NOVI COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Bring the Community Back in Education
Bob Steeh,
Director of Community and Adult Education.

- Undergraduate degree – CMU (Central Michigan University)
- Masters in Education Leadership – EMU (Eastern Michigan University)
- Dr. Jack Minzey
- 22 years as Assistant Director of Community Education
- 20 Years as Director of Community Education
My Passions:

My family is my #1 passion.
My Passions:

But, Community Education has been my #2 passion these past 42 years. Improving the quality of life by providing opportunities for and serving our community’s preschoolers, school age children, young adults, adults, and all of our residents has been my top priority.

Whether it is providing the education they need or visiting our legislature to fight for their rights in education, there is a need that I want to fulfill for them.
Getting Started:

- First Experience in Community Education
- Access to the Gym
- Unlikely advocate for Community Education
- The great compromise
To understand Community Education, one needs an understanding of community.

Community is a *common* unity. It is that one “thing” that unites a group. It could be a common interest, bond, belief, culture, concept, perception, or philosophy.

One of the problems with trying to define Community Education is it keeps changing/evolving, but the best part of that change/evolution is the flexibility to be able to grow as the times change and yet still maintain certain components to give it structure.
So, what is Community Education?

“Community Education is a philosophical concept which serves the entire community by providing for all of the educational needs of all its community members. It uses the local school to serve as the catalyst for bringing community resources to bear on community problems in an effort to develop a positive sense of community, improve community living and develop the community process toward the end of self-actualization.”

~ Dr. Jack Minzey
THE BACK STORY

- Launched CE in 1935 in Flint, Michigan
- Prevent Juvenile Delinquency – Keep Kids Safe
- National Prominence
- Dr. Jack Minzey – Regional Centers
- Why the shift away – Funding
- Legislators/Local School Boards
- Intent: Provide Recreational Activity
Focus Change

from Whole Child
To Academics
Back To Whole Child
Shifting Priorities

from Career/College Ready

To College Ready Only
The Public’s Attitude Toward Public Schools poll shows that the public gives more weight to students, job preparation, and interpersonal development than standardized test scores.

- **82%** Support job/career skills classes even if that means less academic classes
- **86%** Schools should offer certificate or licensing programs that qualify students for employment
- **82%** Highly important for schools to help students develop interpersonal skills
Support for standardized testing.
WHAT’S THE VALUE OF BRINGING THE COMMUNITY INTO THE SCHOOL?

▪ Increase access to resources to improve student achievement
▪ Positive relationships of your school district
▪ Helps community understand your school district
Why have Community Education?

Education is for improving the lives of others and for leaving your community and world better than you found it.

~Marion Wright Edelman
The Novi Model…

VISION:

• To meet the individual learning needs of ALL students
• Promote the joy of lifelong learning
• Value and encourage leadership at all levels
• Embrace and value our diverse population
• Actively engage in collaborative relationships within and beyond the community
• Continually evaluate and secure resources to meet our goals
• Help all students prepare to become caring, responsible, and productive members of a global society
Community & Adult Education is an integral Component of our K-12 system
NOVI COMMUNITY & ADULT EDUCATION MODEL

Infant Toddler Care -
- High school students – Child Development Program
- High School Staff use the program

Preschool -
- High school students – Child Development Program
- Special Education
- Career Opportunities-Adult Ed Students
- Continuity of Curriculum with Kindergarten Teachers
- Smooth Transition

After School Programming -
- Classes
- Tutoring support
- Test out opportunities
- Credit Recovery

Adult/Youth Enrichment Classes -
- Public Act 156

Career Prep HS -
- School Business Council
- Paid Mentorships
- Small class size

Adult Education -
- School/Business Council
- Paid Mentorships
- ESL
- Civic Programming
- High School Equivalency (GED)

Summer School

Saturday Japanese School

Centralized Registration

Career Prep High School

Before/After School Child Care

Adult Education

Facility Usage

Adult/Youth Enrichment Classes

Community Education

SHIFT
“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.”

~Helen Keller
QUESTIONS?

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What’s the Value of Bringing Community into the School?

There’s been a SHIFT

from Career Pathways

To College Bound
Strengths of Adult Education

• Diversified Funding Sources
• English as a Second Language (ESL)
• GED
• High School Completion (HSC)
• Flexible scheduling to meet student’s needs
• Partnerships with business
• Diverse Delivery of instruction
  • Teacher lead
  • Blended
  • Virtual
PreSchool
Early Childhood Education Center