



Central Minnesota Adult Basic Education Consortium
McKinley Education Center
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www.isd742.org

Central Minnesota ABE is a partnership of 13 school districts and two governmental entities. Through the partnership, services are available in many neighboring school districts including Albany, Eden Valley-Watkins, Isle, Kimball, Milaca, Onamia, Paynesville, Sauk Rapids-Rice, and St. Cloud. Three other partnering districts, Holdingford, Onamia, and Sartell-St. Stephen, are also members but do not have formal learning sites.

There are several components of the adult basic education program:

- General Educational Development – prepares adults to take the GED, the nationally-recognized high school equivalency test;
- Adult Diploma – adults earn an actual high school diploma, either through their home district or one of the St. Cloud high schools;
- English as a Second Language – helps build English language literacy skills in adults;
- Family Literacy – a partnership between ABE and Early Childhood Family Education that helps to serve both parent and child needs;
- Citizenship – prepares adult to take and pass the U.S. Citizenship Test.

As of November 15, 2007, a total of 470 students had enrolled in Central Minnesota ABE Consortium programs and had attended at least 12 class hours or more. Of these, 161 were employed. The notion that all ABE students are on public assistance is a misnomer; many of them, even those who are functioning at very low skill levels, are working.

Over the past five years, the consortium has averaged about 1,500 enrollees per school year. These students, on average, generate a total of about 70,000 contact hours. The notion that ABE serves only small number of people is also a misnomer; most of the high schools in our area have fewer than 1,500 students.

If you need further information, please contact Scott Wallner, ABE Manager, at (320) 529-6500, x6212, or at scott.wallner@isd742.org.