



TriDistrict Community Education Advisory Council Report

School Board Presentation - June 1, 2026
By Lisa Grathen, Director of Community Education

Community Education Advisory Council Purpose

- Identify and assess Community Education needs, interests, and concerns.
- Recommend areas of program development.
- Ensure programs and services are being evaluated.
- Eliminate duplication of programs and services.
- Expand and improve communication and collaboration among the community.
- Promote the Community Education philosophy for lifelong learning.
- Recommend the Community Education budget to the School Boards.
- Meet 4-6 times a year.

Minnesota State Statute 124D.19: “each school board must provide for a Community Education Advisory Council”



2025-2026 Meetings

October 14: Orientation of Six New Members

November 18: Early Learning Report

January 13: Adult, Adults with Disabilities & Family Report

April 14: 2025-2026 Budget Update, New Registration Software

May 12: Recommendation of 2026-2027 CE Budget



2025-2026 Outcomes

- Increased Membership
 - Added 5 additional members in 2025-2026
 - 22 current members
- Meeting Attendance
 - 75% current year



2025-2026 Survey Results

Member Feedback

- 93% clear communication and organization of the council
- 93% continue using Martha's Rules of Order for decision making
- 86% feel engaged in meetings
- Opportunities to contribute
 - 71% yes
 - 21% sometimes
- Purposeful work and meaningful contribution
 - 79% yes
 - 21% somewhat



2025-2026 Members

Sarah Larson
Amelia Berry
Ashley Watson
Rachel Vanoverbeke
Betsy King
Steve Heasley
Paul Brown
Julie Weisbecker
Melissa Pond
Sam Murphy
Meredith Lawrence
Anna Ferris

District 197 Board
District 197 Youth Programs
District 197 Early Learning Programs
District 197K-4 School Age Care
District 197 Middle School School Age Care
District 197 Adult Programs
District 197 Adult Programs
District 197 Adult 55+ Programs
Wentworth Library Representative
City of West St. Paul
City of Mendota Heights
Dakota County

Kim Humann
Brienne Miller
Geri Weber
Jan Benken
Cody Semo
Sarah Connolley

SSP School Board
SSP ELAC
SSP Adult Programs
SSP Adult 55+ Programs
Neighbors Representative
Dakota County Library

Sarah Larson
Al Vandehoef
Elena Toninato
Charity Gaisbauer

IGH School Board
IGH Adults 55+ Programs
IGH Community Representative
IGH Youth Programs



Thank You!

Comments and/or Questions

