

LEARNING MATTERS

That's Community Ed!

Saint Peter Public Schools – ISD 508



Community Education responds to the unique needs and interests of people of all ages. These programs strengthen connections between schools and community members, and research shows that adults involved in Community Education are more likely to support their local school district.

During the 2025-26 school year, Community and Family Education helped strengthen the community and schools in these areas…

Providing safe, accessible learning environments and opportunities for all ages.

From early childhood through adult education, our programs are designed to help community members thrive. We offer programs at South Elementary, North Elementary, Middle School, High School, and the Community Center.



Connecting families to school and community resources.

Families and parents can benefit from support through Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) classes and our School Readiness Preschool programs. Additionally, we collaborate with the Public Library, Senior Center, Nicollet County Public Health, St. Peter Food Shelf, and the Recreation Department to provide services and programs for families.

Helping prepare children for kindergarten

We support early childhood development through screenings that promote learning, health, and growth. Our School Readiness Preschool classes at the Early Childhood Learning Center help children transition smoothly to kindergarten. This initiative supports Community & Family Education's contribution to the district's Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness goals.





Supporting working families

The Saints Overtime program provides parents and caregivers with safe, high-quality after-school childcare at South and North Elementary, as well as summer care at North Elementary. During the 2025-26 school year, 168 children in grades K-5 participated in these programs.



Expanding learning beyond the classroom

Our after-school enrichment programs play a vital role in supporting students' social, emotional, and academic development. These programs provide students with opportunities to explore personal interests and build skills beyond the standard curriculum. Participation in classes such as art, drama, music, and STEM fosters creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills that enhance learning during the regular school day. In addition, involvement in leadership and service activities helps students strengthen interpersonal skills and reduce engagement in risk-taking behaviors.





Building a qualified workforce

Adult Basic Education (ABE) provides adults with essential academic and workforce skills that open doors to new opportunities. Participants work toward earning a high school diploma or General Educational Development (GED) diploma, improving literacy and math proficiency, and learning English. ABE also supports adults as they prepare for postsecondary education and advance their careers. Through these efforts, the program strengthens the local workforce and promotes lifelong learning in the community. During the 2025-26 school year, we served students from Mexico, Somalia, Guatemala, Honduras, Ukraine, Ethiopia, China, Kenya, and Nicaragua.

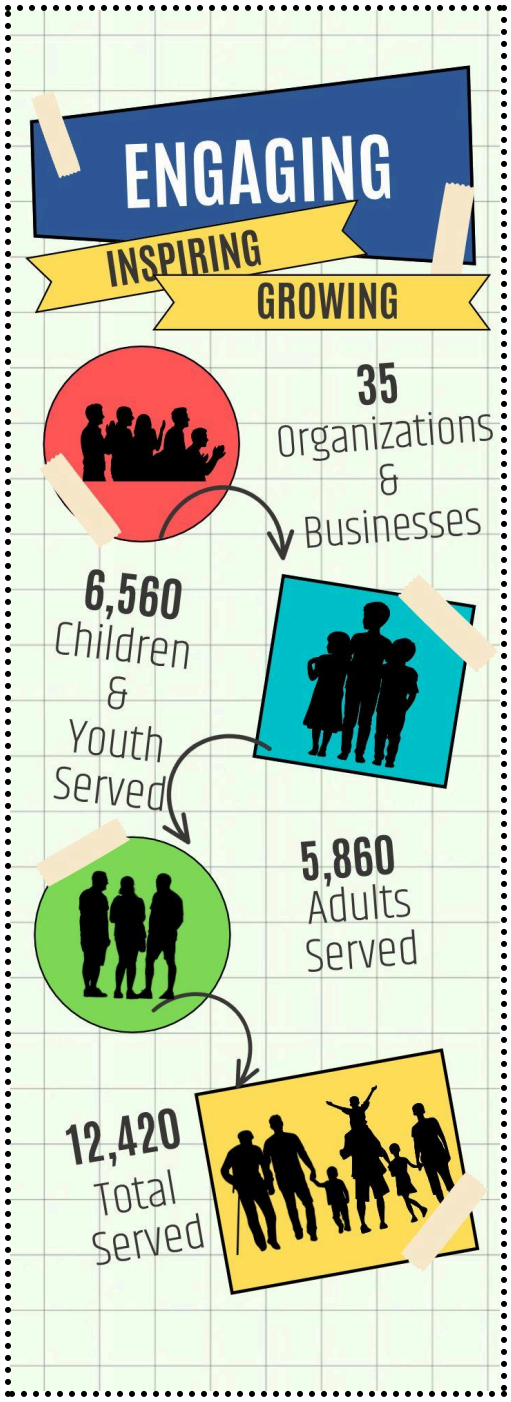
Improving the quality of life

Lifelong learning provides valuable benefits, including stress reduction, enhanced creativity, a sense of accomplishment, and improved mental well-being. Our programs offer community members opportunities to explore new interests and develop meaningful skills—whether through art, music, fitness, personal growth, or special interest classes. From learning a new instrument to improving driving safety or practicing yoga, these experiences inspire curiosity, connection, and personal fulfillment at every stage of life.



Creating a sense of community and belonging

Offering classes and events that bring people of all ages together helps build a strong, connected community. From the annual *Women Celebrating Women* event and cross-cultural learning opportunities to community discussions, film viewings, and shared meals, our programs create spaces for meaningful connection and dialogue. Children and youth also benefit from programs like Saints OT and after-school enrichment classes, where they explore new skills and interests, build confidence, develop social and leadership skills, and form lasting friendships that support their personal growth and sense of belonging.





















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