



**SPRING 2025  
VOLUME 4**



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**MIDDLETOWN ADULT EDUCATION**

# NEWSLETTER



## From the Director, Ralph D'Amato

As we wrap up a wonderful year at Middletown Adult Education, I want to take a moment to reflect on all the incredible success we've achieved together. This year has been filled with hard work, growth, and countless accomplishments across all of our programs! I am especially excited to celebrate our upcoming graduation on May 29th - it's always a special moment to honor your dedication and achievements. For those of you who will be returning after the summer break, please have a safe and fruitful summer, and know that we are already looking forward to another great year ahead. Thank you for being a part of our community, and here's to all the continued success in the future!

### Offering:

Credit Diploma Program (CDP), Adult Basic Education (ABE), Graduate Equivalency Degree (GED), Even Start Family Literacy Program, English Language Learners (ELL) & Citizenship classes

### Schedule:

Middletown- Day & Evening Classes  
\*All programs (Even Start mornings only)  
Old Saybrook- Day & Evening Classes  
\*GED (Spanish & English) & ELL  
Rocky Hill- Evening ELL Classes  
\*ELL only

### Serving the following towns:

Centerbrook, Chester, Cromwell, Deep River, Durham, East Haddam, East Hampton, Essex, Haddam, Higganum, Ivoryton, Killingworth, Madison, Middlefield, Middletown, Moodus, Old Saybrook, Portland, Rockfall, Rocky Hill, Westbrook

Call (860) 343-6044 for more information

## CDP Highlights

The Credit Diploma Program students read the award-winning novel *Speak* by Laurie Halse Anderson. In the book, the main character Melinda must create a piece of artwork that, according to her art teacher Mr. Freeman, will allow her to "find her soul" and "touch that part of [her] that [she] never dared look at before." To appreciate the complexities of self-expression and creativity, our CDP students also undertook her assignment. Like Melinda, they had to take one word and make it art. The word was "Tree."



## ABE/GED Highlights



Congratulations to Jayden as he has successfully completed ABE & started his first day in GED Social Studies & Reasoning Through Language Arts!

We have two new GED graduates!

Congratulations to  
Thajkumarie and Apollonia!

We are anticipating approximately 5 more GED grads in the next few weeks!



Check out more on our website  
& social media



SCAN



**PLEDGE YOUR SUPPORT TO  
ADULT EDUCATION TODAY!**



## ELL Highlights



The ELL students in the Advanced class recently attended a COABE student ambassador training program where they learned the importance of advocating for themselves. Part of the training required them to write and tell their personal stories. It was incredibly moving and empowering!





## Find Out More!



Email Madelyn, your Career Navigator ([mcruz@maect.org](mailto:mcruz@maect.org)) to find out more about grant opportunities that may pay for driver's ed, training, paid internships, employment & more!



Text Christine, your School Social Worker  
860-398-9072



Get help with anything getting in the way of your school/non-academic success such as physical or mental wellness, financial hardship, court issues, housing, food security, relationship issues, etc. She will help or find a resource that can!

## School Counselors

Stacey Mahoney, CDP Counselor  
Denise Grodzicki, GED & ABE Counselor  
Michelle DiMauro, Evening Counselor  
Tammy Zawisa, Counseling Secretary



National Adult Education Association



All learners have been enrolled as COABE members and have access to scholarships, grants, free life insurance, advocacy and leadership opportunities.



This year at the COABE Students as Leaders Summit learners can attend virtually - plans are in place for a watch party, stay tuned!

## Even Start/Family Literacy Highlights

The Even Start Family Literacy Program earned its accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) in March 2025. This accreditation demonstrates a mark of excellence in Early Childhood Education, indicating the highest standards in the areas of relationships, curriculum, teaching and more!



During the month of April, Even Start celebrated NAEYC's Week of the Young Child.

Families made sensory sand together as one of our special parent and child activities.

## Alumni Day

Past graduates of MAE were invited to share their experiences post MAE and answer questions for current MAE students. It was great to see how great our graduates are doing!!! Thank you Alba, Yulin, Teagan, Danielle & Kylin!



## Upcoming Dates/Events

High School Career Fair Expo - Thursday, April 24th

Construction Career Day - Wednesday, April 30th

MAE Scholarship Deadline - Friday, May 16th

## CDP TERMS:

Term 5: April 22 - June 11

*Last day of school for CDP/GED/ABE is June 11th*

CLOSED

No School:

Monday, May 26, 2025 Memorial Day

## MAE GRADUATION

Middletown High School Auditorium

Thursday, May 29th

7:00pm



"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

—Nelson Mandela

860-343-6044

CALL TODAY

