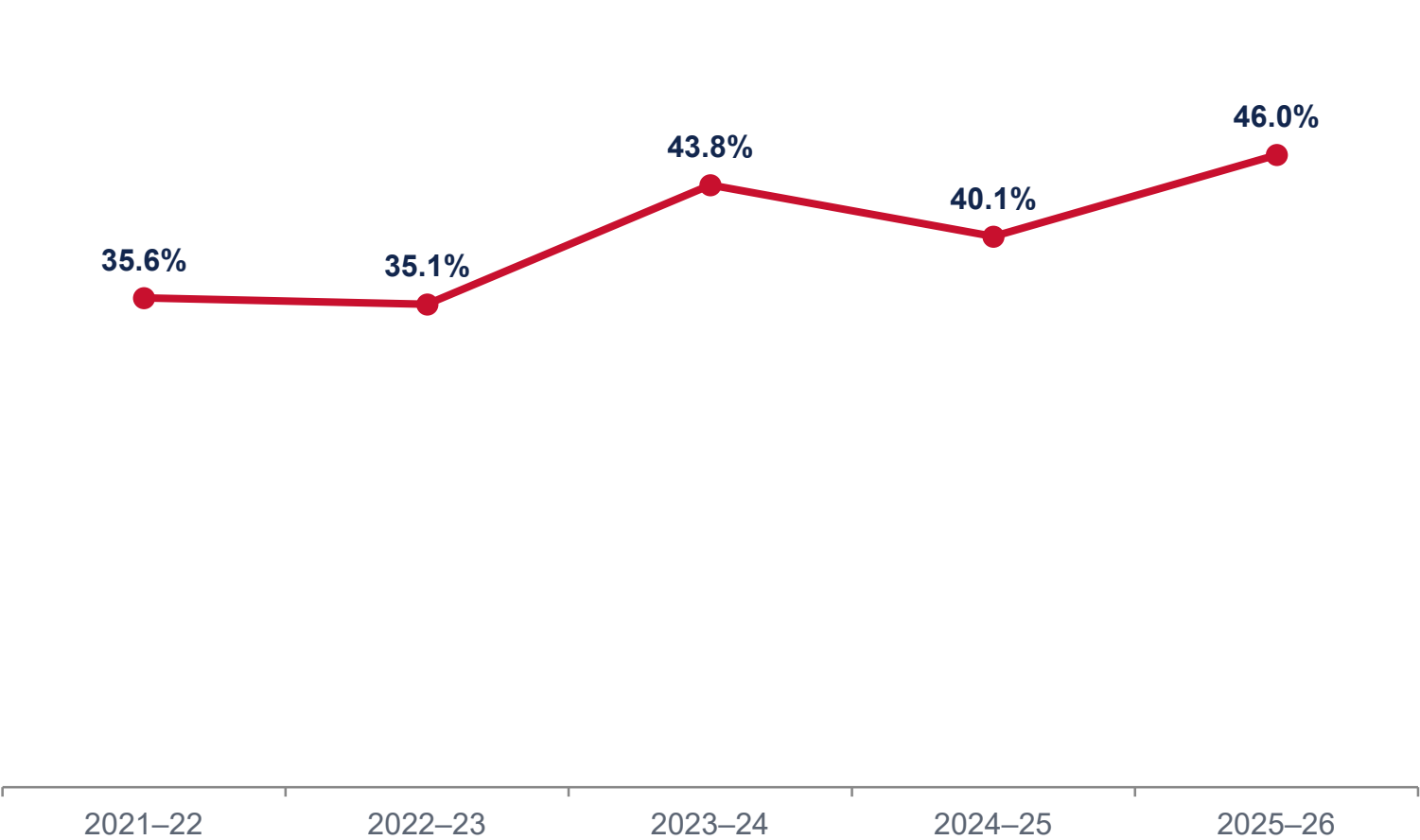
2025–26

Our fastest-growing program has nearly tripled since 2021–22, adding 10 more students again this year.



Measurable Student Gains (MSG)

Share of students demonstrating measurable gains, five-year trend



+10.4 pts

35.58% → 45.98% since 2021-22

MSG dipped slightly in 2022-23, jumped to a five-year high of 43.8% in 2023-24, eased back in 2024-25, and reached its highest point yet this year at 45.98%.

Growth in access has not come at the expense of outcomes.



Even Start Family Learning Program

A two-generation model within our Family Literacy program

“Parents are their children’s first and most important teacher.”

Even Start brings parents in need of adult education together with their children to share the excitement of learning — pairing early childhood education with adult academic instruction, and reinforcing the parent-child relationship along the way.

NAEYC-ACCREDITED

Our Even Start program is a unique, nationally accredited early-preschool-and-adult-education model — one of the ways Family Literacy stands apart from a typical adult ed offering.

+210%

Family Literacy growth since 2021–22 (10 → 31 students) — our fastest-growing program

SERVES TWO GENERATIONS AT ONCE

Even Start is the engine behind that growth: parents build academic and career skills while their children get a strong early-learning start — in the same building, at the same time.



A Full Wraparound Model for Families

Even Start combines adult instruction, parenting support, and early childhood education

PS Parenting Parenting skills, support groups, community services, college & career services	AH Adult High School Credit classes, online classes, credit for life & work experience
GED GED (Equivalency Test) CT high school diploma, classes and practice tests, registration center	ABE Adult Basic Education Reading, writing, and math instruction
ESL English as a Second Language Language instruction, cultural adjustment, citizenship classes	EC Early Childhood Classes Infant to age 3, developmentally appropriate curriculum
PC Parents & Children Together Interactive literacy activities, family field trips	HS Head Start Collaboration Coordinated curriculum, parent and child transition support



Why Even Start Matters for Middletown

1

Breaks the cycle, together

Parents and children learn side by side, so a parent's progress toward a diploma or credential happens in step with their child's earliest learning.

2

Backed by national standards

NAEYC accreditation means the early childhood component meets rigorous, nationally recognized quality benchmarks — not just a district-level standard.

3

Connected to the wider system

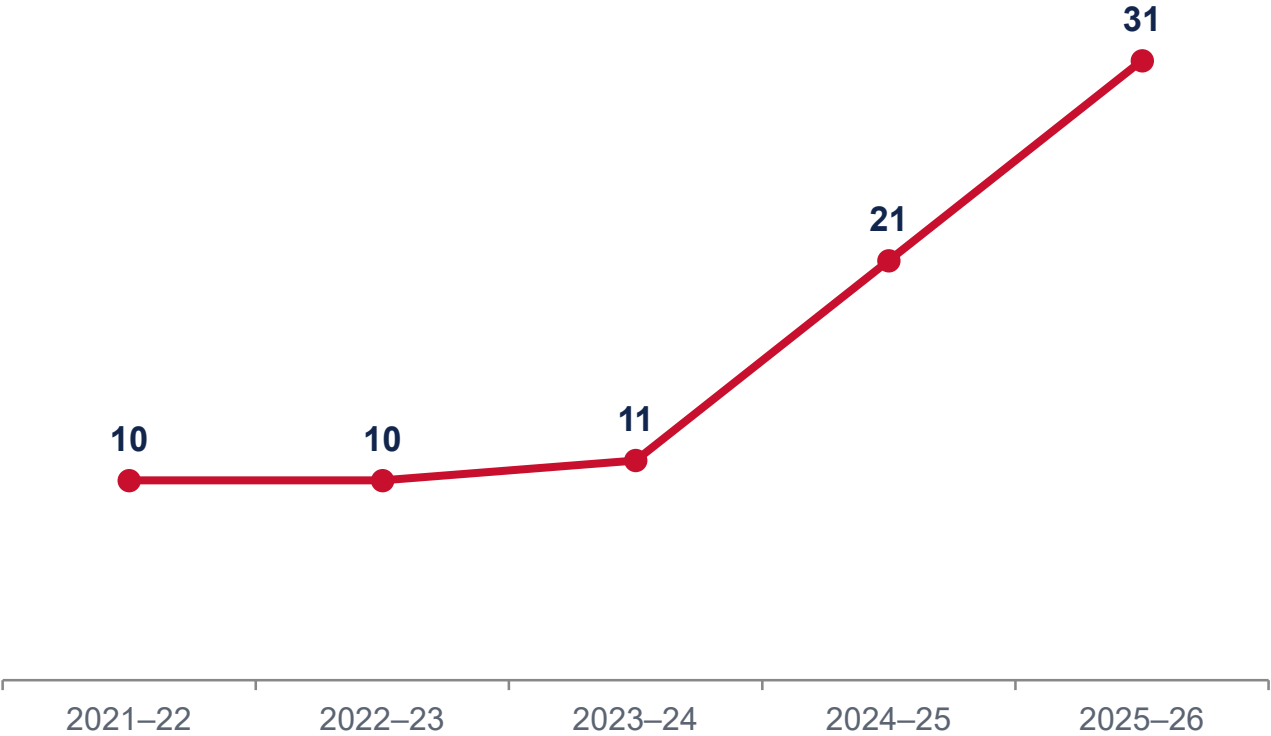
Direct Head Start collaboration on curriculum and transitions means families move smoothly between programs instead of falling through gaps.



PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Investing in Even Start’s Momentum

Our newest, fastest-growing program is still scaling up



Our newest program, growing the fastest

As Even Start scales, sustained investment in classroom space, early childhood staffing, and the Head Start partnership will help it keep pace with demand.

LEARN MORE OR ENROLL

maect.org/academic-programs/family-learning

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Thank You

Questions & Discussion

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