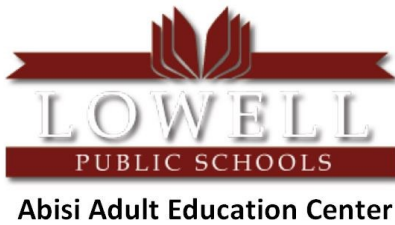


THE MELTING POT NEWSLETTER



Frederick Abisi Adult Education Center
408 Merrimack St, Lowell, MA 01854
www.lowelladulthoodeducation.com - (978) 937-8989

Elizabeth McKiernan, Director

November 2023



AAEC Annual Food Drive

Last month, AAEC held its annual food drive. Thanks to the generosity of our students and staff, we donated several large boxes of food and toiletries to people in need. Coalition for a Better Acre (CBA), the recipient of the donations, helps immigrants and lower-income families in the Merrimack Valley with food assistance and resources.



The CBA's Food and Essential Item Pantry is located at their Walk-In Center at 450 Merrimack Street, Lowell

- The pantry is open Tuesdays from 9AM-12PM and 1PM-5PM; Also, Wednesdays from 9AM-12PM.
- Delivery provided for elderly, housebound, or disabled patrons.
- CBA strives to offer fresh, desirable and culturally appropriate food.

If you need more information, contact Ivana, CBA's Health Access Program Coordinator, at ivana.dauwer@cbacre.org or 978-483-9082.

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LPS Calendar Reminder

Tuesday, November 7	No School	Election Day in Lowell
Friday, November 10	No School	Veterans' Day
Wednesday, November 22	Early Dismissal	10:45am
Thursday, November 23 & Friday, November 24	No school	Thanksgiving Break

Student Success Celebration

On November 21st, we will hold our first Student Success Celebration. We are recognizing students who achieved goals in September, October, and the beginning of November. Outstanding Attendance Certificates for October will also be awarded.



EMPLOYMENT

- Get a job
- Get a better job
- Increase your earnings
- Meet new job requirements

EDUCATION

- Enter Occupational Training program
- Complete occupational training

CIVIC PARTICIPATION

- Get a learner's permit
- Get a driver's license
- Vote in an election
- Attain Legal Permanent Residence
- Pass the citizenship exam
- Open a bank account
- Buy a house or condo
- Start a business
- Take a school/community leadership role
- Volunteer at a community organization

We will have regular classes on November 21st. At 10:15 am we will gather together to distribute the certificates. Afterwards, join us for cake and coffee in the basement bistro area.

Make sure you inform your teachers of goals you have achieved so far this school year and, which ones you are currently working on.

Student Advisory Council (SAC)

Wednesday, November 8th

10:15-11:00 am

Computer Lab - Basement Level



Attendance Reminder

You are expected to be in class every day and be on time. If you miss too many classes, you risk losing your space to someone who is on our wait list.

If you know in advance you will be out, let your teacher(s) know. You can also email:

- Sochitra: sochan@lowell.k12.ma.us
(ESOL students)
- Sarah: swaterhouse@lowell.k12.ma.us
(HSE students).

Make sure to include your full name and teacher or group.

BUILDING DOORS OPEN AT 8:30 AM
CLASSES BEGIN AT 9:00 AM

AAEC Rewards Program

October was the official kickoff month for our AAEC Reward Program!



Last month, AAEC morning students were introduced to the Reward Program and Center. Each class was given a demonstration of the process by Giovanna and previewed the many rewards available.

The Rewards Program encourages students to accumulate points to exchange for rewards (prizes/ gifts). You earn points by having good attendance, borrowing books from the library cart, using IXL at home, achieving goals, participating in school and community events and activities, and more.

Each month, a statement listing your total earned points is distributed in class. You can accumulate your Reward Points through the year to get the biggest rewards, or cash them in as soon as you get them.

The Rewards Center is open once a month for students to redeem their points, and located on the first floor, outside Room 3. You can choose from a variety of prizes like T-shirts, jackets, water bottles, insulated mugs, books, school supplies and dictionaries.

Giovanna, our Student and Staff Support person, can answer all of your questions about this program.



Reward Center Hours:

- Tuesday, November 28th for Liz, Meg (M-W), Martha, and HSE classes
- Thursday, November 30th for Carrie, Jen, and Meg's (TH/F) classes

CLASSROOM SPOTLIGHTS

HSE Students Visit the Pollard Memorial Library

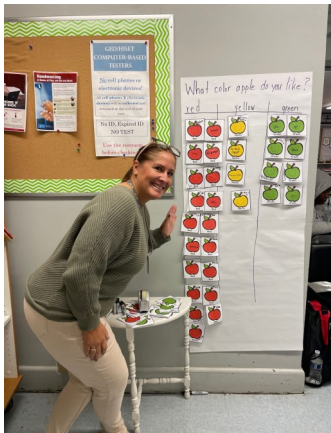
A group of HSE students took a trip to the Pollard Memorial Public Library this month. Students registered for library cards and were given a tour of the library. We learned about the many resources the library has to offer including discounted museum passes, computer access, printing capabilities, and citizenship preparation courses. We also learned about the many ways we can use the library while preparing for the GED or HiSet Exam. The library has GED and HiSet study guides and many online resources that we can use!

A special thank you to Assistant Director of the Library, Bridget Cooley. She always gives a wonderful tour and informs us of all the things the library has to offer!



Jen and Carrie's ESOL Classes

Taste Test Marks the Beginning of the Library Cards Program



A fun and tasty activity marked the beginning of Library Cards program for students in Jen and Carrie's classes. After reading the book "Johnny Appleseed," the students in both classes got together to try red, green, and yellow apples and vote on which was tastiest. A colorful graphic was used for voting. The red apples won!

The Susan Silk Library Carts are mobile libraries for AAEC morning students. ESOL and HSE students can borrow books from the library cart to help practice their reading skills and share with family members at home. Reading to your children helps to encourage a love of reading.

Each class has a set time for students to select a book to borrow. There are many genres to choose from and all different ability levels.

As of November 3rd, over 100 books have been checked out of the ESOL and HSE carts. Students share their book by either completing a book report, or giving a book talk, building on their speaking, reading, and writing skills.

Aung's Adaptation: One Student's Approach to Learning English



He recently shared a story with one of his teachers about his love of learning English while in Burma. He said that he learned English by reading classic English literature. "You learned English by reading the classics?" his teacher asked. "Yes, I read lots of classics like *Wuthering Heights* by Emily Bronte, *Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain, and *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott (who is from Boston)." His teacher was surprised and asked "How did you manage to read such classic stories that are written at such a high level?" He went on to explain his method. He said "I would start with the easiest adaptation, or version, of the book I could possibly find. This would give me a good idea of the overall story and the main characters. Then, once I finished reading it, I would find another adaptation that was just a little more challenging and read that one so that I could learn new words in English. Then I would again read a more advanced book to learn even more vocabulary. Since I already knew the storyline, I knew what was going on and could really focus on learning new vocabulary. I would continue finding more challenging versions (often 5 versions of the same story) until I could read the original classic novel."

Aung's teachers are so very impressed! Reading the same story but increasing the level of difficulty with each new version of the book was brilliant! Since he was already familiar with the characters and basic story, it allowed him to build a larger vocabulary base while adding more and more exciting details to add to his story. One could imagine it would be like learning to draw a picture of your favorite place where you would first lightly sketch out a drawing with a pencil, then going back over the sketch and gradually using darker outlines. Then using certain basic colors with a large paint brush to add structures, and beginning to add lighter shades of colors with another brush to add dimension to those structures, and then finally, with a smaller paint brush adding all of the tiny details to your favorite place turning what was once a pencil sketch into a masterpiece of artwork!

Good readers form pictures in their minds and imagine the places described in books. We can only imagine all of the wonderful places Aung has pictured in his mind from the books he has read and where he has yet to go in the books he will read in the future! Thank you, Aung, for being a great student, and for sharing your book adaptation idea with us! We created a new section in our HSE book cart called “Aungs Adaptations” with a collection of classics written at different levels. Check it out, and you can read classic forms of literature just like he did!

HiSET & GED Testing Information

Residents of Massachusetts who desire to earn a High School Equivalency credential have the choice of two exams: the GED® or the HiSET®. Candidates must pass all subject tests in: the GED® exam, the HiSET® exam, or **a combination of both exams**. These exams are comparable in terms of passing rates and complexity, but they do vary in some ways. For example, the GED exam is computer-based only, but HiSET exams can be taken on a computer or paper.

In 2022-2023, the DESE made some policy changes to assist candidates:

- Candidates have the option to take any subject test in English or Spanish. All credentials will be issued in English.
- HiSET/GED Testing is **FREE!** The Commonwealth of Massachusetts will pay for a candidate's first HiSET® or GED® test in each subject, plus two retakes per subject. Enter the correct voucher code at checkout.

HiSET	GED
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create your account at hiset.org. • If you created a HiSET account with ETS before October 2022, you will need to create a new myHiset account. Use the same last name and email address, to ensure that your test scores are transferred. • When scheduling any HiSET test, use promo code: MAHiSET at checkout. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create your account at ged.com • When scheduling any subject test for the first time, use promo code: MAFREEGED1 • Those who opt to take the GED remotely must first pass the GED Ready subject test. GED Ready tests can be purchased in your GED account. • To retest at a Test Center, use the promo code: MARETAKE • To retest remotely, use the voucher code: OPMARETAKE

Abisi Adult Education Center is an official Test Center for both exams. GED appointments will be released 30 days before the scheduled test date.

Upcoming Testing Dates at AAEC

GED Computer-Based Testing <i>Thursdays at 12:30 pm</i>	HiSET Paper-Based & GED Computer-Based	HiSET Computer-Based Testing <i>Thursdays at 12:30 pm</i>
November 16th & December 7th One subject test may be scheduled and limited to Math, Science, or Social Studies tests only	Friday, November 17th & Friday, December 15th (Beginning at 5:00 pm) Saturday, November 18 & Saturday, December 16 (Beginning at 8:00 am)	November 30th & December 14th One subject test may be scheduled.

CITIZENSHIP CORNER

Many lawful permanent residents, or Green Card holders, are interested in becoming U.S. citizens. Before they can apply for U.S. citizenship, they need to meet specific eligibility requirements for naturalization.

Pathway to U.S. Citizenship

If you would like to become a U.S. citizen, you must go through the process of naturalization. **GENERALLY**, you must:



★ **Form N-400:** uscis.gov/n-400

★ **Learn more about specific eligibility requirements for naturalization:** uscis.gov/citizenship

For more information about citizenship, you may also contact:

Gail at gforman@lowell.k12.ma.us or Adriana at agiraldo@lowell.k12.ma.us

PARTNERSHIPS & COMMUNITY INFORMATION

MassHire Lowell Career Center

Daphne Nichols from the MassHire Lowell Career Center and Abisi Adult Education partnered together to introduce Barbara's HSE Remote Math class to MassHire. The presentation included information about the variety of services available for someone who is searching for a new job, looking to pursue a new career through their Career Pathways program, wanting to learn a new skill that is in demand to help stay competitive in today's work-force, and learning about the benefits of becoming a free MassHire member.



Daphne also met with several ESOL students from Meg, Liz, and Martha's classes and helped them to become members.

The MassHire Lowell Career Center is part of the Massachusetts One-Stop Career Center System serving the communities of Billerica, Chelmsford, Dracut, Dunstable, Lowell, Tewksbury, Tyngsboro, and Westford.

NOVEMBER JOB FAIR
Honoring US Military Veterans
November 16, 2023
 12:30-2:30 pm
 Lowell Senior Center
 276 Broadway St, Lowell, MA 01854
REGISTER
<https://masshirelowellcc.com/novjobfair/>


Just some of the employers scheduled to attend

- Lowell Police Department
- Bedford VA Healthcare Center
- The Nobis Group
- Allied Universal
- J & J Homecare
- Longterm Pharmacy
- Hanscom Air Force Base
- UPS/NXTThing

Contact your Career and Educational Advisors for more information on upcoming events, job fairs, and trainings available or if you are interested in becoming a MassHire member.

Margie Miller
Career Center Connection

Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday
8:30 am to 12:30 pm

mmiller@lowell.k12.ma.us
Her office is the back of Room 5

Cindy Taff
ESOL

Monday, Wednesday, & Friday
8:00 am to 1:00 pm

ctaft@lowell.k12.ma.us
Her office is the back of Room 6

Martha McQuaide
HSE

Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday
9:00 am to 1:00 pm

mmcquaide@lowell.k12.ma.us
Her office is the back of Room 6

Vaccination Information

Protect yourself from the Flu and COVID this winter!

Where can I get a Flu and COVID vaccines? Flu and COVID vaccines are available at your local pharmacy or make an appointment with your doctor. Here are two places you can get vaccinated.



The Lowell Health Department Clinic is now taking appointments for Flu and COVID vaccines for November.

When	Tuesdays 4:00 to 7:00 PM
Where:	Lowell Health Dept. 107 Merrimack St, Downtown Lowell
Parking:	Joseph Downes Garage, 75 John St. <i>Validate tickets at Health Dept.</i>
Register in Advance:	www.lowellma.gov/1557/LowellVaccine-Clinic or call 978-674-4307

Vaccines offered:

- **Flu:** Standard or High dose (recommended for 65+)
If you have health insurance, bring your card with you. You can still get the Flu vaccine if you don't.
- **Updated COVID (2023-24 formula)*** - Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna

**Note: COVID vaccine is only available for individuals who are uninsured or underinsured. They are in the process of ordering vaccines for those with insurance. Go to vaccines.gov/search for other locations.*



Lowell Community Health Center Covid-19 Vaccine Clinic

No Appointment Needed

Who:

Patients 6 Months-4 years (Doses 1, 2 & 3)
Patients 5+ years (Doses 1, 2 & Booster)

What:



THIS IS A WALK IN CLINIC FOR LOWELL CHC PATIENTS ONLY



When: Monday, 9:00AM - 1:00PM

Where: Lowell CommunityHealth Center 161 Jackson Street, 1st Floor

COMMUNITY EVENTS & INFORMATION

City of Lights Holiday Parade



Lowell will be in a festive mood starting Saturday, November 25th, when the City of Lights events take place.

The festivities will begin at noon with family friendly activities throughout the afternoon, including a magic show, free movie screening, the annual hot chocolate competition, and more!

Afternoon activities give way to the holiday parade at 4:30 PM, starting at Jackson Street and weaving its way up Merrimack Street to City Hall, showcasing an array of community floats and performances. The parade culminates at 5:30PM with the grand City Hall lighting, setting the stage for a joyful holiday season.

Following the parade and lighting ceremony, everyone is invited to **two new** City of Lights activities: MICRO, an interactive public art exhibit on JFK Plaza and the Down-Home Holiday Concert on Palmer Street, from 6:00PM to 9:15PM.

For more information about the City of Lights and full schedule of events, please visit: www.lowellcityoflights.org.

Daylight Savings Time

Change your clock,



CHANGE your batteries

On November 5, we turned our clocks back 1 hour. The skies are getting brighter in the mornings but darker earlier in the evenings.

It is a good idea to change the batteries in your smoke detectors at home.

Lowell Police Youth Services (LPYS)

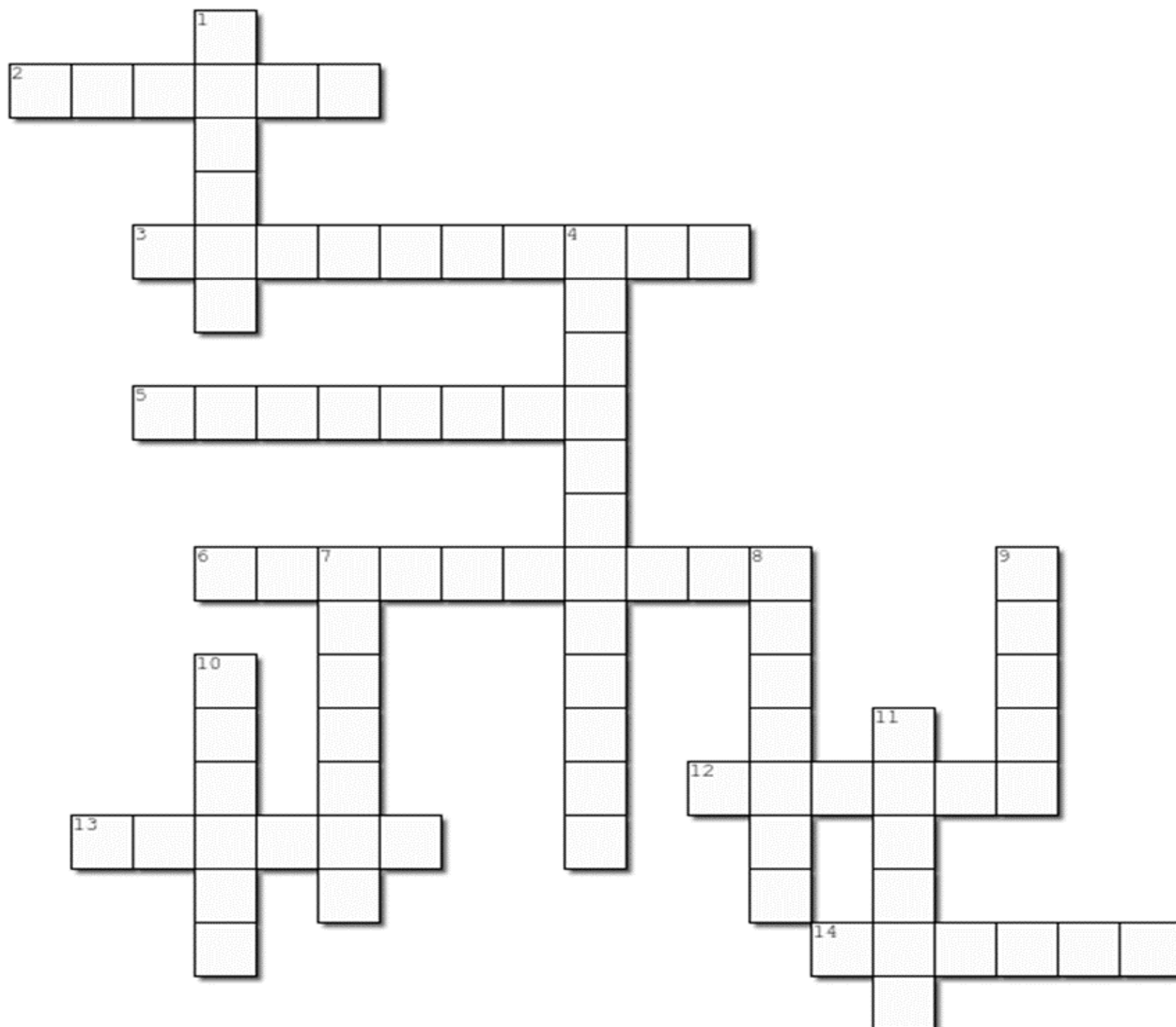
LPD Youth Services creates opportunities for all city youth to participate in free after school activities, athletics, and other ventures that emphasize health and wellness, while also experiencing positive interactions with police officers.



Location:	Holy-Trinity Polish Church Gym 340 High St, Lowell
Eligibility:	Lowell residents between Grades 8 to 12 Open gym is co-ed.
When:	Every Friday from 6:00-9:00 PM November 3 to December 29th
Register:	https://lowellpolice.org/youth-services/ Or https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScVJDko4XPfVhukaNT6UqmxxZOv6oBuKc-rOLoXVziVXOnC8A/viewform

Getting To Know The United States (U.S.)

Complete the crossword puzzle below



Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

stripes American Healey Boston United Washington Banner Biden NewYork

Democratic Harris Thanksgiving market states

Across

2. the name of the national anthem, The Star-Spangled _____
3. the 2 major political parties in the U.S., Republican and _____
5. they lived in America before the Europeans arrived, _____ Indians
6. the capital of the U.S., _____, D.C.
12. the capital of Massachusetts
13. the economic system in the U.S., _____ economy
14. the Governor of Massachusetts now, Maura _____

Down

1. what we show loyalty to when we say the Pledge of Allegiance, _____ States
4. Labor Day and _____ are two national U.S. holidays
7. the American flag has 13 _____ because there were 13 original colonies
8. where the Statue of Liberty is located, _____ (Harbor)
9. the President of the U.S. now, Joe _____
10. the Vice President of the U.S. now, Kamala _____
11. the American flag has 50 stars because there are 50 _____

School Activities Calendar

November 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Citizenship Class 9:30—11am Rm 12	3 Conversation Class 9:30—11:30 am Rm 10	4
5 Daylight Saving Time Ends 	6	7  No School	8 Student Advisory 10—11am Computer Lab	9 Citizenship Class 9:30—11am Rm 12	10  No School	11
12	13	14  On-site Clinic 10:30—12:30	15	16 Citizenship Class 9:30—11am Rm 12  CBT starting @ 12:30pm	17 Conversation Class 9:30—11:30 am Rm 10  PBT starting @ 5:00pm  CBT starting @ 5:00pm	18  PBT starting @ 8:00am  CBT starting @ 8:00am
19	20	21  Student Success Celebration 10:00 am	22  10:45 am	23	24 	25
26	27 Welcome! New Students	28  Reward Center Open	29	30  Reward Center Open Citizenship Class 9:30—11am  CBT starting @ 12:30 pm		