



WINTER 2025
VOLUME 3

www.maect.org

MIDDLETOWN ADULT EDUCATION

NEWSLETTER



From the Director, Ralph D'Amato

“ As we step into spring, the season of renewal, it's the perfect time to embrace new opportunities for growth and learning. With sunny days ahead, it's an ideal moment to explore our courses and programs, designed to help you achieve your goals and unlock your potential. Whether you're looking to develop new skills or pursue a passion, there's something for everyone this season. Let this spring be a fresh start on your educational journey – endless possibilities!



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



VR Exploration: From Concept to Career
This course taught by Rona Corrigan, explores career clusters through VR immersion.



In these photos, Amanda is experiencing what it is like to be a nursing assistant. Andrew is restoring power as a lineman. Examples of other careers students explored were working in a restaurant or doing construction.

ABE/GED Highlights

Congratulations to our most recent GED graduates...
Dean and Kenya.

Dean is planning on attending Capital Community College and hoping to get into the medical field.
Kenya is planning on attending CT Community College and becoming a radiologist.



ELL Highlights

At Middletown Adult Education, our ELL program is more than just learning English—it's about building confidence, creating connections, and opening doors to new opportunities. Recent immigration challenges have created significant stress for some of our English language students, with some needing to pause their education. We encourage everyone to show empathy and understanding for those who are navigating these difficulties—whether for themselves or their families. Now, more than ever, a supportive school community can make a difference.

Even Start/Family Literacy Highlights

Parents and children shared an art and science activity during "PACT" time (Parent and Child Together), which is a planned time each day when parents come into the early childhood classroom to spend time with their children. They painted with animals frozen into colored water. Parents and children all loved both the cold and the fun, BRRRR!





Email Madelyn, your Career Navigator (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

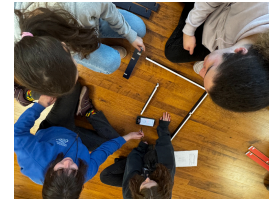
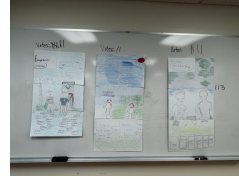
All learners have been enrolled as COABE members and have access to scholarships, grants, free life insurance, advocacy and leadership opportunities



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

Empower Leadership - January 14th

CDP students participated in team-building activities together. This opportunity allows them to practice listening, cooperation, and leadership skills, all of which are valuable for lifelong success.



STEAM TRAIN/FAST TRACK PRESENTATION - January 9th

Students at MAE learned about Information Technology (IT) certification programs and trainings available to them, including a new AI Training! One of our former students was here to share their experience with Steam Train!



SKILL UP For Manufacturing PRESENTATION-January 23rd

Students learned about the opportunity to participate in this free, non-credit program that would prepare them for an entry-level job in the manufacturing field. Students could earn up to 250 hours in pre-apprenticeship hours.



Innovation in Motion- February 7th

Students in Joe Lawler's class remotely flew a drone in Botswana, Africa capturing photos of elephants and other African wildlife in the savannah.



How is this done? Students at MAE take control of the drone from the classroom setting. The owner of the drone lives in the location (in this case Botswana) and is the operator or main pilot as necessary.



860-343-6044





Apollonia Saraci is attending Chi Lash School to become a Nail Tech. WIOA tri-town grant just paid \$3,500.00 for the majority of her tuition!! Madelyn Cruz, our Career Navigator, got to have the experience of being a model for her.



Upcoming Dates/Events

Alumni Day - March 12

Construction Career Day - April 30

NO SCHOOL

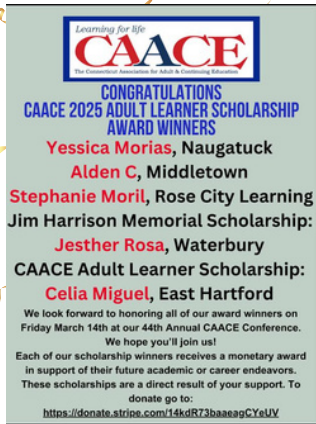
Friday, March 14th - Professional Development

Monday - Friday, April 14-18 Spring Vacation

Congratulations to Alden

for being one of this year's recipients

of the CAACE Adult Learner Scholarship Awards!



GRADUATION

at Middletown High School

May 29th

CDP TERMS:

Term 4: February 25 - April 21

Term 5: April 22 - June 11

Reminder

2 hour school delays - School begins @ 10:00am

Early dismissal - School ends @ 12:15pm

Afternoon & evening classes are cancelled when there is an early dismissal

Middletown site follows Middletown Public Schools closures

Rocky Hill & Old Saybrook follow those districts



Check out more on our website & social media



“Life is a succession of lessons which must be lived to be understood.”

~Helen Keller

