

2022-2023 DASSEL-COKATO COMMUNITY EDUCATION ANNUAL REPORT



LEARN, TEACH, GROW



ALWAYS **LEARNING,** **TEACHING & GROWING**

Providing quality life-long learning opportunities for all.

This annual report tells the success story and impact we have on the communities of Dassel and Cokato as well as the surrounding areas.

STAY **CONNECTED**

Engage with us:

Facebook:

facebook.com/DCCommunityEd

Website:

Early Childhood: www.isd466.org/domain/44
Community Ed.: www.isd466.org/domain/22

Mobile App: Dassel-Cokato Schools

Registration:



Address:

4852 Reardon Ave SW,
Suite 1400, Cokato, MN 55321

Phone: 320-286-4120

Email:

community.education@dc.k12.mn.us



ABBEY LANG
*Director of
Community Services*



ANGELA SMITH
*Early Childhood
Coordinator*



KRISTA CATES
*Early Childhood
Secretary*



SHANNON SMIEJA
*Community Education
Secretary*



JENNIFER TODNEM
*School Age Care
Coordinator*

MEET OUR **STAFF**



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GROW

with **EARLY CHILDHOOD**

The mission of Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) is to strengthen families and enhance the ability of all parents to provide the best possible environment for the healthy growth and development of their children.

Dassel-Cokato ECFE class offerings are for children birth to age 5 and their families.

Early Childhood has a very active Advisory Council that provides support and feedback regarding early learning and parenting opportunities.



56

families participated in ECFE

138

participants attended ECFE classes

“ECFE has greatly benefited our entire family. We have found fantastic friends, a place to bring parenting concerns and triumphs without judgment, and much needed support and advice. Our kids have thrived socially, creatively and intellectually with the support of the amazing staff! We couldn't ask for a better community!”
-ECFE Parent

EARLY CHILDHOOD SCREENING

Early Childhood Screening supports children's readiness for kindergarten and promotes health and development. Screening is a free and simple check that may link families to early learning opportunities and resources such as, Early Childhood Family Education, preschool programs, Early Childhood Special Education, Early Learning Scholarships, home visiting programs and more. Screening is ideally performed closest to age 3.

Early Childhood Screening includes:

- Thinking, Language & Communication Skills
- Social & Emotional Development
- Large & Small Muscle Development
- Hearing, Vision, Height & Weight

4

screenings per year

153

children screened



TEACH PLAY AND LEARN PRESCHOOL

Play and Learn Preschool encourages learning through discovery and exploration in a responsive classroom environment. We provide purposeful, developmentally appropriate, play-based instruction for children ages 3-5; designed to support their school readiness skills in areas of social, emotional, cognitive and physical domains.

We encourage parents to have active engagement in their child's education and we partner with them in a positive home-school connection.



121 preschoolers attended	7 preschool sections	Cokato Elementary Dassel Elementary Early Childhood Center
	3 preschool locations:	



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CHARGER KIDS CLUB: school-age child care

Charger Kids Club (CKC) is our school-age child care program for ages PreK-5th grade. Each year this program continues to grow and increase in enrollment. The hours of operation are before-school from 6-8 am and after-school from 3-6 pm. During non-school days, and during the summer months, the program is open from 6 am-6 pm. Charger Kids Club is located at both Cokato and Dassel Elementaries during the school year. During the summer the program is held at the High School/Middle School campus to take advantage of additional opportunities and amenities such as the pool, playgrounds, gyms, Community Ed. activities as well as air conditioning. As the need for childcare continues to grow in the community, wraparound childcare will be offered to children ages 3-5 for those enrolled in the Play and Learn Preschool program in the .

	Enrolled	Attended Daily	
Morning School Year:	41	38	
Afternoon School Year:	116	70	
Summer 2023:	106	73	

Charger Kids Club encourages creativity, builds self-esteem, social skills and confidence, teaches cooperation, promotes positive behavior and provides a safe and caring environment for children. Students get to enjoy a variety of activities including: arts & crafts, outdoor/playground fun, sports & games, homework help, reading & quiet time, field trips, theme weeks and much more!





The youth recreation programs offered through Community Education continue to be some of the most desired programs in the school district.

The following activities have the highest participation:

- Basketball
- Gymnastics
- Soccer
- Softball
- Football
- Ski & Snowboard Club
- Strength & Conditioning
- Outdoor Hockey
- Volleyball

Many of our youth sport programs (Gr. K-6) are built in conjunction with the high school varsity coaches to begin developing the athletes that will one day be their varsity players.

There is a continued need to utilize parent volunteer coaches to help assist in coaching many youth recreation activities. They play a vital role in the programs success. It has been harder to recruit volunteers as many may be unavailable to coach due to work and family commitments or feel they lack the skill set needed to lead or instruct. We are looking for ways to help give them some tools to be a successful coach.

We also work cooperatively with local youth associations/groups including:

- D-C Youth Basketball Association
- D-C Softball Association
- Wrestling Boosters
- Gymnastics Boosters
- D-C Ski & Snowboard Club
- D-C Outdoor Hockey

2680
youth recreation
registrations in

22
recreational areas

YOUTH RECREATION



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YOUTH ENRICHMENT

STEM classes provide exciting ways for students to gain technology knowledge and skills while learning to collaborate, plan, design, and problem solve. A variety of STEM courses are offered including:

- COR Robotics Summer Camps
- FIRST Lego League
- Robotics Club
- Scratch Programming

A popular new addition this year was, Art Studio, where students could explore a variety of art mediums each week, including painting, leather work, sculpture, clay modeling, decoupage and more!

For almost 30 years D-C has hosted a week long theater residency with Prairie Fire Children's Theatre. The productions were halted in 2020 and 2021 but, resumed last summer. In late April, Community Ed. was informed that Prairie Fire was closing their doors and unsure when and if they would reopen. So a summer 2023 production did not occur.

Students developed their musical skills through MS jazz band. Baking, cooking and cookie decorating classes are always popular for our young aspiring chefs. Babysitting and safe at home courses were offered to students to be better prepared to stay at home alone as well as watch other children.





AQUATICS

Community Education staffs the High School Pool for a variety of aquatic programs, including: Swimming Lessons, Aquacise (water aerobics), Lap Swim, Open Swim, Competitive Swim Club, Special Events and Private Rentals.



Lifeguards and water safety instructors are certified through the American Red Cross. The majority of staff are current high school students as well as returning college students. To help secure staff Community Education offsets training expenses in return for committing to working for our aquatics team.



Swim Lessons were offered throughout the school year as well as multiple daily and evening sessions during the summer. This summer a partnership with Annandale Community Education was formed to provide swim lesson instruction in our pool to some of their residents.

746
swim lessons

183: fall lessons
174: spring lessons
353+36=389: summer lessons

A D-C satellite location of the High Tides Swim Club of Hutchinson was added this year. Students could swim multiple times a week to expand and maintain their stroke skills while building endurance.

Lap swim was offered multiple times a week throughout the year. Families could swim at Open Swim on Saturdays between Nov.-May.



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ADULT **ACTIVITIES**

A variety of learning opportunities are created for adults which enhance continuing education for all ages and supports a lifetime educational journey.

New and difference classes continued to be offered. While some find success, such as the holiday painting class, "Deck Your Walls" and cookie



decorating, others don't always find their niche. Some new courses that may not have run but were offered included: barn quilt painting, kitchen medicine, basket weaving and board game club. AARP courses, knitting, lap swim, and yoga have consistent participation.

ADULT **BASIC EDUCATION**

Dassel-Cokato Adult Basic Education (ABE) is a part of the Glacial Lakes Adult Basic Education Consortium made up of 10 local school districts. Students from Dassel-Cokato attend classes at the Litchfield or Hutchinson sites both online or in person

COMMUNITY **EVENTS**

Community Ed. & Early Childhood hosted some events for the community this past year.

49th Annual Craft Fair

Nov. 5, 2022

Early Childhood Fundraiser

craft vendors **118** patrons **≈4,000**

≈300
community members

50th Anniversary of Dassel-Cokato Schools

May 7, 2023

Dassel-Cokato Schools celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the joining of Dassel and Cokato. Partnering with the Cokato Museum and Ergot History Center, a spectacular presentation of the history of each school, the process of merging and the last 50 years was displayed for all community members with exhibits, a walk through the Hall of Graduates and a video documenting the historical account.

Early Childhood Vehicle Night

May 11, 2023

End of the year celebration exploring all things that "go"!

community vehicles **20** attendees **≈175**

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PROGRAM USE 2018-2023

EARLY CHILDHOOD FAMILY ED.

2022-23: 2.7%
 2021-22: 3.7%
 2020-21: 3.1%
 2019-20: 4.8%
 2018-19: 3.2%
 2017-18: 3.3%

SCREENING

2022-23: 3.0%
 2021-22: 3.2%
 2020-21: 3.2%
 2019-20: 4.3%
 2018-19: 3.0%
 2017-18: 2.8%

ADULT ENRICHMENT

2022-23: 3.1%
 2021-22: 2.5%
 2020-21: 2.0%
 2019-20: 6.6%
 2018-19: 8.2%
 2017-18: 7.9%

PRESCHOOL

2022-23: 2.4%
 2021-22: 2.6%
 2020-21: 3.1%
 2019-20: 4.0%
 2018-19: 2.2%
 2017-18: 2.1%

ADULT RECREATION

2022-23: 3.1%
 2021-22: 3.0%
 2020-21: 2.1%
 2019-20: 2.2%
 2018-19: 1.0%
 2017-18: 1.8%

AQUATICS

2022-23: 17.5%
 2021-22: 15.4%
 2020-21: 18.5%
 2019-20: 9.0%
 2018-19: 18.1%
 2017-18: 19.5%

SPECIAL EVENTS

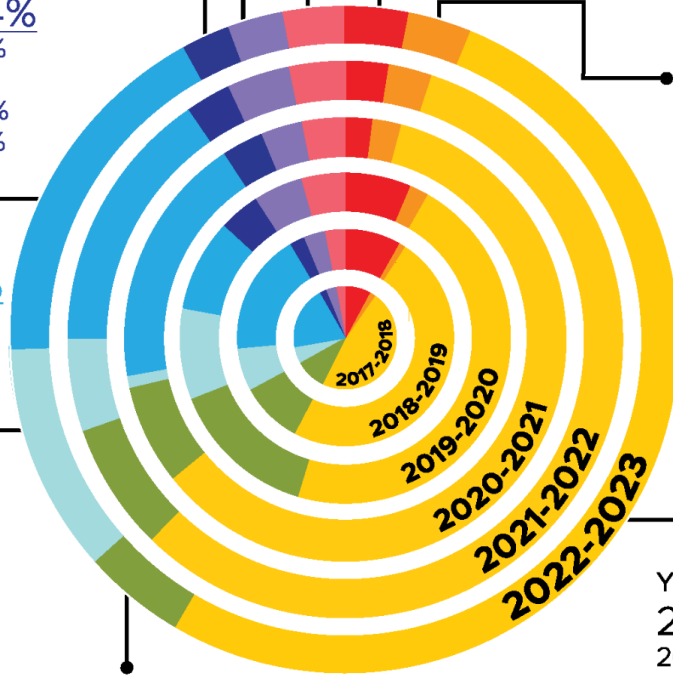
2022-23: 11.1%
 2021-22: 5.3%
 2020-21: 0.9%
 2019-20: 8.9%
 2018-19: 6.3%
 2017-18: 5.3%

YOUTH ENRICHMENT

2022-23: 5.0%
 2021-22: 7.3%
 2020-21: 7.3%
 2019-20: 14.2%
 2018-19: 9.5%
 2017-18: 9.6%

YOUTH RECREATION

2022-23: 52.2%
 2021-22: 57.0%
 2020-21: 60.0%
 2019-20: 46.1%
 2018-19: 48.5%
 2017-18: 47.6%



TOTAL REGISTRATIONS PER YEAR	2022-23:	2021-22:	2020-21:	2019-20:	2018-19:	2017-18:
	5134	4653	3456	3035	4909	4795



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YEAR IN REVIEW

SEPTEMBER 2022 •
AUGUST 2023

PRESCHOOL: 121

Dassel 4/5 AM: 20
Dassel 4/5 PM: 19
Cokato 4/5 AM: 20
Cokato 4/5 PM: 14
EC Center 4/5: 14
EC Center 3/4: 18
EC Center 3/4: 16

ECFE: 138

Baby Play: 12
D-C Kids: 26
Family Time: 9
Little Chargers: 16
Lunch Bunch: 15
Night Owls: 28
Winter Wiggle: 32

SCREENING: 153

October 2022: 40
November 2022: 34
January 2023: 38
February 2023: 36
Other: 5

AQUATICS: 1833

Swim Lessons: 688
Lap Swim: 547*
Open Swim: 263*
Aquacise: 158*
High Tides Swim: 110
Private Lessons: 58
Water Safety Instr.
*Includes walk-ins & repeat users

YOUTH ENRICH.: 255

Art Studio: 59
Robotics Club: 50
Arts & Craft Classes: 26
Babysitting: 23
COR Robotics: 20
ACT Test Prep
Board Games
Cooking Classes
FIRST Lego League
Home Along Prep
Jazz Band
Pioneer Park Camp
RC Car Races
Sewing Basics
Throwback Games

YOUTH REC.: 2680

Gymnastics: 547
Football: 446
Basketball: 269
Softball: 187
Volleyball: 169
Archery
Baseball Clinic
Cheerleading
Dodgeball
Firearms Safety
Golf
Gym Games
Hockey
Nerf Battle
Open Skate
Ski & Board Club
Soccer
Sports Sampler
Strength/Conditioning
T-ball
Tennis
Track & Field

ADULT ENRICH.: 161

AARP: 75
Cookie Decorating: 29
Knitting: 24
Holiday Painting: 15
Adult Trips
Barn Quilt Painting
Basic Life Support CPR
Basket Weaving
Board Games
Kitchen Medicine
Medicare
Minnesota Starwatch

ADULT REC.: 158

Strength/Train Women: 49
Yoga: 40
Country Line Dancing: 27
A to Z 5K: 22
Snowshoe Adventure: 19
Hallwalking
Tennis Private Lessons

YOUTH SPECIAL EVENTS: 571

ECFE Events: 273
Friday Night Out: 181
Ninja Warrior: 117



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COMMUNITY EDUCATION

4852 REARDON AVENUE SW
SUITE 1400
COKATO, MN 55321

320-286-4120
WWW.ISD466.ORG