

back to
SCHOOL



Abisi Adult Education Center

THE MELTING POT

A Publication for Students & Supporters



Abisi Adult
Education Center
408 Merrimack Street
Lowell, MA 01854
978.937.8989
www.lowell.k12.ma.us/abaseduc



Welcome Back, Students!

We are happy to see you back in class! This year is a new chance to learn, grow, and succeed.

In the first week of classes, our Director, Betty McKiernan, and our Program Manager, Adriana Giraldo, visited many classes.

They introduced themselves, spoke with students, and shared their hopes for this school year.

In this newsletter, you will see:

- *Our programs and services*
- *Many of our teachers and staff, and*
- *Important information for this school year*

We are excited to learn with you. Welcome back!

Start the Year Strong with SMART Goals

A new school year is a good time to think about your goals. Goals help you stay on track.

One way to make strong goals is by using the SMART method.

Do you want to know what SMART goals are?
Do you want to write your own goals?

Go to page 2 for more information, to get ideas and a worksheet to help you!



In this newsletter, you will see these small pictures (icons). They show the programs / activities that are open to different students — for example, Green School students, satellite students, and/or online students.



Green School



Satellite classes



Online/Remote classes

Start the Year Strong with SMART Goals continued from page 1

What does the “SMART” in SMART goals mean?

S = Specific

A specific goal has details, numbers, or dates.

Examples:

- I will learn 10 new words to use when shopping.
- I will practice saying my full name and address clearly.
- I will practice ordering food in English at a restaurant.

M = Measurable

A measurable goal is something you can check or count.

Examples:

- I will watch 1 English video every week.
- I will talk to a classmate in English for 5 minutes 2 times a week.
- I will write 3 text messages in English every week.

A = Achievable

An achievable goal is possible. It should be a little hard, but not too hard.

Examples:

- I will learn 5 new words every week (not 50, because that's too many).
- I will write 1 short paragraph each week about my daily life.
- I will listen to 1 English song and learn 3 new words from it.

R = Relevant

A relevant goal is important to you. Ask yourself: Why do I want this goal?

Examples:

- I want to talk to my child's teacher in English.
- I want to speak English at my job with customers.
- I want to ask questions in English at the doctor's office.

T = Time Based /Bound

Every goal needs a time limit. This helps you stay motivated.

Examples:

- By March, I will learn 30 new words for shopping.
- By June, I will write 1 page in English about myself.
- By August, I will have 1 short conversation in English every week.



Try It Yourself!

Use the SMART goals chart to write your own goals. Write them down, wait a few days, then ask yourself again:

- Are they possible?
- Are they important to me?

Do you have a goal for this year? Write your SMART goals and share them with your classmates!



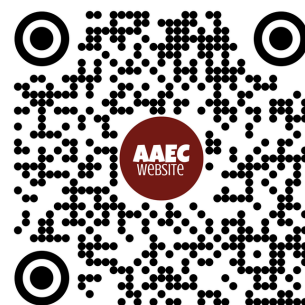
Are you ready to write your own SMART goals?

Scan this QR code to download a SMART goals worksheet!

Scan to visit us on Facebook.



Visit our website.



Make this your best year ever!



Attendance

“The Road to Success Begins with Good Attendance”





Come to class every day and be on time.


If you miss too many days, your seat may be given to someone on the waiting list.

If you know you will be absent, tell your teacher.

or

 **Call:** 978-937-8989

 **Text:** 978-435-4440

 **Email:** sochan@lowell.k12.ma.us

 *Remember to include:*

- Your first and last/family name
- Your teacher's name
- The reason you will be absent

REMEMBER...

Stay Home
If You Feel Sick...



Let's keep our school safe and healthy!

Icon Project Icons: military/hubs/anal/musagon, r/hubs and musagon, Giphy.com



ESOL ATTENDANCE CERTIFICATES

We are proud of students who come to school every day. Each month, our Director, Betty McKiernan, gives special certificates to students with excellent attendance in each class. Students also get points for Outstanding Attendance (as well as other achievements) which can be used to “buy” rewards from our Reward Program).

Learn more about AAEC's Reward Center on page 6.



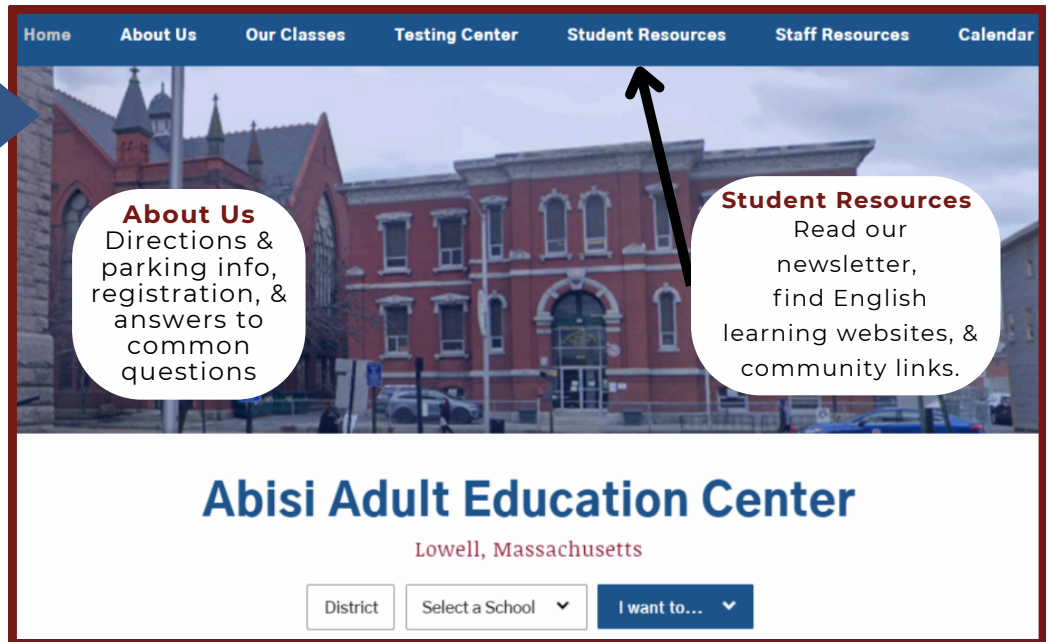
Our Website & Programs

THE AAEC WEBSITE

Our website, **lowell.k12.ma.us/adulted** has a lot of information to help you with school and learning, as well as your future goals.

On our website you can find:

- Websites & resources to practice your English
- Help with jobs and career
- Community resources
- *The Melting Pot* newsletter...and more!



Go to the Abisi website
Scan me



facebook.com/lowellaec



instagram.com/adultedlowell



THE SUSAN SILK LIBRARY CARTS



The **Susan Silk Library Carts** are small mobile libraries for morning ESOL and HSE students at AAEC. It is named in honor of Susan Silk (see picture above), a veteran teacher who started Abisi's library program in 2022.

You can borrow books to help you practice reading. You can also read the books with your family. Reading to your children helps them enjoy books and learn more. Reading can also earn you points for Abisi's Reward Center!

Each class will have a special time to choose a book. There are many types of books for all reading levels. Look for the Library Carts open now!

Our Programs, continued



NEW

Library Bookmobile Visits Abisi Satellite Classes

We are excited to share that the Pollard Memorial Library Bookmobile will now visit our students at Abisi's satellite locations.

Students will be able to check out books that match their interests and reading levels. Reading helps you learn English faster, and it can also help your children in school when you read with them at home.

The Bookmobile will visit classes at:

- Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association (CMAA)
- Lowell High School
- Love All Serve All (LASA) Foundation
- Moody School

We are happy to bring this new opportunity to you with our partners at the Pollard Memorial Library!

Student Advisory Council (SAC)



There are many benefits to students choosing to participate in Abisi's monthly Student Advisory Council (SAC) meetings.



Annual Graduation Ceremony

Whether you are learning English or working hard to pass the GED or HiSET for your high school equivalency diploma, your progress matters.

Each year in June, we hold a graduation ceremony to honor your achievements.

No matter if you study online, in person, or at one of our satellite locations, all ESOL and HSE students with 65 or more hours of attendance are invited to join graduation. And, at graduation, you will be recognized and receive a certificate for your hard work!

Family, friends, teachers, and community members all come together to celebrate with you. We can't wait to cheer for your success!



photo courtesy of Jen Meyer - LPSD



photo courtesy of Jen Meyer - LPSD



The **Student Advisory Council (SAC)** is like a student council for Abisi Adult Education.

Each month, two students from each class can join.

SAC members:

- Represent their class
- Share ideas and suggestions
- Ask questions or raise concerns
- Talk about what they are learning in class

SAC is a great way to:

- meet students from other classes,
- practice speaking in front of a group (public speaking), and
- speak up for yourself and other students

Bonus: Students earn points for participating in SAC. These points can be used at the monthly Reward Center store.

Our Programs, continued

Student Reward Program

This program celebrates your hard work and goals in school, family, community, and jobs.

You can get Reward Points for:

- Good attendance each month
- Reaching goals listed on your Reward Center Goal Tracker form
- Reading books from the library cart

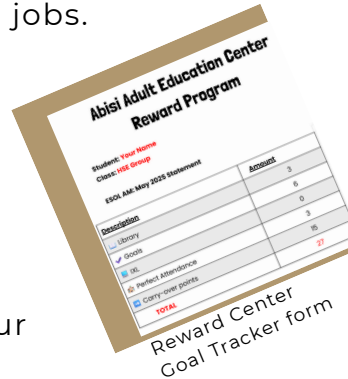
How it works:

- Each month you get a paper with your point totals.
- Use points for prizes at the Reward Center (Room 3 - back). (Tip: You can save your points for bigger prizes.)
- The Reward Center opens once each month (dates posted in the school newsletter).

Important:

You cannot give points to other students. Only students attending classes in-person (at the “Green School,” 408 Merrimack Street) are eligible for this program.

Questions? Ask Giovanna, our Program Support Assistant (office is located in the back of Room 3).



Abisi Adult Education Center
Reward Program

Student: *John Doe*
Class: *ESOL*
ESOL ALE May 2025 Statement

Description	Amount
Library	3
Books	0
ESOL	3
Perfect Attendance	95
ESOL over points	
TOTAL	101

Reward Center
Goal Tracker form



Students look at the Reward Center for items to purchase with points they've earned.



Student Success Celebrations (SSC)

At Abisi, we celebrate your hard work — in class and in life! A few times each year, we hold Student Success Celebrations to recognize your progress and achievements.

We celebrate things like:

- Becoming a U.S. citizen
- Finding stable housing
- Starting a new job or business
- Having good attendance

These celebrations are based on the goals you share with us in the Reward Center Goal Tracker form.

No matter your goal, we are proud of you — and we're here to support you every step of the way!



Our Programs, continued

Citizenship Classes



Are you ready to become a U.S. citizen? Abisi offers free 10-week citizenship classes (taught by Abisi's own, Gail Forman) to help you prepare for the naturalization process and interview.

In this citizenship class, you will:

- learn the 128 civics questions (covering US history, government, and culture)
- practice the reading and writing sections of the naturalization test
- review interview questions from the N-400 application

Student requirements:

- Intermediate level of English
- Green card holder for at least 4 years (or 2 years if married to a U.S. citizen)
- Good class attendance

Currently, this fall, classes will be offered:

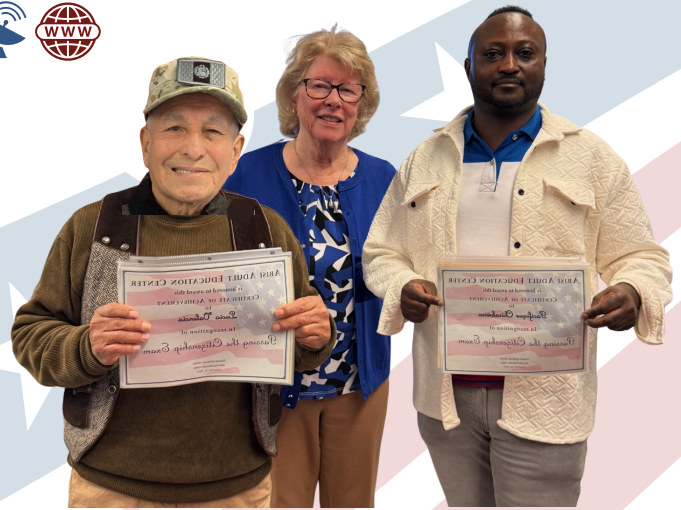
Online (Zoom): Wednesdays, 6:00–7:45 pm, starting October 8.

In-person classes were cancelled this fall due to low enrollment. If you are interested in classes, it is important to sign up early!

Next year, there will be more citizenship classes scheduled, so be on the lookout!

📧 **Ready to register?** Need more information?

Please email Gail at gforman@lowell.k12.ma.us, or call/text her at 978.918.3519.



Celebrating our new student citizens

Citizenship Classes – Free!
10-week course - Starts October 8th

Online (Zoom):
Wednesdays, 6–7:45 pm (Oct. 8)

📧 To Register: Email Gail at gforman@lowell.k12.ma.us or by call/text her at 978.918.3519
Teacher: Gail Forman

**Practice English.
Build Confidence.
Make Friends.**



Scan this QR code to sign up for
Abisi Conversation Classes

Conversation Classes Return to Abisi in October



Open to students from
Monday-Wednesday ESOL
classes ONLY

This year, we are excited to offer Conversation Classes for our Green School in-person students!

- **When:** Thursdays, 9–11am (starting October 2025)
- **Teachers:** Carrie and Daisy
- **Who:** Green school, in-person ESOL students attending classes Monday - Wednesday are welcome to join.

Conversation classes are a great way to practice speaking and listening, build confidence, and learn everyday English in a fun and supportive setting. Have questions? See Carrie and/or Daisy. Ready to sign up for the class? Just scan the QRCode (left).

Abisi Programs & Services

Field Trips & Holiday Events

Throughout the year, our ESOL and HSE classes (across all of our locations) may participate in a variety of activities – from class parties and field trips to special holiday events.

Whether it is a class visit to the public library (or Bookmobile), Lowell's City Hall, Boott Mills, celebrating Halloween, or "Friendsgiving" with your class, students are given opportunities to learn more about the local (and school) community, as well as American culture and history!



Student Support Services



Mandi and Giovanna are here to help you with needs you may have *outside* of the classroom. They both work with the Director, staff, teachers, and student leaders to create programs that support your goals (such as the Reward Center and Student Success Celebrations) and organize community presentations, guest speakers, and other special school events (like the end-of-the-year field trip - read more about these events below). Mandi and Giovanna also publish Abisi's newsletter, *The Melting Pot*.

Student Support Services works with organizations in the Greater Lowell area that provide many different services throughout the community – from food banks, health care providers, housing and utility assistance, social services, and more.

They can help you:

- Connect with community agencies for resources and referrals
- Receive guidance and counseling when you need it
- Find out about cultural events and city services in the Greater Lowell area

Some of the many area organizations Student Support Services is proud to work and partner with...



Mandi Lacroix
Support Services Coordinator
Office: Room 3 - Back
alacroix@lowell.k12.ma.us

Mandi helps students, teachers, and the community work together. She publishes the school newsletter, designs flyers and bulletin boards. She manages the Student Advisory Council (SAC), attends community events, and provides student orientations throughout the year.



Giovanna De Oliveira
Program Support
Office: Room 3 - Back
gdeoliveira@lowell.k12.ma.us

Giovanna manages the Reward Center, and prepares monthly attendance certificates for students. She also writes articles and takes photos for the newsletter. Giovanna also supports the Student Advisory Council, and assists with school events and celebrations.



ESOL Program Teachers



Meg Chase - Lead Teacher

Hello, my name is Meg, and I teach English and American Culture at AAEC to both in-person and remote students.

I began at Abisi 25 years ago as a part-time night school

teacher while raising my young children. Now that my children are grown, I'm proud to work full-time at Abisi.

I love teaching our adult learners and enjoy learning about the many different cultures they bring to the classroom.



Martha Rzepala - Lead Teacher

Hi, my name is Martha, and I'm the Level 5 ESOL teacher at the Green School.

I've been teaching full-time here for 3 years, and also taught part-time for 8 years

back in the 2000s. Before that, I spent nearly 20 years teaching English to middle and high school students.

I truly love my job at AAEC—I believe I hit the Job Jackpot! I live in Lowell with my husband, our two daughters (21 and 23), and our dog, Ziggy.



Daisy Glavin

Hi! My name is Daisy Glavin Santos. I've been teaching English at Abisi since 2014. I live in Tyngsborough with my husband, our three children—Adriano (17), Nikolai (13), Eloisa (2)

- and our dog, Nemo.

In my free time, I enjoy cooking, being outdoors, and spending time with my family.

Like many of my students, I learned a second language as an adult. I speak Portuguese and continue to practice and improve my skills.

I'm excited to be teaching a Thursday conversation class with Teacher Carrie and hope you enjoy your time at Abisi!



Liz Nutile - Lead Teacher

Hello! My name is Elizabeth Nutile, better known as "Liz." 🌸 I have been teaching ESOL at Abisi since 2004 and I absolutely adore my job and all my amazing students. I learn as much from you as you do



from me! I live here in Lowell with my husband, 2 adult children, and my pets – a dog, "Little Brother," and a cat, "Mr. Bob."

I look forward to another wonderful year!



Carrie Carolan

Hi! My name is Carrie Carolan. I have been teaching at AAEC for many years. I also work as a pre-school teacher and a waitress on the weekends.

I live in Lowell with my husband Tim and our four children, Grace 26, Maeve 25, twins Thomas and Ava 23. I have a big dog named George.

In my free time I like to go to the beach, read and walk George at the park.

I am excited to be teaching a great group of students this year!



Donna Dube

Hello my friends! I'm Donna.

I lived in Spain and I did not know how to speak Spanish. It was difficult, just like English is sometimes hard for you! I want to help you so life is easier.

I teach on Thursdays and Fridays.

I have one son and four grandchildren. They are Cambodian and Spanish.

Take care my friends, and remember - Life is full of opportunities!



Martha McGuane

After teaching at Jesuit schools in Buffalo and Baltimore, I earned a Master's degree in New York City with the goal of working for PBS. Instead, I returned to teaching, spending 25 years at Malden Catholic while also reading for the Educational Testing Service.

Since 2016, I've been at Adult Ed, where I've loved working with our diverse community of students and feel enriched by the experience.



Martha

ESOL Teachers, continued

Expanding Learning Beyond English with “Specials” Classes



Monday-Wednesday
ESOL classes ONLY

At Abisi, you don't just study English—you also have the chance to enjoy “Specials” classes! These are extra lessons in: 🗺️ Social Studies + Math 🖥️ Digital Literacy (computer skills). For “Specials” classes, Abisi teachers visit your classroom to teach these subjects.

Specials are a great way to learn new skills that can help you in school, work, and everyday life! Want to learn more about your Specials teachers? Keep reading!



Elaine McGeown - Math

Hi, I'm Elaine McGeown, your math teacher once a week. I will help you learn math for your everyday life. Topics will include percents, tipping, basic operations, geometry and so much more.

I retired from teaching math at Lowell

High School in June of 2020. I started at Abisi in September of 2021, and I have never loved a job as much as this one!

I have two sons. My oldest son and his fiancée have 1 dog and 3 cats. They live about a 50 minute drive away, so I see them a lot.

My youngest son and his wife have my 9 year old grandson, and my 5 year old granddaughter. They live in Tennessee, so when I see them, it is very precious family time.

I'm looking forward to our year together!
I wish the best for you!



Gail Forman - Social Studies

Hello! My name is Gail and I have been teaching at Abisi since 2019. I teach social studies to the students in Carrie and Daisy's classes.

I also teach the Citizenship class here at AAEC.

If you want to become a United States citizen, I can help you prepare for it, and answer questions about the test. (For more information about citizenship classes, please see page 7.)

In my spare time, I like to volunteer in the community. I also enjoy learning new things. Right now, I am learning how to speak Spanish!

Arts and crafts is a hobby of mine. I really enjoy creating collages. Collages are pictures made by sticking pieces of colored paper, cloth, or photographs together.

Oh, and I also have a dog named Biscuit!

I hope you all have a great year!



example of a collage



Jen Tighe - Digital Literacy

Hi, my name is Jen Tighe. I have been teaching English at Abisi for 21 years!

I live in Lowell with my husband and four children, ages 23,22,19, and 15.

I'm excited to be teaching technology this year. Some of what we will be learning in this class includes:

- 📱 Using Phones
- 💻 Working with Chromebooks
- ✉️ Email Skills & Etiquette
- 💬 Vocabulary for Technology

I am looking forward to some fun with technology!



Kenny Martin - Social Studies

Hi everyone, I'm Kenny, and I've been part of the Abisi family for 20 years. Every Monday, I'll be joining Liz, Martha, and Meg's classes to

teach Civics.

I really enjoy helping students explore American History and Geopolitics in a relaxed and engaging way. I also spend two days a week at CTI teaching HSE classes.

My message to you as we begin this new school year is simple: keep working hard. I truly appreciate the effort you put in, and I'm excited to see all the progress you'll make this year.



Abisi Services & Staff *We're Here For You!*

Career & Educational Advising



Need help with finding a job? Thinking of going to college?
Our Career & College Advisers are here to support you!

Abisi's career and educational advisors can help you:

- Find a job
- Write a resume
- Choose a school or training program

Not sure what career path to take? No worries! Our advisors can assist you with finding a career that matches your interests and skills. We can also help you practice for your next interview, or find volunteer opportunities around Lowell.

Let us show you how to become a MassHire member - it's FREE!
We also partner with many organizations (like MassHire) and schools (like Middlesex Community College) in the area. Talk to an adviser to take your next step toward success!



Margie Miller

✉ mmiller@lowell.k12.ma.us

Offices:

- **Abisi "Green School"**
2nd Floor, Room 5 (Back)
- **MassHire (107 Merrimack St.)**

Need a Job? Want a Better Job?
MassHire can help you! Talk to Margie to learn more. She can help you sign up.

Margie's schedule:

Mondays:

8:30am-12:30pm (@ Abisi)

Tuesdays:

8:30am-12:30pm (@ MassHire)

Wednesdays:

8:30am-12:30pm (@ Abisi)



Cindy Taft

✉ ctaft@lowell.k12.ma.us

Office: Abisi "Green School"
2nd Floor, Room 6 (Back)

Cindy works with morning ESOL students.

Cindy's Schedule: MWF 8am-1pm



Sarah Crass

✉ scrass@lowell.k12.ma.us

Office: LHS Room 2014 & Remote

Sarah works with evening ESOL students.

Sarah's schedule:

Mondays: 5:30 - 8:45pm (LHS)

Tuesdays: 5:30 - 8:45pm (Remote)
& by appointment



Martha McQuaide

✉ mmcquaide@lowell.k12.ma.us

Office: Abisi "Green School"
2nd Floor, Room 6 (Back)

Martha works with our morning HSE students.

Martha's Schedule:

Tuesdays 9am-1pm (in-person & remote) ***For remote appointments**, use the Zoom link on the College/Career classroom page.



Stacy Marsden

✉ amarsden@lowell.k12.ma.us

Office: LHS Rm 3016 & Remote

Stacy works with evening HSE students.

Stacy's Schedule:

Mondays: 5:30-8:30pm (Remote)

Tuesdays: 5:30-8:30pm (LHS, Rm 3016)

HSE Program Teachers



The HSE (High School Equivalency) program helps students work toward a diploma (equivalent to a high school diploma) by passing the HiSET or GED tests. Other learners, like advanced ESOL students, may also take HSE classes to build their skills in math, social studies, writing, and reading at a stronger academic level. Below, get to know more about a few of our HSE teachers.



Maura McCabe - Lead Teacher

Hello, I am Maura McCabe. I have been teaching at Abisi Adult Education for 26 years. I have taught many subjects over the years but currently teach Social Studies, Reading and Math.

I live in Lowell with my husband, four children who are 24, 22, 21 and 18, and our dog Auggie.

During my time away from school I enjoy golfing, reading and cooking. I love to decorate my home and host dinners and parties for the holidays.

I love teaching adult students and seeing how excited and enthusiastic they can be when learning new things. I look forward to a wonderful year!



Alison McCarthy

Hello! My name is Alison McCarthy and this is my fourth year teaching at Abisi! I teach reading comprehension, vocabulary, writing, and math! Before teaching at Abisi I taught at the Reilly Elementary School

in Lowell. I have three children who keep me busy when I'm not at school teaching!

I LOVE teaching at Abisi Adult Education Center! I find teaching adults very rewarding. Our students bring such diverse backgrounds to the classroom and I enjoy learning about your goals and life experiences.

I hope you have an excellent school year, and remember...
Focus on Progress, not Perfection!



Christina Cronin - Lead Teacher

Hello! I'm Christina, and I have been part of the Abisi Adult Education Center Family for over 20 years. I teach Math and Science for the HSE (High School Equivalency) program. I have a degree in Biology and love science, and since math is the language of science, I love math, too!

I have really enjoyed teaching these important subjects to so many students (in the same city I grew up in) over the years, but what I have enjoyed most is being a part of everyone's journey. I have learned so much, and I have been so inspired over the years!

In my spare time, I really enjoy being by the water. I especially love going to the lake or spending time by the ocean with my husband, 2 kids, and our puppy, Penny!

I hope you enjoy learning here at Abisi Adult Education Center, and I wish you all an AWESOME school year.



Nancy Bernard

Hello! My name is Nancy Bernard. I have been teaching at AAEC since 2014. Prior to that, I taught in New Hampshire as a classroom teacher and reading specialist.

Since I joined the HSE team, I have enjoyed teaching our students and helping them prepare for their

HiSET or GED exam.

My favorite part of teaching is introducing wonderful authors and poets to my students. I hope that they will take away an image, or a curiosity that might unlock a new interest in reading.

I live in New Hampshire where I love hiking in the White Mountains and the beautiful outdoors.

Here's looking forward to an exciting new school year!



Don't see your teacher?

Look for them in a future issue of *The Melting Pot!*

HSE Testing Center



Abisi Adult Education is an Official GED and HiSET Testing Center



Abisi Adult Education is happy to offer GED and HiSET tests to our students and community.

Our testing coordinator, Denise Beal, keeps our website [testing center page](https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/domain/1176) <https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/domain/1176> updated with new information and test dates.

CREATE AN ACCOUNT: Test-takers must create an account at GED.com, and/or HiSET.org to schedule tests and receive/see test results.

FREE TEST VOUCHERS: Massachusetts will pay for up to 3 test attempts per subject. Enter the voucher codes when you schedule your test(s). For more details, refer to our website (or yellow box, right).

2025 TEST DATES: We offer paper-based tests once a month and computer-based tests (CBT) on select Thursdays.

2025 Paper Test Dates:

Sept 19–20 , Oct 17–18

Nov 14–15, Dec 12–13

2025 COMPUTER TEST DATES:

HiSET: Sept 25, Oct 23, Nov 20, Dec 18

GED: Sept 18, Oct 16, Nov 13, Dec 11

Computer test appointments open 30 days before the test date.

If you have questions or need help with test registration and/or accommodations, please contact Abisi's HSE Testing Coordinator, Denise Beal.



Denise Beal

HSE Testing Coordinator
Office: Computer Lab
dbeal@lowell.k12.ma.us

Denise's schedule:

Wednesdays,
and Thursdays 9am-1pm
and by appointment

HSE Test Schedule Fall 2025

To schedule:

HiSET Test --> visit [hiset.org](https://www.hiset.org) **or**
GED Computer Test --> visit [ged.com](https://www.ged.com)*

Voucher codes:

GED:

First test in a subject: MAFREEGED1
Retake in a subject: MARETAKE
Second retake in a subject: MAFREEGED1

HiSET:

All tests: MAHiSET

Weekend Testing:

Friday Evening and Saturday Morning

HiSet Paper Test & GED Test dates:

Friday, October 17th at 5pm

and continues on

Saturday, October 18th at 8am

Weekday Testing

(Computer-Based ONLY):

Thursday afternoons at 12:30pm

GED Dates:

Thursday, October 16 at 12:30pm

**Math, Science, OR Social Studies
may be scheduled.

HiSET Dates:

Thursday, October 23 at 12:30

***One subject test may be scheduled.

Note:

You must present a current, government-issued, photo ID at the time of testing.

***GED appointments will be released 30 days prior to the scheduled test date.**

AAEC Staff



Betty McKiernan

Director

Office: Main Office

emckiernan@lowell.k12.ma.us

Betty leads the program, making sure staff, students, and classrooms have the resources and support needed to create a positive and effective learning environment.

She is accountable to both DESE and Lowell Public Schools.



Adriana Giraldo

Program Manager

Office: Main Office

agiraldo@lowell.k12.ma.us

Adriana works closely with the Director, staff, students, and community partners to ensure the program runs smoothly.

She oversees grants, purchasing, and personnel management, ensuring that all program activities align with DESE guidelines.



Fred Abisi

Fiscal Agent &

Testing Chief Examiner

Office: Main Office

fabisi@lowell.k12.ma.us

Fred manages staff payroll, and he is responsible for managing and overseeing all aspects of HSE testing (HiSET or GED).



Gladys Marrero

School Clerk

Office: Main Office

gmarrero@lowell.k12.ma.us

Gladys is the first person to greet you in the Main Office. She can provide information about classes and help you with registration for our ESOL and HSE programs.

She also manages the HiSET paper-based testing.



Fred DeVitto

Custodian

Office: Lower Level

"Freddy" keeps our building clean and running smoothly.



Arch

Program Support

Arch is at the front door every morning greeting students and assisting visitors.



Dimitrius

Program Support

Dimitri assists with building maintenance.

ESOL Registration Staff



Amanda Pearson

ESOL REGISTRAR

Office: Main Office

apearson@lowell.k12.ma.us



Sochitra Chan

ESOL Attendance

sochan@lowell.k12.ma.us

Amanda and Sochitra handle ESOL registration. Amanda manages student records and class placements for all ESOL courses, while Sochitra oversees the ESOL attendance database and also conducts student testing.

HSE Registration Staff



Sarah Waterhouse

HSE Registrar & Attendance

Office: Computer Lab

swaterhouse@lowell.k12.ma.us

Marcia Burnsmittler

HSE Testing - Remote

Sarah and Marcia handle HSE Registration. Sarah also manages student records, placement, and testing for all our HSE students.

CAREER & TRAINING NEWS



TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

CARPENTRY PROGRAM

October 14, 2025 to March 6, 2026
Tuesdays / Wednesdays / Thursdays
3:00 pm to 7:00 pm
Greater Lowell Technical High School, Tyngsboro, MA



The 200-hour program taught by Master Carpenters at Greater Lowell Technical HS in Tyngsboro is "project-based", and incorporates OSHA-10 Construction Safety training, tool/equipment safety training, and carpentry code/theory hours toward your apprenticeship.

Program

- 10-Hour OSHA
- PPE Fundamentals
- Hand & Power Tool Safety
- Shop Safety
- Basic Framing
- Stock Sizing & Identification
- Finish Carpentry
- Hotworks

Eligibility

- Unemployed or Underemployed
- Authorized to work in the U.S.
- High School or GED/HISET
- Massachusetts resident

To learn more about this opportunity:

Call Caitlyn: 978-805-4731 Visit: masshirelowellcc.com/carpentry



MassShire Programs & Services are funded in full by US Department of Labor (USDOL) Employment and Training Administration grants. Additional details furnished upon request.



AUTO TECHNICIAN

Our free training in Automotive Technology will help you acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to start your career. Our curriculum is aligned with National Automotive Education Foundation (NATEF) standards and will place you on the right path for you to seize an opportunity in this growing industry.

Training Opportunity

Career Pathway to:

- Automotive Technician
- Service Manager
- Automotive Part Sales Representative

Schedule:

October 14, 2025 to March 6, 2026
Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays
3:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Greater Lowell Technical High School, Tyngsboro

Eligibility:

- High School Diploma - GED - HISET
- Authorized to work in the U.S.
- Massachusetts Resident
- Unemployed or Underemployed



Caitlyn: 978-805-4731



masshirelowellcc.com/autotech

COMMUNITY SERVICES & EVENTS

Fall Fun for All

JOIN US ON OCTOBER 25 FROM 3 P.M. TO 5 P.M. FOR FAMILY FUN TIME!

5 Courthouse Lane Chelmsford
MA 01824

*PRIOR
REGISTRATION IS
REQUIRED

REGISTER HERE



Join us for fun, food
and fall delights
at the Fall Festival!



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2025 12 TO 6 PM

BRING A BAG
FOR YOUR
CANDY HAUL!



PRODUCED BY
Kiwanis
OF GREATER LOWELL
#LOWELL
THERE'S A LOT TO LIKE.

MONSTERBASH & FALL FEST

12-3PM

TRICK-OR-TREAT IN DOWNTOWN LOWELL
HAUNTED HOUSE AT LOWELL CITY HALL
(LINE CLOSES AT 2:45PM)

1-6PM

FREE CARNIVAL RIDES
LIVE MUSIC
FOOD TRUCKS
ROCKLAND TRUST LOT
222 MERRIMACK ST.

SCAN CODE FOR MORE INFO
AND FLYERS IN KHMER,
SPANISH, & PORTUGUESE



LIKELOWELL.COM/MONSTERBASH

COMMUNITY SERVICES & EVENTS



SAVE THE DATE!

GREATER LOWELL FAMILY YMCA

3RD ANNUAL

**TRUNK
OR
TREAT**

OCTOBER 30, 2025

5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

AT YMCA LOWELL

The Lowell Regional Transit Authority

**The Current Fare Free
Pilot Program Has Been Extended
Through**

June 30, 2026

(Fares may resume 7/1/2026 Subject to State Funding)



The LRTA wants to Thank Governor Maura Healey and Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll, as well as the Massachusetts State Legislature for funding this Fare Free Transportation Pilot Program that will greatly benefit our communities.



**Fiber Arts
Group**

**Now on three
different days!**

- Every Thursday, 6-7:30pm
- Second and Fourth Monday - 9:30-11:30am
- First Saturday - 10-12pm



NeighborWorks[®]
CHARTERED MEMBER

Join us for **CBA's 2025**

Annual Meeting

*Impacting Generations
Through Collective Action:
We Welcome YOU!*



Join CBA's Annual Meeting for an evening of food, music, raffles, and community celebration.

Together, we will honor the Acre's diverse cultures and the impact of collective action across generations. There will be a brief business meeting and election of new officers.

This free community-planned event is open to all!



Thursday, October 16th
5:00PM - 7:30PM



Lowell Senior Center
276 Broadway Street Lowell MA 01854

RSVP to info@cbacre.org or call 978-452-7523
www.cbacre.org

COMMUNITY SERVICES & EVENTS

State Representative Vanna Howard presents... **4TH ANNUAL SPICE DRIVE**

A Gift of Giving

When: November 8, 2025

Where: 517 Moody St, Lowell

Time: 10am-12pm

Most Requested Items:

- Salt & Pepper
- Fish Sauce
- Soy Sauce
- Cooking Oil
- Garlic Powder
- Chili Powder
- Pepper Flakes
- Sazon
- Adobo Seasonings
- Butter
- Cinnamon



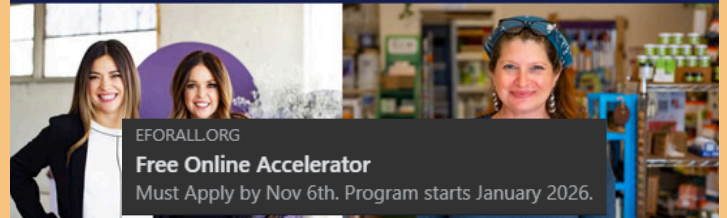
**To Support CBA
Food Pantry**



Food is more than just fuel — it's culture, memory, and tradition. Access to cooking spices, helps maintain a connection to our heritage and keeps family traditions alive. It's about nourishment for both the body and the soul. The right spice can make a simple meal feel like home.



**Free Training &
Support To Start Your
Own Business**



EFORALL.ORG

Free Online Accelerator

Must Apply by Nov 6th. Program starts January 2026.



Virtual Fireside Chat

Join us with other immigrant professionals to discuss career strategies for immigrant professionals to advance in the U.S. workplace

**Dr. Ify Osunkwo,
Chief Patient Officer,
Novo Nordisk Rare Disease
Division**

Moderated by **Gloria Boye, Alexion
Pharmaceuticals**

Monday, October 28th, 2024, 5-6:30 PM.

Register at [ABNfirechat.eventbrite.com](https://abnfirechat.eventbrite.com) or scan the QR code.



Lowell Farmers' Market

Affordable food for a healthier life

Fridays

July 11th to Oct 26th
1pm to 5pm
350A Dutton Street Lowell, MA



Snap, HIP, WIC Coupons Accepted

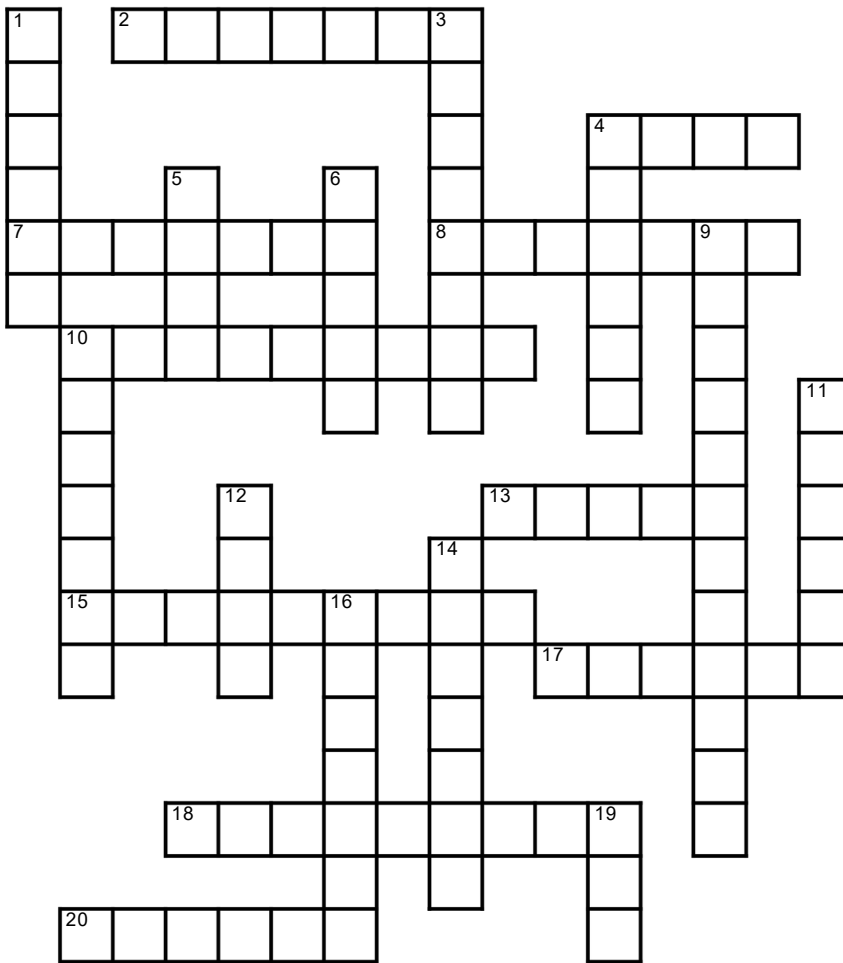


LALA BOOKS

189 Market St, Lowell, MA

lalabookstore.com

Autumn Crossword



Across

- 2. Big orange vegetable that grows on a vine.
- 4. Another word for autumn.
- 7. The month in the middle of fall.
- 8. Many birds do this in autumn.
- 10. A scary celebration in autumn.
- 13. The food that the farmer grows.
- 15. It protects the crops from birds.
- 17. These turn color in fall.
- 18. The first month of autumn.
- 20. Another word for cool.

Down

- 1. A fall color.
- 3. The last month of autumn.
- 4. Someone who harvests crops.
- 5. Fall weather.
- 6. A fall color.
- 9. A feast in fall.
- 10. Gather all of the crops.
- 11. Red fruit.
- 12. A yellow vegetable that comes from a tall plant.
- 14. Kids wear this on October 31st.
- 16. The opposite of city.
- 19. A fall color.



Scan to Register for:


































1-on-1 Tech Help



LASA Free Medical Clinic

10 OCTOBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			 PML - 1-on-1 Tech Help 4pm & 5pm: Main Branch Registration required	2 	3  English Club 155 Merrimack St., 4 th floor, Conference Rm. 5-6:30pm  PML - ESOL Conversation Group 10:30am-12pm	4
5 	6 	7  PML - 1-on-1 Tech Help 11am: Main Branch Registration required	8  PML - 1-on-1 Tech Help 4pm & 5pm: Main Branch Registration required	9 	 English Club 155 Merrimack St., 4 th floor, Conference Rm. 5-6:30pm  PML - ESOL Conversation Group 10:30am-12pm	11
12 	13 No School - Indigenous peoples' Day	14  PML - 1-on-1 Tech Help 11am: Main Branch Registration required 	15  PML - 1-on-1 Tech Help 4pm & 5pm: Main Branch Registration required	16  GED computer- based testing, 12:30pm	17  English Club 155 Merrimack St., 4 th floor, Conference Rm. 5-6:30pm Starts Friday at 5pm, & continues Saturday at 8am HISET & GED paper-based testing	18
19 	20 	21 	22  PML - 1-on-1 Tech Help 4pm & 5pm: Main Branch Registration required	23  GED computer- based testing, 12:30pm	24  English Club 155 Merrimack St., 4 th floor, Conference Rm. 5-6:30pm	 LASA Free 25 Medical Clinic, 8:30am-2:30pm 40 OLD FERRY RD Fall Fun for All 3-5pm 5 Courthouse Lane, Chelmsford 01824 Registration Required 
26 	27 	28  PML - 1-on-1 Tech Help 11am: Main Branch Registration required 	29  PML - 1-on-1 Tech Help 4pm & 5pm: Main Branch Registration required	30  TRUNK OR TREAT OCTOBER 30, 2025 5:30 - 7pm	 English Club 155 Merrimack St., 4 th floor, Conference Rm. 5-6:30pm 	 REGISTER NOW