



Community Education Board Report

September 2026

Networking

Hosted a Community Education information booth at Back to School Night.

Held the Community Education Advisory Meeting.

Met with C-I Community Education Director Jen Strom to outline deadlines for 2026–2027

Met with Anne Roberts and Jen Grams of Heartwood Living to discuss collaboration.

Met with Pam Stock of SOMN and the Cuyuna Lakes Area Crushers to discuss collaboration.

Met with Ericka Heidl of the Cuyuna Lakes Chamber and Becky LaPlant of the League of Women Voters to discuss hosting a candidate forum this fall.

Facility Use

Worked with Digital Horizons to configure the auditorium cameras for YouTube streaming.

Prepared the auditorium for Homecoming Coronation with assistance from Matt Grinde.

Hosted the Civic Engagement Fair on September 19.

Programming and Classes

Compiled data from the community survey and two public events, which produced a community "wish list" of desired classes (see attached).

Presented the wish list at the CIHS staff meeting to recruit potential instructors.

Met with two prospective instructors; ongoing technology and writing classes are planned for fall and winter.

Reached out to Storybook Theatre to explore fundraising opportunities for up-coming play; scheduled October 26 - 31st 2026.

September Community Education Board Report (Continued)

Community Survey: During August and September, the Community Education survey and events drew more than 150 responses, a strong sign of how engaged our community is. The top requested categories were Cooking & Baking, Arts & Crafts, and Family & Children's programming. Respondents also expressed a desire for multi-generational classes and for keeping a social, community-minded element at the heart of our programs.

CREATE AND MAKE

- Pottery for Beginners
- Stained Glass Workshop
- Knitting Crochet and Needlework
- Sewing and Quilting
- Basket Making and Wool Spinning
- Soap Making and Candle Crafts
- Chunky Blankets Resin Coasters and Welcome Signs
- 3D Printing Projects
- Metal Sculpture and Blacksmithing
- Birch Bark Baskets and Mukluk Making

COOK AND GROW

- Bread Making Basics
- Lefse and Potica
- Canning and Preserving
- Cooking Skills for Everyday Life
- Cooking for a Crowd
- Gardening from Seed to Harvest
- Wild Plant Identification

ACTIVE AND OUTDOORS

- Martial Arts for Beginners
- Adult Recreation and Sports Groups
- Winter Baseball and Softball Skills
- Snowshoe and Cross Country Ski Adventures
- Candlelight Snowshoe Night
- Scuba Diving Certification Partnership
- Dressing Warm for Winter Activities

HOMESTEAD AND HANDY

- Welding Basics and Beyond
- Woodworking for Useful Home Projects
- Home Repair Basics
- Fix a Leaky Faucet and Other Everyday Repairs
- Outdoor and Winter Camp Cooking
- Field Dressing a Deer
- Sausage Making

MUSIC DANCE AND PHOTOGRAPHY

- Piano or Guitar for Beginners
- Adult Dance Lessons
- Oula Dance Fitness
- Handpan for Beginners
- Take Better Photos
- Improve and Theater Skills
- Public Speaking

SKILLS FOR EVERYDAY LIFE

- CPR and Basic First Aid
- Money Management Made Simple
- AI and Computer Basics for Older Adults
- Time Management for ADHD Brains
- Conversational Language Classes
- Mother Daughter and Teen Adult Craft Nights
- Life skills for adolescent and adults with disabilities
- Mock Job Interviews