

MANKATO AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# COMMUNITY EDUCATION

WINTER 2025 CATALOG



*Engage with us*  
**gather. inspire. move.**



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## MANKATO AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS MISSION

**Excellence, Equity,  
Empowerment. Every student,  
Every day.**



## MANKATO AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS BUILDING KEY

B - Bridges Community School  
320 Garfield Avenue, North  
Mankato

EL - Eagle Lake Elementary  
School  
500 Le Sueur Avenue, Eagle  
Lake

F - Franklin Elementary School  
1000 North Broad Street,  
Mankato

H - Hoover Elementary School  
1524 Hoover Drive, North  
Mankato

J - Jefferson Elementary School  
100 James Avenue, Mankato

K - Kennedy Elementary School  
2600 East Main Street, Mankato

M - Monroe Elementary School  
441 Monroe Avenue, North  
Mankato

R - Roosevelt Elementary School  
300 West Sixth Street, Mankato

RP - Rosa Parks Elementary School  
1001 Heron Drive, Mankato

W - Washington Elementary School  
1100 Anderson Drive, Mankato

DMMS - Dakota Meadows Middle  
School 1900 Howard Drive West,  
North Mankato

PWMS - Prairie Winds Middle School  
1200 Prairie Winds Drive, Mankato

EHS - Mankato East High School  
2600 Hoffman Road, Mankato

WHS - Mankato West High School  
1351 South Riverfront Drive, Mankato

LCC - Lincoln Community Center  
110 Fulton Street, Mankato

C4L -Center for Learning  
15 Map Drive, Mankato

experience **LINCOLN**  
gather with us. inspire with us. move with us.

**Interested in room rentals? [CLICK HERE](#)**

# SPIRIT OF YOUTH AWARDS



The Spirit of Youth Award honors both youth and adults of the Mankato Area Public Schools community who demonstrate exceptional courage, integrity, accountability, and inclusive practices.

This award recognizes individuals or groups who inspire and enable positive change, fostering an environment where these values are upheld and celebrated in our MAPS community.

Spirit of Youth Nomination opens Monday, December 2, 2024–Saturday, March 1, 2025.

[Click here for Spirit of Youth Nomination Form.](#)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO SUBMIT A NOMINATION, CLICK HERE.**



## ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

**Jim Roy, Chair**  
2025

**Dana Niu**  
2025

**Ahmed (Jaffer) Mohamud**  
2027

**Christina Shortall**  
2027

**Lynn Waterbury**  
2027

**Kaitlin Carter**  
2028

**Sarah Morgan**  
2028

**Josh Berkenpas**  
2026

**Liz Ratcliff**  
Appt. ISD 77 School Board

**Mollie Meyer**  
Appt. ISD 77 Administrator

**Beth Rohrich**  
Appt. City of Eagle Lake

**Scott Carlson**  
Appt. City of North Mankato

**Jessica Hatanpa**  
Appt. City of Mankato

**Patty O'Conner**  
Appt. Blue Earth County

**Jack Kolars**  
Appt. Nicollet County



## SCHOOL BOARD 2023-24

**Erin Roberts**  
erobert@isd77.org  
Term Ends  
December 31, 2027

**Christopher Kind**  
ckind@isd77.org  
Term Ends  
December 31, 2027

**Kari Pratt**  
kpratt@isd77.org  
Term Ends  
December 31, 2026

**Elizabeth Hanke**  
ehanke@isd77.org  
Term Ends  
December 31, 2027

**Liz Ratcliff**  
eratcl@isd77.org  
Term Ends  
December 31, 2027

**Shannon Sinning**  
ssinn@isd77.org  
Term Ends  
December 31, 2026

**Patrick Baker**  
pbaker@isd77.org  
Term Ends  
December 31, 2026

**Paul Peterson, Superintendent**  
ppeter@isd77.org

**CLICK HERE TO FILL OUT THE MAPS  
COMMUNITY EDUCATION  
ADVISORY COUNCIL APPLICATION!**

# FAMILY + COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

## *Volunteer with us!*

### **Mankato Area Public Schools Community Volunteer Program**

No prior experience necessary. Volunteers can serve in Early Learning programming, K-12 schools or in Adult Basic Education programs.



#### **Volunteer Opportunities Include:**

- weekly classroom volunteers
- reading and math tutors
- classroom parents or grandparents
- classroom speakers
- school-based mentors
- financial literacy volunteers
- AVID tutors

#### **Adult Basic Education Volunteer Opportunities Include:**

- EL Volunteer
- GED Volunteer

**Contact the Engagement Office at [volunteer@isd77.org](mailto:volunteer@isd77.org) or  
call 507-387-5501 or visit [isd77.org](http://isd77.org) and click on "Experience."  
Contact us today!**



*Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can.*





## BEGINNER CERAMICS

Explore ceramics in this 6-week beginner course! Each weekly class builds on the last, covering hand-building and wheel-throwing basics at a comfortable pace. Perfect for new and returning clay enthusiasts, you'll gain the skills to start creating independently in our Open Pottery Studio.

**COURSE #: 1300-BEGINNER CERAMICS-SA** \$ 125  
**Sat, Mar 15-Apr 19; 2-4 pm** LCC 153  
**COURSE #: 1300-BEGINNER CERAMICS-WED** \$ 125  
**Wed, Apr 2-May 7; 6-8 pm** LCC 153

## OPEN POTTERY

Get a punch card and clay coupon to access the Pottery Studio's wheel, slab roller, extruder, glazes, greenware storage, and kilns. This is a non-instructional, experience-required session with a supervisor available for technical questions.

**\*\*Times and days vary, due to studio demand, check registration site for details**

**COURSE #: 1520S 6-DAY VISIT PASS** \$ 40  
**COURSE #: 1519S CLAY, GLAZE, AND FIRING COUPON PER 25-LB BAG** \$ 30  
**LCC 153**



This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

## Solo Studio Time For Artists

Enjoy exclusive access to our fully equipped studio with guaranteed private work time each month for \$100; clay sold separately. Perfect for experienced artists needing uninterrupted time. Contact Melanie Schmidt at mschmi3@isd77.org or 507-387-5501.

# ADULT

## SOURDOUGH FOR BEGINNERS

Students will learn the basics of sourdough baking. Topics covered: Starter care, how to make bread dough, how to fold and shape dough. Everyone will leave with their own starter and dough for 2 loaves.

**COURSE #: 1600-SOURDOUGH** \$ 65  
**Wed, Mar 12; 7-9 pm** LCC 363

## SHARING NATURE THROUGH WORDS

In this one-day workshop, students will engage with nature and translate their experiences into writing. Weather permitting, part of the class will be held outdoors, with indoor sensory elements provided if needed. Participants will learn to observe and describe nature to inspire readers to pause and appreciate creation. Taught by J. Anderson, an experienced educator and columnist for the St. Peter Herald.

**COURSE #: 1300-NATURE JOURNAL** \$ 30  
**Tue, May 6; 4-7 pm** LCC 152

## BEGINNER WOODWORKING:

### MAKING A BOWL OR CUTTING BOARD

Unlock your creative potential in this hands-on woodworking class, funded by the Minnesota State Arts Board Grant.

Over the course of this workshop, you'll follow step-by-step instructions to craft your own cutting board or wooden bowl—or both, if time allows!

Guided by experienced instructors, you'll learn fundamental woodworking skills such as cutting, shaping, and finishing, using a range of tools and techniques. This course is perfect for beginners and provides everything you need to leave with a beautiful, handcrafted piece you can be proud of.

**COURSE #: 1600-WOODWORKING** \$ 30  
**Tue & Thu, Jan 7-23; 6-8 pm** LCC Wood Shop

## BEGINNER ACRYLIC PAINTING

Dive into acrylics in this beginner-friendly course! Learn brush techniques, color mixing, shading, and how to add depth to your work. Explore different mediums for enhanced control and creativity. Perfect for those new to painting or building skills, with all supplies provided—you'll take home a completed canvas! Bring a shirt to cover clothes. Taught by local artist Stephanie Johnston.

**COURSE #: 1300-ACRYLIC** \$ 100  
**Tue, Feb 25-Mar 25; 6-7:30 pm** LCC 154



# ADULT

## SOUND BATH - THE ART OF SELF CARE

Immerse yourself in a journey of deep relaxation and inner peace with our Intro to Sound Bath class. Guided by the soothing tones of koshi chimes & clear quartz crystal singing bowls, this meditative experience is designed to harmonize and bring balance to your body, mind, and spirit. Whether you are new to meditation or seeking to deepen your practice, Heather creates a safe and nurturing environment where you can unwind and relax.

**COURSE #: 1266-SOUND BATH** **\$ 35**  
Tue, Feb 11; 6-7 pm LCC 159

**COURSE #: 1266-SOUND BATH 2** **\$ 35**  
Tue, Feb 25; 6-7 pm LCC 159

## LEARN TO SEW

Learn to sew using a sewing machine! Join local tailor/seamstress/costumer Bianca Wilson for some beginner-friendly steps into the sewing world. In this course, we will learn about different parts of the sewing machine, their functions, and how to troubleshoot. Also included are spotlights on basic seams and finishes, darts, zippers (don't worry!), buttons/buttonholes, basting, and gathering.

**COURSE #: 1600-L2S** **\$ 150**  
Thu, Mar 6-Apr 24; 6-8 pm LCC 154

## HEATING AND COOLING SYSTEM BASIC MAINTENANCE AND SAFETY

In this course, Isaac Horn, owner of Ignite Heating and Cooling, will cover the basics of HVAC maintenance, safety precautions, and simple operational tips that you can easily perform on your own. Whether it's checking filters, understanding thermostat settings, or identifying signs your system needs professional attention, you'll walk away with valuable insights to keep your system running smoothly, safely, and efficiently. Perfect for those looking to extend the life of their HVAC system and avoid unnecessary repairs.

**Registration required.**

**COURSE#: 1700-HVAC** **\$ FREE**  
Tue, Feb 18; 6 -7 pm LCC 157

## FISH DON'T CLAP: PLANNING FOR A PURPOSEFUL RETIREMENT

This course is for everyone, from those just starting to think about retirement to those who think they have their retirement well planned out. Attendees will be given a copy of the book "Fish Don't Clap: Planning for a Purposeful Retirement," as well as a workbook.

**COURSE #: 1000-RETIREMENT** **\$ 25**  
Thu, Mar 6; 5:30-7:30 pm LCC 152

## VISIBLE MENDING

Is your clothing full of holes? Turn that problem into a fashion statement! This course will focus on patches and hand stitching techniques that can rejuvenate any item in your wardrobe. Bring a piece of clothing that's seen better days, and we'll provide the rest!

**COURSE #: 1600-MENDING** **\$ 65**  
Mon & Tue, Mar 3 & 4; 6-8:30 pm LCC 157

## ADULT INTRO TO QUILTING

Are you interested in learning basic quilting skills? In this 4 session class you will learn basic quilting techniques to take you on a journey to creating your own cozy masterpiece. Our goal is a "Disappearing 9 Patch Quilt." The end product will be a mini quilt that is a 2 X 2 foot square. This course is available at a low-introductory cost due to a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board.

**COURSE#: 1300-MSAB 2** **\$ 50**  
Sat, Feb 8; 9 - 4pm LCC 152

## AN INTRODUCTION TO WORKING WITH HERBS FOR HEALTH

Herbs have the remarkable ability to support us in times of need and nourish us every day. In this class, we will explore several common, local herbs and their various benefits and uses. Learn how to incorporate herbs into your daily routine and how to use them for common ailments. We will cover a variety of methods for working with herbs, including: Teas, Infusions, Decoctions, Tinctures, Salves/Oils & Cooking

**COURSE # 1600- HERBALISM** **\$ 40**  
Tue, Mar 25; 5-7 pm LCC 152

## EVERYBODY HAS A STORY: WRITING YOUR MEMOIR

Many people want to share their experiences in writing but don't know where to start. In this ongoing course, we'll read excerpts from classic memoirs and do writing exercises to help you identify and tell your stories. We'll explore organizing memories into narratives, adding lively details, highlighting themes, and navigating truth in storytelling. Whether you're just beginning or already have a project underway, you're welcome to join.

**COURSE #: 1300-MEMOIRS** **\$ 75**  
Tue, Apr 8-29; 5-7 pm LCC 154





### CO-REC SOCIAL VOLLEYBALL

Informal Recreational Volleyball. This is NOT competitive. It is a time for individuals to play volleyball for fun and an opportunity for new individuals to learn the rules and how to play.

**COURSE #: 7200-W25 \$50**  
 Wed, Feb 19-May 7; 6-9 pm LCC Upper Gym  
**REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 14**

### BASIC ARCHERY INSTRUCTOR CREDENTIAL

Basic Archery Instructor (Certification Course)  
 This is a certification course for adults interested in teaching Basic Archery Skills, using the NASP (National Archery In Schools Program) curriculum. This full day course runs from 8:00 am - 5:30 pm at Lincoln Community Center. Successful completion of this course allows adults to lead instructional content, using the curriculum and authorized equipment. Bring your own lunch and beverages. There will be a lunch break, but not long enough to leave campus.

**COURSE #: 1600-BASICARCHERY INSTRUCTOR \$150**  
 Mon, Feb 17; 8 am - 5:30 pm LCC Lower Gym

### BEGINNING DANCE CLASSES FOR ADULTS

It is a New Year, New Me & New Skills! Dance is a great way to beat the winter blues. Though the gentle guidance of our instructors, learn new dance steps you can take to the club, an upcoming special event or simply to get active as a fun form of exercise. Sign up for class alone or join with a friend. Either way you will have a blast.

**COURSE #: 1300- EAST COAST SWING \$95**  
 Wed, Feb 19 - Mar 12; 6:40 - 7:30 pm LCC 159  
**COUSE #: 1300- NIGHTCLUB \$95**  
 Wed, Feb 19 - Mar 12; 7:40 - 8:30 pm LCC 159  
**COURSE #: 1300- LINE DANCE \$95**  
 Wed, Mar 26 - Apr 16; 6:40 - 7:30 pm LCC 159  
**COURSE #: 1300- WEDDING \$95**  
 Wed, Mar 26 - Apr 16; 7:40 - 8:30 pm LCC 159

### 55+ DRIVER DISCOUNT PROGRAM

Receive a certificate for a 10% discount on insurance upon completion.

**Students need to register by calling 1-888-234-1294 (during business hours), or online at [www.mnsafetycenter.org](http://www.mnsafetycenter.org) under Driver Discount Program.**

**4-hour refresher classes (1 session) LCC RM 157**  
 JAN 9 APR 10  
 FEB 6 MAY 1  
 MAR 13

# ADULT

*Walk with us!*

## COMMUNITY MEMBERS 60+

We're pleased to offer **free** wellness services to community members 60+. Advance registration is required. Sessions run from January 6, 2025 to March 19, 2025.

Locations and Times:

#### Dakota Meadows Middle School:

1900 Howard Drive, North Mankato.

#### COURSE # : 1000 Dakota Meadows Middle School

Mon & Wed, Jan 6 - Mar 19; 5 - 7 pm

#### Lincoln Community Center:

110 Fulton Street, Mankato.

#### COURSE #: 1000 Lincoln Community Center

Mon & Wed, Jan 6 - Mar 19; 5 - 7 pm

#### Eagle Lake Elementary:

500 LeSueur Avenue, Eagle Lake

#### COURSE #: 1000 Eagle Lake Elementary

Mon & Wed, Jan 6 - Mar 19; 5 - 7 pm

#### Requirements:

- Participants must be 60+
- Indoor walking is unavailable on school holidays or during inclement weather closures.
- Wear indoor shoes; benches are available at the entrance.
- Carry personal items with you or lock them in your vehicle.
- No food, soda, or energy drinks allowed.
- For questions, contact Mankato Area Public Schools Community Education at 507-387-5501 or email [commmed@isd77.org](mailto:commmed@isd77.org).



# ADULT Trips

## GREASE THE MUSICAL AT CHANHASSEN DINNER THEATER

Step back to the '50s with Grease at Chanhassen Dinner Theatres! Enjoy the iconic drama, comedy, and music of Rydell High, featuring hits like "Summer Nights," "We Go Together," and "Greased Lightnin'." Your theater ticket includes lunch and gratuity, with a menu offering a variety of entrees from burgers to salads. Coffee, tea, milk, water, bread, and butter are included. Additional beverages and desserts are available for purchase.

**COURSE #: 1800- GREASE \$ 130**

Wed, Mar 5; 9 am- 5:30 pm

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3**

## EXPLORE THE MINNESOTA LANDSCAPE ARBORETUM

The beauty of Spring & Summer is in full bloom! This bus trip includes a Tram Ride, a Flower Pot Lunch, and a 10% discount at our gift and garden store. There will be time to explore the grounds on your own or meditate in the wonderful scents and sounds of the season. \* Lunch options are a ham, turkey or veggie wrap. You will be asked your choice in the registration questions.

**COURSE #: 1800 ARBORETUM \$ 99**

Thu, Jun 5; 8:15 am - 4:30 pm

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:  
FRIDAY, MAY 16**

## AMERICAN SWEDISH INSTITUTE

The American Swedish Institute: A museum, a cultural education center, a café, a destination store, a historic mansion, and more! Our group will experience a private tour of the Turnblad Mansion, this iconic 1908 structure is a must-see for architecture fans, history buffs, and cultural explorers alike and is the original home of the Turnblad family. With special exhibit of Ann Wolff, a glass artist. Wolff's blown, engraved, and cast work explores the lives of women, their relationship with one another, and their position in society. Fee includes a buffet lunch, a private tour of Turnblad Mansion and the opportunity to explore its 33 impressive rooms, and time to explore the featured exhibit.

**COURSE #: 1800- TURNBLAD \$ 99**

Fri, Apr 25; 8:15 am-4 pm

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:  
FRIDAY, MARCH 21**

## MN TWINS VS CLEVELAND

This is a loaded value of game ticket in the Legends Landing area of Target Field plus all you can eat concessions! We have taken care of all the details! You will be dropped off at the field to enjoy the game, eat your favorite concession treats, sip on soda or water and most importantly, cheer on our beloved TWINS! Leave the trip plans to us. Your job will be to support the home team! Concessions are located conveniently behind our seats for easy access to food, drink and your favorite Ballfield snacks. \*The all you can eat feature does not include alcoholic beverages or merchandise. If you wish to purchase such items, be reminded that Target Field accepts only credit or debit cards (no cash).

**COURSE #: 1800-TWINS \$ 99**

Wed, May 21; 9 am - 5 pm

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:  
FRIDAY, APRIL 25**

## REGISTRATION TIPS

- When paying with credit card it will show up on your statement as Mankato Area Public Schools.
- NO REFUNDS can be given for trips after the registration deadline.
- Personal checks made payable to ISD77

## TRAVEL TIPS

- Register early to reserve your spot on the coach bus.
- Start times is when to arrive at WowZone parking lot, St. Peter parking lot is about 20 minutes later than listed start time.
- We contract out transportation. Our provider does not provide wheelchair accessible seating at this time. Participants must be able to travel independently.
- No glass bottles or containers on the bus.
- Departing from Wow Zone parking lot in Mankato and St Peter Community Center on Washington Street, St Peter.





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# ACCESS Adults with Disabilities

Enjoy a variety of activities that will encourage your creative side, express your knowledge, and engage with the community. Sign up for as many classes that suit your interest.

**All classes are held at the Lincoln Community Center from 10-11 am.**

**\$ 5 Per Class**

## **SPRING SAMPLER**

Pick between a variety of enriching activities for adults with disabilities! Engage with community while developing your creative side and increasing your knowledge.

**Tue, March 11** - Lady Bug + Bumble Bee Craft - Transform paper rolls into adorable ladybugs and bumblebees with construction paper wings and googly eyes that bring these critters to life!

**COURSE #: 6100-Lady Bug + Bumble Bee**

**Tue, March 18** - Pressed Flower Suncatcher - Capture nature's beauty by pressing flowers and sealing them between self-laminating sheets to make a colorful suncatcher

**COURSE #: 6100-Flower Suncatcher**

**Tue, March 25** - Grass + Flower Hair Cups - Decorate a cup with a friendly face and watch as grass and flowers grow to become its wild, natural hairdo!

**COURSE #: 6100-Grass + Flower Hair Cup**

**Tue, April 1** - Coffee Filter Bouquet - Create stunning marbled flowers by coloring coffee filters, spraying them with water, and shaping them into a bouquet with pipe cleaner stems.

**COURSE #: 6100-Coffee Filter Bouquet**

**Tue, April 8** - Rain Drop Suncatcher - Melt crayon shavings in various shades of blue and cut them into water droplet shapes to craft a beautiful raindrop suncatcher.

**COURSE #: 6100-Rain Drop Suncatcher**

**Tue, April 15** - Mason Jar Wind Chime - Make a charming wind chime by decorating a mason jar and hanging colorful glass beads that create music in the breeze.

**COURSE #: 6100-Mason Jar Wind Chime**

**Tue, April 22** - Spring Flower Wreath - Brighten up your space with a beautiful wreath made of colorful artificial flowers and a rustic burlap ribbon.

**COURSE #: 6100-Spring Flower Wreath**

**Tue, April 29** - DIY Crystals - Conduct a fun science experiment that turns borax, food coloring, and pipe cleaners into stunning crystal-like creations.

**COURSE #: 6100-DIY Crystals**

**To Register:** visit [mankato.ce.eleyo.com](http://mankato.ce.eleyo.com)

for assistance with registration

email Tia Dupont: [tdupon1@isd77.org](mailto:tdupon1@isd77.org) or call 507-387-5501.



**ACCESS PROVIDES INDIVIDUALS WITH  
DISABILITIES AN OPPORTUNITY TO  
PARTICIPATE IN SOCIAL &  
RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES.**

# ADULT BASIC EDUCATION



## MANKATO AREA ADULT BASIC EDUCATION

LINCOLN COMMUNITY CENTER  
110 FULTON STREET  
MANKATO MN 56001  
(507)345-5222



Scan to register!

### EARN YOUR GED

FREE



#### PROGRAM INCLUDES:

- Teacher-led classes in all subjects
- In-person classes available in Mankato during the day
- Online classes available during the day and evening
- Flexible scheduling
- Plan your transition to college or employment
- Childcare available with a full, daytime schedule from 8:30 am - 1:00 pm
- Official GED Testing available twice per month

### LEVEL UP YOUR ENGLISH SKILLS

✓ FREE

- ✓ Learn English speaking, listening, reading, and writing at your level
- ✓ Online and in-person options
- ✓ Classes scheduled day or evening

### REGISTER TODAY!



Join classes **Monthly!**

#### DAYTIME CLASSES

Monday - Thursday  
8:30 am - 1:00 pm

\*In-person and limited online options  
\*Childcare available for 16 months and older

#### EVENING CLASSES

Tuesday - Thursday  
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

\*Online only

### Additional Classes:

- Citizenship Classes
- Career Exploration
- Child Development
- Computer Classes
- Pathways to Healthcare Careers
- Pathways to Manufacturing Careers
- Microsoft Office Specialist
- Community Interpreter Training

**Call for dates and times**

### PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP CLASS



FRIDAYS  
APRIL 4- MAY 30



11:00 AM - 1:00 PM



ONLINE, GOOGLE MEET



### CAREERS in LONG-TERM CARE



MONDAY - THURSDAY  
FEBRUARY 3 - MARCH 20



12:00 PM - 1:00 PM



IN PERSON  
LINCOLN COMMUNITY CENTER





# AQUATICS *at East High School*

## Adult Aquatics

Ages 18+; under 18 must be with an adult. Held at Mankato East High School Pool. Park in the East lot near Thomas Park and enter through Door 9.

### WATER AEROBICS & LAP SWIM

All water aerobics workouts are at your own pace. No swimming ability is required for Water Aerobics. Shallow and deep water is available.

#### COURSE #: 3800-WA + LS

Mon, Jan 8 – May 19; 6:30 – 8 pm EHS pool  
Wed, Mar 19 – May 21

#### MASTERS SWIM

Designed swim workouts. Lanes are divided by ability and workouts are scaled. Workouts vary in distance, strokes, drills, and speed.

#### COURSE #: 3900-MASTERS

Tue/Thu, Feb 4 – May 29; 5 – 6:45 am EHS pool  
Sat, Feb 1 – Mar 22; 6 – 8 am

**\$40 Monthly or \$5 Drop In**

**\*ENTER EAST HIGH SCHOOL DOOR 9**

## LIFEGUARD TRAINING

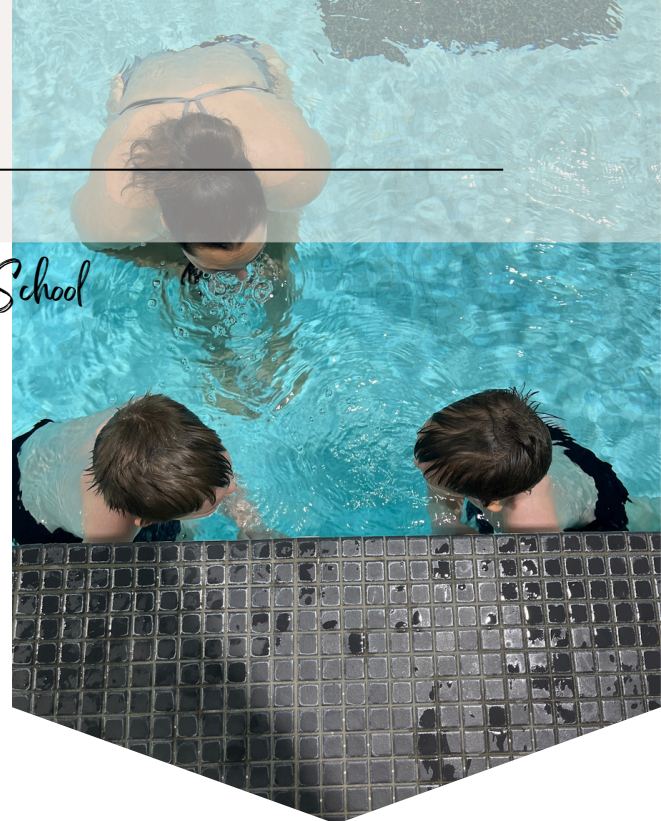
Become a certified lifeguard through the American Red Cross Lifeguard Training course. This blended learning format combines online coursework with in-person skills sessions, covering water rescue, CPR, AED use, and first aid. Participants must be at least 15 years old and pass a swim-tread-swim sequence and a timed retrieval from 7–10 feet.

#### COURSE #: 3725-1S \$185

Thu – Sat, Mar 27 – 29; 9 am–3 pm EHS Pool  
Sun, Mar 30; 12 – 5 pm

#### COURSE #: 3725-2S \$185

Fri, May 9 & 16; 6 – 9 pm  
Sat, May 10 & 17; 9 am – 3 pm  
Sun, May 11; 12 – 4 pm EHS Pool



## GROUP SWIMMING LESSONS

**Ages 6 and up**

**Levels 1 – 3**

**\$80**

**Session 1**

EHS Pool

Mon & Wed, Apr 7 – May 7; 4:15 – 5 pm

**Session 2**

Mon & Wed, Apr 7 – May 7; 5:15 – 6 pm

## PRIVATE SWIMMING LESSONS

Individual and Small Group lessons available.  
30-minute sessions.

Saturdays, Feb 8 – Mar 22

Tuesdays and Thursdays, Apr 8 – May 8;

Individual \$30/Lesson

Ages 3 and up

Small-Group \$20/Lesson per participant

Ages 6 and up

## WATER SAFETY INSTRUCTOR ® COURSE

Earn your American Red Cross certification to teach swimming and water safety to all ages. Pre-requisites include swimming various strokes (25 yds) and water skills. This blended learning course combines online work with in-person sessions for comprehensive training. Achieve the gold standard in swim instruction and help others stay safe in the water.

#### COURSE #: 3900-WSI

**\$230**

EHS Pool

Sat & Sun, Apr 5 – 13;

Saturdays, 9 am – 4 pm

Sundays, 11 am – 5 pm

# Swim with us!

# ALL AGES

## 4 STRATEGIES FOR A SMARTER COLLEGE SEARCH

Learn about the significant changes in college admissions, FAFSA, financial aid, and standardized testing that may impact your family. Discover new strategies to enhance your student's chances of admission and maximizing scholarships and financial aid.

Details:

Audience: Parents of HS students in grades 9-11

Format: Live Zoom event with Q&A

Presenter: Cozy Wittman, a national speaker and mom of 5 with diverse college goals

Registration: Register to receive the Zoom link.

### COURSE #: 2600- COLLEGE SEARCH

Mon, Feb 10; 7:30 – 8:30 pm

\$ 10

Online Zoom

## LEAVE NO TRACE FAMILY TRAINING: EXPLORING NATURE, PROTECTING THE PLANET

Join us for a fun, 3-hour hands-on Leave No Trace training designed for families! Learn simple, powerful ways to enjoy nature responsibly through games, interactive activities, and outdoor exploration. Families will discover the 7 Leave No Trace principles, from respecting wildlife to keeping parks clean. Perfect for camping, hiking, or picnicking, these tips help minimize your impact while having fun outdoors.

### COURSE #: 2600-FAMILY TRAINING

Sat, Apr 5; 2 – 5 pm

\$ 25

(PER FAMILY)

LCC 152

## LEAVE NO TRACE TRAINER CERTIFICATION: EMPOWERING FUTURE LEADERS IN OUTDOOR ETHICS

Join us for a transformative Leave No Trace Trainer Certification program over the first two weekends of April. This two-day training will equip you with the skills to become a certified Leave No Trace trainer, empowering you to educate others on responsible outdoor practices.

### COURSE #: 2000-TRAINER CERT.

Day 1 Sun, Apr 6; 9 am– 3 pm

Day 2 Sun, Apr 13; 8:30 am– 6:30 pm

\$ 25

Williams  
Nature Center

## EARTH DAY WEEKEND: CONSERVATION IN ACTION

Roll up your sleeves for trail maintenance, invasive species removal, plant identification, water quality testing, and rewinding activities that will make a real difference to the park and our planet. Bring your love for nature and get ready to give back to the earth! This event is perfect for families and kids of all ages.

### COURSE #: 2600-SERVICE DAY

Sun, Apr 27; 1–4 pm

FREE

William  
Nature  
Center

## SPRING EDIBLE & MEDICINAL PLANT WALK

Plant walks are a great opportunity to become more connected with the plants all around you! These walks are interactive as we explore the plants to get to know them better through sight, touch, smell and taste. You will leave knowing ID as well as how to work with the plant and its benefits! These plant walks are designed for the beginner and the knowledgeable alike! Walk is led by Herbalist and Integrative Nutritionist, Kara Swenson of Thistle Patch Wellness. Kara Swenson, owner of Thistle Patch Wellness, is an herbalist and integrative nutritionist.

### COURSE #: 1200-PLANT WALK

Wed, May 14; 5–7 pm

\$35

Rasmussen  
Woods

## ONE ON ONE BEGINNER GUITAR LESSONS

Discover the joy of playing guitar through personalized, one-on-one lessons that cater to your unique learning style. Each student will receive 4 lessons.

Participants aged 11 and older are welcome, with this course open to teens, adults, and anyone interested in learning!

\*Students must provide their own acoustic or electric guitar.

### COURSE #: 2300-TIME SLOT

Tues, Mar 4 – 25; times vary

Thurs, Mar 6 – 27; times vary

\$ 120

LCC 203





# YOUTH Sports

## ARCHERY

Archery is a fun way for students to try something new! Our program, taught by a certified instructor, covers the basics of using a compound bow. Students will learn commands, signals, techniques, and shooting challenges in a safe, supportive, and low-pressure environment. **All equipment is provided.**

### BEGINNING ARCHERY GRADES 4-6

**COURSE #: 8400-BEGINNER** **\$65**  
Tue, Feb 11 - Mar 18; 5-6 pm LCC Gym

### INTERMEDIATE ARCHERY GRADES 4-8

**COURSE #: 8400-INTERMEDIATE** **\$65**  
Tue, Feb 11 - Mar 18; 6-7 pm LCC Gym

### TEEN ARCHERY GRADES 4-8

**COURSE #: 8400-TEEN** **\$65**  
Tue, Feb 11 - Mar 18; 7-8 pm LCC Gym

## SATURDAY MORNING SPORTS

Our sports programs focus on teaching the fundamentals, rules, and teamwork in a fun and supportive environment. Through non-competitive games, children build confidence, develop physical skills, and enjoy staying active.

### YOUTH INDOOR SOCCER-GRADES K-6

Sat, Feb 8, 15, 22 & Mar 1

**COURSE #: 8512-K/2** **\$65**  
8:30-9:30 am C4L Gym  
**COURSE #: 8512-3/4** **\$65**  
9:45-10:45 am C4L Gym  
**COURSE #: 8512-5/6** **\$65**  
11 am-12 pm C4L Gym

### LITTLE ATHLETES - RUNNING, JUMPING, AND AGILITY

Sat, Apr 26 & May 3, 10, 17

**COURSE #: 8330-4/5** **\$65**  
9-10 am C4L Gym  
**COURSE #: 8330-6/7** **\$65**  
10:15-11:15 am C4L Gym

### {YEL!} FENCING GRADES 2-5

**COURSE #: 8200-(2-5W)** **\$128**  
Mon, Jan 27- Mar 3; 6-7 pm LCC Gym  
**COURSE #: 8200-(2-5S)** **\$128**  
Mon, Apr 7- May 12; 6-7 pm LCC Gym

### {YEL!} FENCING GRADES 6-12

**COURSE #: 8200-(6-12-W)** **\$128**  
Mon, Jan 27- Mar 3; 7-8 pm LCC Gym  
**COURSE #: 8200-(6-12-S)** **\$128**  
Mon, Apr 7- May 12; 7-8 pm LCC Gym



Community Education has partnered with Connecting Kids (a program of Greater Mankato Area United Way) to offer scholarships for K-12 out of school time activities. To apply for a scholarship, please visit Mankato Connecting Kids.

## SKATING SCHOOL

Skating classes are offered through the Ice Skating Institute of America for all recreational skaters at all levels.

### Ages 3+

**Beginner 1, Beginner 2, Pre-Alpha, Alpha, Beta, Gamma/Delta,**  
**WINTER SESSION:**

**COURSE #: 8500**  
**\$65**

Sat, Jan 25- Mar 8  
All Seasons Arena



# YOUTH Enrichment + Leisure

## RED CROSS ADVANCED BABYSITTER TRAINING

The American Red Cross Babysitter's Training course prepares youth with the information and skills necessary to provide safe and responsible care for children in the absence of parents or adult guardians. This course will help participants develop skills in leadership and professionalism, basic care, safety, safe play and first aid. **Ages 11-15**

**COURSE #: 4700-BST1 \$120**  
Mon, Jan 27; 9 am -3 pm LCC 157  
**COURSE #: 4700-BST2 \$120**  
Mon, Feb 17; 9 am-3 pm LCC 157  
**COURSE #: 4700-BST3 \$120**  
Thu, Mar 14; 9 am-3 pm LCC 157

## HOME ALONE SAFETY (PARENT & CHILD CLASS)

Staying home alone for the first time is an opportunity eagerly anticipated by most kids; but with opportunity comes responsibility. This course covers a variety of common scenarios and topics specific to children preparing to stay home alone, or stay home with younger siblings.

**Grades 2-6**

**COURSE #: 5700-HAS1 \$20**  
Thu, Mar 27; 6-7:30 pm LCC 157  
**COURSE #: 5700-HAS2 \$20**  
Thu, May 1; 6-7:30 pm LCC 157

## BEGINNER ACRYLIC PAINTING

Dive into the vibrant world of acrylic painting! In this beginner-friendly course, you'll learn how to use various brushes and discover the techniques that make each one unique. From mixing and blending colors to creating shadows, you'll explore how to bring depth and dimension to your artwork. You'll also be introduced to different kinds of mediums that can enhance your acrylic painting experience, giving you more control and creativity in your projects.

**COURSE #: 4300-ACRYLIC \$100**  
Wed, Feb 26-Mar 26; 4-5:30 pm LCC 154

## 5TH GRADE INTRO TO MIDDLE SCHOOL CAMP

5th Grade students attending Dakota Meadows or Prairie Winds in the Fall of 2025 are invited to spend some time at their new school, learning some of the basics of middle school.

### DAKOTA MEADOWS

**COURSE#: 4600 MSCampDMMS \$15**

Thu, Mar 27; 1-3 pm DMMS

### PRAIRIE WINDS

**COURSE#: 8989-2 MSCampPWMS \$15**

Thu, Mar 27; 9-11 am PWMS



## Middle School After School

### At Dakota Meadows & Prairie Winds Middle School

Middle School After School (MSAS) clubs offer a fun opportunity for students in grades 6-8 to socialize and make new friends in a low-pressure environment. Held at Prairie Winds and Dakota Meadows Middle Schools, these theme-based clubs meet weekly on Monday, Tuesday and Thursdays from 3:20 - 5 pm. Registration for the Winter Semester of Middle School After School opens in January. New session begins February. For more information, visit our website or contact Community Education at 507-387-5501.

Seeking club leaders + site leaders, email [commde@isd77.org](mailto:commde@isd77.org) if interested.



WINTER 2025  
YOUTH ENRICHMENT + LEISURE

14



# YOUTH Enrichment + Leisure

## {YEL!} GRANDMASTERS OF CHESS 1.1

New and returning students invited. Learn, Practice and Play chess each class.

**Grades K-5**

**COURSE#: 5600-RWINTER \$120**

Sst, Feb 6- Mar 13; 2:30-3:30 pm R

**COURSE #: 5600-LCCSPRING \$120**

Sat, Apr 12-May 17; 10-11 am LCC

**COURSE #: 5600-RSPRING \$120**

Sat, Apr 3- May 8; 2:30-3:30 pm R



## WINTER & SPRING CHESS TOURNEY

Back by popular demand! Our regional chess tourneys are fun, competitive and an all around good time. We have a growing number of players from around the region, ready to play in a community of players that love the game and friendships formed. We will award medals and ribbons to grade level and division champions. This event is co-sponsored by South Central Service Coop & Mankato Community Ed.

**Grades K-12**

**COURSE #: 5600-WINTERTOURNEY \$25**

Sat, Feb 1; 8 am-12 pm LCC 157

**COURSE #: 5600-SPRINGTOURNEY \$25**

Sat, May 10; 8 am-12 pm LCC 157

## RESCUE 'BOTS

There is a panda bear trapped in a ravine! Build a robot helicopter to rescue it and then learn skills to create a floodgate, earthquake machine, or a helpful robot to better society. Learn coding and building to make a difference. **Grades 1-5**

**COURSE #: 5400-RESCUE BOTS-B \$120**

Wed, Apr 2-May 21; 2:50-3:50 pm B-125

**COURSE #: 5400- RESCUE BOTS-EL \$120**

Mon, Apr 7-May 12 5; 2:30-3:30 pm EL Media

**COURSE #: 5400-RESCUE BOTS- W \$120**

Tue, Apr 8-May 13; 2:30-3:30 pm W-Art RM



## {YEL!} MAD SCIENTISTS TRAINING ACADEMY

In this class, you won't just learn science...you'll DO science. Make and take home a lava lamp, hover disc, explosive volcano, and...of course...SLIME! Use all of these experiments to explore and discover the scientific method. Don your white coat and goggles...it's time to begin your own journey to becoming a mad scientist. **Grades 2-5**

**COURSE #: 5400 MAD SCIENCE LCC \$160**

Sat, Jan 25-Mar 1; 10-11 am LCC



## {YEL!} ROBOTICS NATURE 'BOTS

Help Nature and our environment by studying them more closely. We'll build a frog 'bot and discuss metamorphosis, then build a bumble bee and discuss the importance of pollination. We'll study nature while learning computer coding and engineering skills.

**Grades 1-5**

**COURSE #: 5400- NATURE BOTS -B \$120**

Wed, Jan 29-Mar 19; 2:50-3:50 pm B

**COURSE #: 5400- NATURE BOTS - W \$120**

Tue, Jan 28-Mar 4; 2:30-3:30 pm W

**COURSE #: 5400- NATURE BOTS -EL \$120**

Mon, Feb 3-Mar 17; 2:30-3:30 pm EL

the  
ELEMENTARY  
YEARS

# ACES

## 2025 registration dates



**SUMMER  
ACES**

**wednesday, 03/12/25**



**SCHOOL YEAR  
ACES**

**wednesday, 05/14/25**

**mark your calendars + watch  
social media for our new  
registration process!**



mankato  
community  
education



community  
ed  
mankato



**aces@isd77.org | 507.387.5501**





# EARLY LEARNING



## Welcome

Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) provides programming and service to families of young children. Parents and caregivers are critical to a young child's development and provide a foundation for young learners' success. Early Childhood Family Education works to strengthen families and encourages parents to provide the best possible environment for the healthy development of their children through facilitation of parent-child activities by a licensed early childhood teacher, and parent discussion facilitated by a licensed parent educator. A variety of classes and outreach activities are offered for families with infants, toddlers, and preschoolers with varied topics and interests.

### WHAT DOES A TYPICAL ECFE CLASS INCLUDE?

#### PARENT-CHILD ACTIVITY TIME

Families explore a classroom filled with developmentally appropriate play and learning activities planned by a licensed early childhood teacher. These experiences foster a child's social, emotional, cognitive, physical and language and communication skills.

#### PARENT EDUCATION TIME

Parents meet with a licensed parent educator to share support, experiences and information about child development and parenting. Discussions are focused on early brain development, parent-child relationships, social-emotional learning, behavior guidance, language development, thinking skills, and physical development.

#### CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY TIME

Children explore, gain independence, and practice social skills while interacting with the early childhood teacher and paraeducator.



WHERE IT ALL BEGINS

# REGISTRATION INFORMATION

## for Early Learning

### WINTER SESSION

December 2- February 24

### SPRING SESSION

March 7- May 23



To register, visit [mankato.ce.eleyo.com](http://mankato.ce.eleyo.com) or scan QR code.

If you are unable to register online, you may call our office at the Center for Learning (507) 625-4620.

### PAYMENT/SCHOLARSHIPS

Fees are payable by cash, check or credit card. Scholarships for parent/child classes in the form of a reduced fee or waived fee are available for families in need of financial assistance (ECFE Fee Scale). Registrant wishing to withdraw their registration must do so no later than one week prior to the course start date. No refunds will be given if withdraw is made less than one week prior.

### IMMUNIZATIONS

Please bring a copy of your child's immunization records to the first class. If your child has not been immunized, we will need you to submit a signed exempt form to the Early Learning office.

### SIBLING CARE

Sibling care is available for most parent/child classes. Please make alternative care arrangements for your child if sibling care is not available. You will register and pay for sibling care at the same time you register for your parent/child class. We ask that you provide one healthy snack item per term. You are welcome to visit your child in sibling care at any time.

### ECFE FEE SCALE

Income Range	Fee for 1.5 hr class	Fee for 1 hr class
\$0-19,999	\$0	\$0
\$20,000-29,999	\$15	\$10
\$30,000-49,999	\$40	\$20
\$50,000-74,999	\$65	\$40
\$75,000+	\$80	\$60



### Registration for ECFE or Program Questions:

Center for Learning  
15 Map Dr, Mankato  
507-625-4620



# INFANT/TODDLER

## NEWBORN DISCOVERY FREE!

**Wednesdays 9-10:30 (except federal Holidays and Winter break)**

Join us for Newborn Discovery. An inclusive and informative class designed specifically for newborns aged 0-12 weeks and their parents or caregivers. This class is a wonderful opportunity to connect with other parents, share experiences, and gain valuable insights from our knowledgeable licensed parent educator, public health nurse, and lactation specialist. We create a warm and inclusive atmosphere where questions and concerns are welcomed, providing a supportive community for each parent or caregiver.

The class will cover essential areas such as feeding, lactation information, weighing and growth monitoring, returning to work, sleep, family changes, and developmental milestones. This class is designed to provide you with practical knowledge and tools to navigate the early stages of parenthood with confidence and ease.

**No registration required. Drop in.  
For parents, caregivers and  
infants ages 0-12 weeks.**

**Free Sibling care. Please call in  
advance if sibling care is needed.**

**507-625-4620**

**Center for Learning**

**15 Map Dr. Mankato, MN 56001  
mankatoecfe.org**

### WELCOME TO THE WORLD LITTLE ONE!

Congratulations on your new baby and welcome to Mankato Area Public Schools. Parents and caregivers are invited to register for one of our Great Start infant classes for support, more information, and to learn alongside other new parents. Please call to register for your first ECCE Great Start Infant class for FREE!

#### GREAT START

##### 0-9 months (Non-Separating)

Bring your baby to play in our ECCE classroom! You will find age appropriate activities to enjoy with your baby, simple ways to encourage your baby's development at home, and meet other parents with whom you can share ideas, concerns, and successes.

- Monday 10:30-11:30 am
- Tuesday 6-7 pm

#### BUSY BODIES

##### 10-18 months (Non-Separating)

Rolling...Creeping...Crawling... Walking! Explore, play and learn with your little one alongside a licensed early childhood educator. Learn, support and grow with other parents and caregivers alongside a licensed parent educator. Topics range from child development to finding time for yourself.

- Tuesday 9-10 am
- Monday 4:30-5:30 pm (Winter only)

### LITTLE WIGGLERS

##### 13-24 months (Non-Separating)

Your one year-old is busy, curious and ready to play! Together you and your child will play with a variety of toys, use art materials, learn songs and finger plays and enjoy lots of movement. A benefit of this class is that you and your child will remain in the same room together while parent discussion takes place.

- Monday 9-10 am
- Tuesday 6-7 pm
- Thursday 9-10 am

### MUSIC, MOVEMENT & BOOKS

##### 13-28 months (Non-Separating)

Come and enjoy music, movement and books with your toddler! During this class, we will use songs, books, and large motor skills to help foster literacy development, active learning, and physical health.

- Wednesday 9-10 am

### YOUNG 2'S

##### 18-30 months (Gradual Separating)

Toddlers are constantly on the go exploring with energy and wonder. That is their job. Join us in activities that encourage language development, self-help skills, and a variety of sensory activities. Gradually, as the class allows, parents will move on to the parenting education room. As a parent, you will gain knowledge and support from a licensed parent educator and other parents during discussion time.

- Monday 10:30 am-12 pm
- Friday 9-10:30 am



# AGES 2 & 3/MULTI-AGE

## 2'S-3'S COMBO

### 28-47 months (Separating)

Being a two or three year old is a very unique time in your child's life. Language development is emerging, social skills are developing and physical and cognitive changes occur rapidly. The class will have parent/child interaction time followed by a parent only discussion time lead by a Parent Educator. Children remain in the classroom to experience learning activities, such as sensory exploration, dramatic play, large and small muscle experiences, in addition to storytelling, music and other literacy-rich activities under the guidance of an Early Childhood Teacher.

- Monday 10:30 am-12 pm
- Monday 6-7:30 pm
- Tuesday 8:30-10 am
- Tuesday 6-7:30 pm
- Wednesday 8:30-10 am

## FAMILY NATURE MEET-UP FOR 8 WEEKS

### Birth - 8 years (Non-Separating)

Nature will be our guide as we explore, learn, and grow outside together. The Nature Meet-up is for all families whether you are an avid explorer with your little ones or just want to try something new. We welcome backpack babies and children birth - 8 yrs. You, the parents, or caregiver, will stay with your children during the nature meetup. You get to explore and play too. Please come dressed to be outside. We'll be playing and hiking in all types of weather. Rain boots and raincoats make exploring more fun on wet days.

- Monday 4:30-5:30 pm (Spring)
- Wednesday 10:30-11:30 am (Spring)

## COOKING FUN FOR FAMILIES

### 28 months-5 years (Non-separating)

Welcome to our cooking class designed for parents and young children! Join us for a hands-on, interactive experience where you'll bond over delicious recipes and create lasting memories. Together, we'll explore nutritious foods and have fun cooking together. Let's make cooking a joy for the whole family!

- Tuesday 4:30-5:30 (Winter only)

## FANTASTIC 3'S

### 36-48 months (Separating)

Parenting your 3 year old is exciting, fun, and also challenging at times. Spend some time with your child in our ECCE classroom with other children and parents or caregivers who are having similar experiences. Children will be able to play, explore, and learn new skills with the guidance of a licensed early childhood educator. You will value time spent with other caregivers to discuss child development, challenges, proud moments, and gain support with a licensed parent educator.

- Friday 9-10:30 am

## BOOKS AND BEYOND

### 3-5 years (Non-Separating)

Dive into the world of imagination with your child through books. In this non-separating class you and your child will experience art, math, science, music, and nutritional activities that will correspond with the books you'll be reading. Parenting tips will be shared.

- Thursday 10:30-11:30 am
- Thursday 4:30-5:30 pm

## MESSY ART

### 13-35 months OR 2-5 years (Non-Separating)

"Paint, chalk, flour, oatmeal, glue, glitter, hands and feet..." What do all these items have in common? These are just a few tools we will use to "mess around" in our class. So, come prepared to explore, create, and have fun!

- Thursday 10:30-11:30 am (13-28 months)
- Thursday 6-7 pm (28 months-5 years)
- Friday 11 am-12 pm (28 months-5 years)

## STEM CLASS

### 3-5 years (Non-Separating)

Help your child explore the world using their senses. Join us as we explore, investigate, calculate, & experiment with hands-on math and science concepts. Learn with your child how fun, easy, and important it is to incorporate math and science into your everyday life. This is a non-separating class taught by an Early Childhood Teacher.

- Wednesday 6-7 pm

## BUILDING EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE

### 12-24 months (Non Separating)

### 24-48 months (Separating)

Building Emotional Intelligence" is a parent-child class for kids aged 0-5, focusing on social-emotional learning. Parents and caregivers gain tools and knowledge to support their child's emotional development through activities, games, songs, and discussions. Led by licensed Early Childhood and Parenting Educators.

- Tuesday 4:30-5:30 pm (Spring-12-24 months)
- Wednesday 10:30-11:30 am (Winter - 12-24 months)
- Thursday 8:30-10 am (Winter, Spring - 24-36 months)





## EARLY CHILDHOOD SCREENING

**Best to be screened at age 3**

**Required before Kindergarten Registration**

Early Childhood Screening is a comprehensive developmental screening for children 3-5 years old.

**The purpose of Early Childhood Screening is to...**

- Increase parent understanding of child's health, development and school readiness
- Identify conditions and risk factors that may affect a child's ability to learn and develop, make referrals for further assessment
- Link families to parenting resources and preventive health care

**A Parent Should Schedule an Early Childhood Screening because...**

- It identifies, at an early age, any hearing, vision, growth or development needs.
- It gives the parent valuable information about their child, information about school readiness and community resources.
- It is required by the state of Minnesota before entrance into public school kindergarten.



**Scan here to make your appointment.**  
If you have any questions please contact our office at 507-625-4620.

## HELP ME GROW

**WHAT IS HELP ME GROW?**

- Help Me Grow provides resources for families to understand developmental milestones and learn if there are concerns. This helps families take the lead in seeking additional support, or referring their child for a comprehensive, confidential screening or evaluation at no cost.
- Help Me Grow is an inter-agency initiative of the State of Minnesota Department of Education, Department of Health and Department of Human Services. We partner with all local service agencies.

**WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW TO HELP A YOUNG CHILD DEVELOP, LEARN AND GROW?**

- Developmental Milestones - Learn more about how a child develops from birth to five.
- Encouraging Healthy Development- Find ideas on how to support a child's development, healthy learning and growth.
- Get Help for a Child- Learn what to do if you have concerns about a child's development.
- Articles- Explore in-depth information on birth to five child development and growth and early intervention.



## HOME VISITING

Our Early Childhood Family Education Home Visit program supports parents and caregivers of children prenatal to age 5. A licensed parent educator helps parents in their role as their child's most important teacher.

**WHO MAY BENEFIT:**

- Families without reliable transportation
- Families with special medical, physical, or developmental concerns
- Families referred by other programs
- Expecting mothers
- First-time parents
- Families needing individual support
- Families experiencing trauma or stress

**WHAT TO EXPECT:**

- Connect with community resources
- Receive encouragement, support, and strategies for learning and growth
- Discuss current parenting and family issues
- Learn developmentally appropriate activities
- Share and discuss personal issues in a safe, confidential environment
- Understand the importance of strong, positive relationships

Contact: For questions or to schedule an appointment, call the Early Learning Department at (507) 625-4620.



## WEATHER INFORMATION *for Early Learning*

On days when MAPS schools are closed or students are released early due to hazardous weather conditions, all ECFE Parent/Child classes are canceled.

When MAPS K-12 starts two hours late due to weather, all ECFE Parent/Child classes starting 10:30 or later will still be held.

If school is released on schedule and there is a threat of inclement weather, the Early Learning Department along with the Community Education Department will make a decision whether to hold evening classes or to cancel.

Caregivers are encouraged to use their own judgment in attending classes if weather is threatening.

**We will announce any closures or cancellations on our Facebook page, MAPSEarlyLearning, and on local media outlets indicating ECFE classes, Early Learning and/or Community Education classes are canceled.**



## FAMILY OPEN GYM & PLAYTIME

Parents and their children Birth- Age 5 are WELCOME! Family Open Gym and Playtime is great for large muscle development. Riding toys, balls, and more will be available.

***Join us for Open Gym***

**Thursday evenings  
5:30-7:00 pm**

Jan. 9, 23  
Feb. 6, 20  
Mar. 13, 20  
Apr. 10, 24  
May 1, 15

**Friday mornings  
9:30-11:30 am**

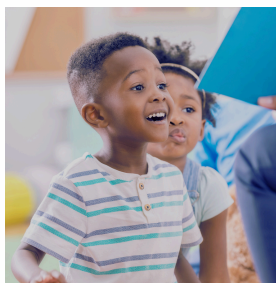
Jan. 10, 24  
Feb. 7, 21  
Mar. 7, 21  
Apr. 11, 25  
May 2, 16



# FREE

**LOCATED AT CENTER  
FOR LEARNING,  
15 MAP DR. MANKATO**





## MAPS PRESCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

**MAPS Preschool registration is by application. Full fee, partial fee, and no fee options are available. Early Childhood Screening should be completed prior to enrollment or within the first 60 days.**

- Family Involvement is essential to the MAPS Preschool experience.
- Play builds the brain! Play is a child's work! Play based learning is foundational at MAPS!
- A research, play based, curriculum and assessment are used across program classrooms.
- The whole child is developed by offering activities and experiences through music, movement, outdoor, and hands-on learning to develop skills in the areas of math, literacy, cognitive, and social emotional.
- Alignment with Mankato Area Public Schools policies, practices and procedures for successful transition to Kindergarten and life long learning!
- Our classrooms offer inclusive settings for children with special needs.



<https://www.mankatocer.com/programs/early-learning/maps-preschool>

*Registration is easy!*

Register online at  
mankato.ce.eleyo.com; or go to  
the Center for Learning  
15 Map Dr, Mankato  
For more information call  
507-625-4620





# REGISTRATION IS EASY!

## For Community Education



**ONLINE**  
<https://mankato.ce.eleyo.com/>  
**EMAIL**  
[commed@isd77.org](mailto:commed@isd77.org)

**PHONE**  
**507-387-5501**  
**MN RELAY SERVICES: V/TTY711**

### PAYMENTS

Community Education collects payment at the time of registration. You will be emailed a course reminder a week prior to start date. We accept VISA, MasterCard and Discover. Participation for all members of the household will be suspended until the account is brought up to date.\*\* Delinquent accounts are subject to collections.

### ACCOUNT INFORMATION

Please be sure to review and update all user information including payment information, payer and participant names, address, phone numbers, emergency contacts and email address.

### REFUNDS

Registrants wishing to withdraw their registration from a course must do so no later than 4 business days prior to the scheduled start of the activity\* Refunds may include a \$10 processing fee. \*NO refunds can be given for trips or tours after the registration deadline.

### CANCELLED CLASSES

CE reserves the right to cancel any event, class or program. CE will make efforts to contact registrants before the scheduled start of the activity. Refunds (may include \$5 processing fee) will be given if cancellation occurs. If Mankato Area Public Schools District 77 closes school or releases students early due to weather concerns, CER activities will also be cancelled. For updated information, please check [www.mankatocer.com](http://www.mankatocer.com) or Mankato Community Education Facebook page.



Community Education has partnered with Connecting Kids (a program of Greater Mankato Area United Way) to offer scholarships for K-12 out of school time activities. To apply for a scholarship, please visit Mankato Connecting Kids.



## PEACHJAR FLYERS WITH COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Mankato Area Public Schools now partners with Peachjar to distribute educational and enrichment materials electronically, replacing paper flyers. This initiative supports our goals of being environmentally friendly, innovative, and fiscally responsible. Flyers are emailed to parents and posted online.

### Community Partners: Flyer Approval Process

#### To request flyer approval:

1. Visit the Peachjar [Registration Page](#)
2. Register as an Enrichment Provider
3. Upload your flyer for approval
4. Pay the service fee



Once submitted, district staff will review and approve or deny the flyer based on board policy 904. Note that only organizations within MAPS boundaries can get flyer approval, and paper flyers are not distributed.

**Important:** Peachjar charges a service fee, typically lower than printing and distribution costs, for promoting activities or events. This fee also applies to free activities that may encourage participation in fee-based programs or purchases.

# IMPORTANT HIGHLIGHTS!

- Walk with us! Community Members 60+  
Jan 6 – Mar 19; 5 – 7 pm
- Preschool Applications accepted on Jan 29, 2025
- Spirit of Youth Nominations accepted through February
- Summer ACES Registration date March 12, 2025
- School Year ACES Registration date May 14, 2025
- Spirit of Youth Award Ceremony May 28, 2025

