



MAHTOMEDI
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Community Education

Update

2023-2024

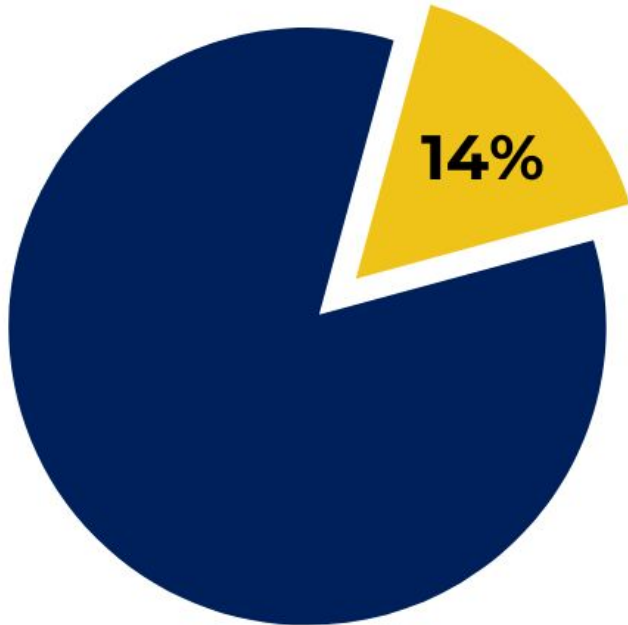
Experience Excellence





Community Education Funding

Only 14% of the Community Education 2.8 million in expenditures are covered by levies and aid (\$400,749)



Where does the rest of our funding come from to run our Department?

- Fees for Childcare/Preschool
- Fees for Classes and Events

Levies and Aid includes:

- Community Education General Levy receives \$5.32 for every resident within the school district and will increase to \$6.35 in FY 25.
- Other levies include ECFE, School Readiness, Homevisiting, Early Childhood, Parent Aware, Parent Aware Pathway I & II and VPK funding, Special Needs Levy, Adult with Disabilities, Youth Enrichment.

Community Education Advisory Council

The Community Education Advisory Council (CEAC) promotes citizen involvement and lifelong learning opportunities by serving as an information conduit to friends and neighbors. CEAC also helps identify potential community education offerings with a focus on all district residents, from birth to seniors.



2023-24 Members: *Paul Donna, Alice Seuffert, Lisa Smith, Tony Vosooney, Phil Morris, Laura Frese, Mark Jackson, and Luke Schlegel*



Additional Secondary Programming Offered in 2023-24

- Middle School after school youth event
- Schools Out Service & Fun Day
- IMPROV: Acting without a Script
- Intro to Golf Program
- Stock Market, Personal Finance & Business
- Cosmetology Camp



New Family/Community Events in 2023-24

- Night at the Children's Museum
- Family Nature Night
- Conscious Discipline Nights
- Family Nature Walks
- Kindergarten Transition
- Free Concerts in the Park
- Park Playdates



Community Needs Assessment - March 2024

Why We Conducted a Survey

- **Our Community Education Advisory Council asked us to conduct a needs assessment.**
- **No existing templates or models so we had to create our own.**
- **We wanted to get a bigger picture of performance of programs.**
- **We wanted to get ideas from our stakeholders (including students) about implementing our strategic plan (we want to be active and participatory).**



Survey Objectives

Assess Community Needs &

Interests: Understand the needs and interests of community members, including topics they are interested in, as well as strategic plan areas.

Evaluate Current Programs: Gather feedback on existing programs or services offered to assess their effectiveness and identify areas for improvement.

Identify Barriers to Participation: Determine barriers that community members face in accessing community education programming, including fees and information.

Measure Excellence: Assess the level of performance and reputation within the community.

Identify Community Assets: Identify existing resources, skills, and expertise within the community that could be leveraged to support new community initiatives and programming.

Tracking Changes Over Time: Establish baseline data and track changes over time.

Informing Resource Allocation & Future Planning: Provide data to inform decision-making, planning, and resource allocation for programming and services within the community.

What Our CE Survey Respondents Said...

92%

Respondents who said they would rate the quality of programs and services provided by Mahtomedi Community Education as Excellent or Good.

Data Source: 2023-24 Mahtomedi Community Education Survey

93%

Respondents who said they would recommend Mahtomedi Community Education programs to other community members.

Data Source: 2023-24 Mahtomedi Community Education Survey



Youth (Grades K-12) Athletics

86%

**% of Survey respondents
who participated in this
program, who rate it
excellent or good.**

**35%: Rate Excellent
51%: Rate Good**

Feedback/Action Steps

- **New Offerings:** add in house softball, fencing, mountain biking, dance, cheer, lacrosse, intro to sports opportunities, secondary fitness, floor hockey, high school ski club, and pickleball.
- **More Offerings:** for gymnastics, archery.
- **Life Sports & Games:** like biking, canoeing, kayaking, swimming, and recess games like capture the flag.
- **Communication:** clear communication for time commitments before signing up and throughout the season. Develop communication about where to register (community ed versus school).
- **Competition:** Add new/additional competition opportunities for older grades, one area is tennis matches.

How Community Education is Using data

Broad overview of data with all
Coordinators in Spring (all new coord. now)

Established “quick fixes” for summer

Offered real life courses: *Cosmetology. Stock
Market/personal finance

More Communication for MS parents: created a
Social media reel to introduce Sec. Coordinators

Increase marketing of Special Events:
Created a countdown to event on Social Media

Pre-Catalog Launch

Future Use of Data:

Each program area is analyzed to meet
responses and support district Strategic
Plan.

Implement programming during school
day: FLEX time and lunch periods

Increase community involvement in
offerings: speakers, instructors, events
(intergenerational)

Increase real life learning and hands-on
opportunities to do this learning.

Strategic Plan: Career & Life Skills

What programs would you like to see that provide students with real-world experiences like career exploration or life skill development?

Career Exploration

- **Preparing for a career:** practice job interviewing, preparing job applications, help with resumes
- **Service:** intergenerational opportunities, opportunities to impact local community, opportunities for students to volunteer in our schools
- **Preparation:** How to prepare in middle school for future success
- **Career Presenters:** Explore what different careers are like, hands-on opportunities, more career day opportunities, field trips, local company tours
- **Intern & Job Fairs:** Create fairs for students
- **Connections for Job Shadowing and Mentorship**
- **Starting a Business:** Learning from Entrepreneurs

Life Skills

- **Mental Health:** coping strategies, use of technology, setbacks
- **Environmental:** gardening, conservation, taking care of Earth
- **Finance:** Basic finance skills, money management and saving, money literacy, paying taxes, preparing to buy a home/rent an apartment, writing a check/paying bills, investing
- **Correspondence:** Communicating via email
- **Language:** language classes before or after school-conversational and cultural outings
- **Home Skills** like cooking, laundry, and cleaning
- **Life fitness** like swimming and biking
- **Understanding Government:** Trip to State Capitol and understanding decision making
- **Cultural Awareness:** Learning about cultures and diversity

Communications Internship: Summer of 2024

- Supervised and trained by Alice Seuffert, Director of Communications, Mahtomedi Public Schools.
- During her internship, Olivia managed the CE social media accounts, oversaw the CE web page, and developed a communications plan to support the department.
- During her internship, we saw the following results:
 - Instagram: 3,415% increase in reach from June to August
 - Facebook: 225% increase in reach from June to August
 - In both accounts, we saw a significant increase in the amount of non-follower reach as well as overall engagement.



Olivia Decker, MHS Class of 2022

New Community Education Staff



Angie Lundbald
Early Childhood Supervisor
Started April 2024
30+ years experience



Adam McFarlane
Communications &
Engagement Coordinator
Started in September 2024
Masters in Public Affairs



Kylie Nyman
Administrative Assistant to
CE Director
Started September 2024
Recent University of St.
Thomas Graduate



Sammy Wallace
Secondary & Adults
Coordinator
Started in August 2024
Worked in MAC for 12 yrs



Upcoming Events & Activities

- Community Lunch - **Dec. 9**
- Social Security - Timing is Everything - **Dec 10**
- Family Literacy Night - **Dec. 19**
- Nordic Ski Club - **Jan. 7**
- Ashland Theater - PRESS START **March 1 & 2**

****** Online Winter/Spring Catalog
mid-December**



Mahtomedi Community Education

Thank you to all who engage in Community Education programming!

Connect with us:



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