

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR:

St. Louis Park Community Education has served residents for over 35 years, and we remain committed to offering the best lifelong learning opportunities to people of all ages and all walks of life.

The quality of our efforts was affirmed in the spring of 2006 with the results of an audit of educational effectiveness for Community Education programs. National experts from the school Management Study Group in Chubbuck, Idaho evaluated our policies, leadership and programs. They thoroughly examined the impacts and effects of our services and surveyed participants to determine perceptions and outcomes. Our budgets were scrutinized and our methods examined. Their commendations were many and their recommendations few. In short, they were amazed with what they described as our "quality Community Education program." The audit concluded "Overall, the St. Louis Park Community Education Program is well designed, effectively managed, and received very favorably by participants, instructors, and building principals." We were commended for extensive community partnerships, program design and quality program leadership.

For a complete copy of the audit, visit www.slpschools.org/commed_general.html.

The accomplishments you see highlighted in this report are but a few of the many ways we have energized minds, activated bodies, built community and sparked spirits. If you have further questions or comments about any of our programs, please visit www.slpcommunityed.com for a complete list of our staff members and their contact information, or call me at 952-928-6063.

As a community member, policy maker, director or advisory council member, **thank you** for your continued participation and support for St. Louis Park Community Education. As you can see from this document, lifelong learning opportunities of the highest quality abound in St. Louis Park.

Linda Saveraid
Community Education Director

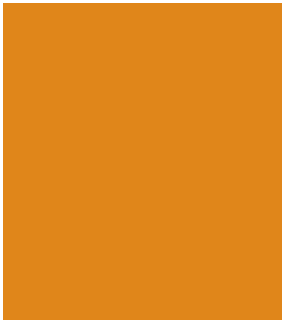
2005 - 2006 PARTICIPANT AND CONTACT HOUR INFORMATION

Program	Participants	Contact Hours
Adult Enrichment	5,660	33,559
Adult Options/ESL	697	51,626
Aquatics	8,561	21,236
Preschool Enrichment	586	30,296
ECFE	2,602	4,575*
Gymnastics	536	5,477
Kids' Place	887	1,450,620
Kindergarten Plus	43	29,756
Project SOAR (includes data from four-district consortium)	2,300	4,164
Senior Program	35,587	87,614
Summer Spark (youth summer enrichment)	748	9,705
Volunteer Program	1,309	14,142
Youth Development	5,615	15,844
Youth Enrichment (includes Junior High Enrichment)	1,673	24,602
Facilities Use (includes over 100 different community groups)	49,704	74,556**

BASED ON TURNSTILE COUNT – DATA FROM 2005-2006 MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION REPORT

*Total number of hours of service offered, NOT contact hours

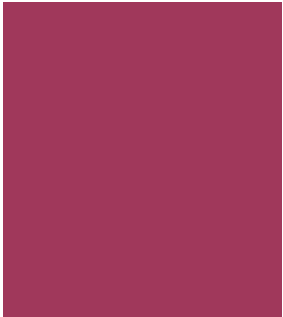
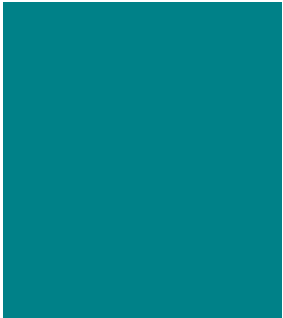
**Number of hours facilities are reserved, NOT contact hours



ST. LOUIS PARK COMMUNITY EDUCATION



INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 238



ANNUAL REPORT 2005 - 2006

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■ YOUTH PROGRAMS

The mission of St. Louis Park Community Education Youth Department is to work with the City and the community to inspire our youth to fearlessly pursue lifelong learning and personal development by inviting youth to be partners in the process of creating the building blocks for a healthy, happy life.



GYMNASTICS: Provides enrichment gymnastics classes to students ages 2-18.

- Tumbletots and Crickets classes for boys and girls as young as age two are among the most popular offerings.
- The solid feeder program boosts achievement on the St. Louis Park High School gymnastics team.
- Younger students get the chance to interact with older, more experienced gymnasts.
- Partnership between high school team, booster club, and Community Education helps keep equipment up-to-date by sharing expenses.



JUNIOR HIGH ENRICHMENT: Focuses on afterschool extracurricular classes and activities for students in grades 7-8.

- The junior high climbing wall was put to good use as climbing class numbers tripled.
- The junior high afterschool drop-in center, DropZone, continued to serve students, with major financial support from St. Louis Park Community Foundation, Park Nicollet Foundation, the Kopp Foundation, the Junior High Site Council and the LCTS - Family Collaborative Grant.
- Meadowbrook Kids' Club expanded to include first through ninth- graders.
- The Junior High Musical, *The Little Shop of Horrors*, drew record numbers of viewers - 548 attended the show.



SUMMER SPARK: Ensures continued learning during the summer through enrichment classes and activities for students in grades K-8.

- Summer Spark (formerly Summer Learning and Play) students enjoyed more opportunities to engage in arts activities as a result of participant feedback requests.
- A record number of students (27) participated in the Summer Spark Musical Magic Theater, performing a fully-staged production of *Cinderella*.
- Youth Enrichment staff guided 141 students and 36 parents through the transition from elementary school to junior high in the Jump Start to Junior High program.
- Fourteen students, ages 12-14, joined the Junior Classroom Assistant Program, spending an average of 35 hours each helping younger students learn.



YOUTH DEVELOPMENT: Brings students in grades 4-12 together to develop leadership skills.

- Youth Development Committee (YDC) members grew their program by creating service projects and fundraisers such as Coins for Katrina drive that involved almost every student in grades K-8.
- The Youth Summit format of intergenerational action teams gave youth opportunities to be involved in the problem-solving process.
- New students were welcomed onto the YDC at its January retreat attended by 40 fellow members in grades 4-12.
- New agencies and organizations partnered to recognize the contributions of our young people through the Caring Youth Recognition event.



YOUTH ENRICHMENT: Serves students in grades K-12 and their families with a wide range of classes and activities in areas such as arts, music, sports and fitness, and more.

- Over 100 fathers and their daughters, dressed in their finest evening attire, danced the night away in the very first, very special Daddy/Daughter Dance.
- A record number of parents (28) attended Jump Start to Senior High parent information night. The expanding program also includes Jump Start for College.
- Open Gym Saturdays and holiday sports sampler events gave students in grades K-12 a low-cost, safe, accessible place to connect with peers.
- Worked with staff at with Susan Lindgren Intermediate Center to promote and operate a after-school fitness and nutrition program funded by array of community partners.

WEBSITE IMPROVEMENTS

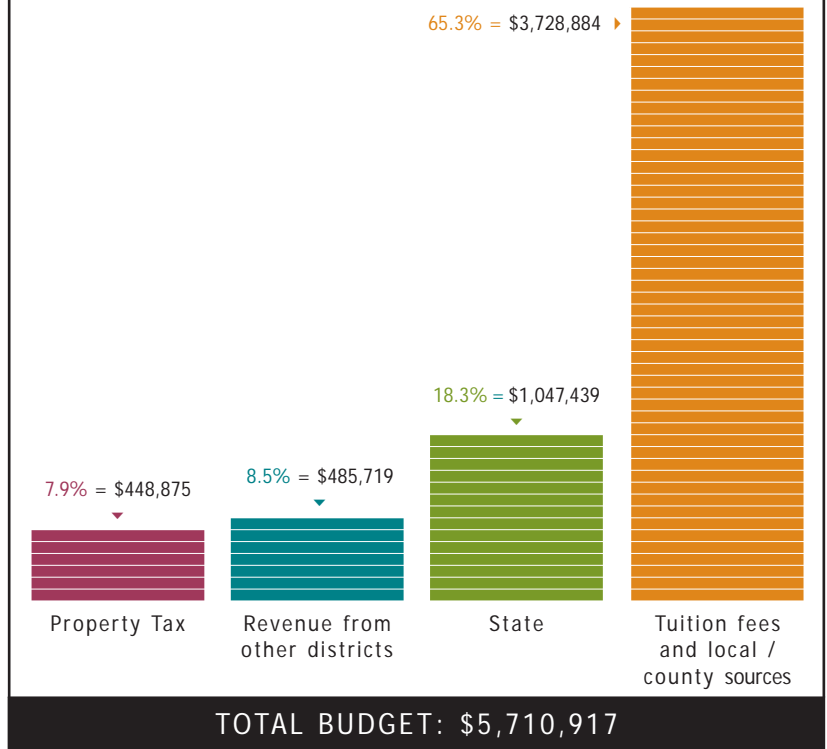
Consumers are responding in increasing numbers to the ease and convenience of signing up for classes any time, day or night, using the online registration website www.slpcommunityed.com.

Consumer-entered registrations climbed from 26 percent when the website was first launched in 2003 to 41 percent by the end of 2005. Many site improvements were made throughout the year, including updates to simplify use, and improve data-collecting and marketing functions through increased capacity and flexibility of the home page.

MISSION

The mission of St. Louis Park Community Education is to enhance the quality of life through lifelong learning and empowerment of people.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION REVENUE SOURCES



COMMUNITY EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

Kirsten Albright	David Arago	Karen Finney	Pat Foulkes	Susan Hughes	Jeff Jacobs	Michelle Margo
Steve McCulloch	Rolf Peterson	Kristen Piper	Sue Santa	Mark Schwartz	Kris Stapleton	Julie Sweitzer
Joe Tatalovich	Cindy Walsh	Ben Williams	Linda Saveraid, Director	Mary Juberian, Manager	Mary O'Brien, Manager	

SCHOOL BOARD

Nancy Gores	Rolf Peterson	Bruce Richardson	Larry Shapiro
Julie Sweitzer	Jerry Timian	Jim Yarosh	Debra Bowers, Ph. D., Superintendent

CITY COUNCIL

John Basill	Paul Carver	Phillip Finkelstein	Paul Omodt
Loran Paprocki	Sue Sanger	Jeff Jacobs, Mayor	Tom Harmening, City Manager

LIFELONG LEARNING PLAN INTRODUCED

The philosophy is simple. A lifelong learning plan can create an enriched and balanced life.

Three years of strategic planning and visioning culminated in the introduction of St. Louis Park Community Education's Lifelong Learning Plan in the winter of 2006. The plan invites adults throughout the community to forge a partnership with Community Education to create a plan for their learning needs, define goals, and achieve a balanced life.

The plan encourages learners to consider all aspects of life demonstrated by these themes:

- Energize Your Mind
- Activate Your Body
- Build Community
- Spark Your Spirit

Of 356 Adult Enrichment class participants surveyed in the fall of 2006, 24 percent indicated that they were aware of Community Education's Lifelong Learning Plan. Of those who were aware of the plan, 80 percent responded that they were taking the class as part of their personal Lifelong Learning Plan.



ADULT PROGRAMS

The mission of the St. Louis Park Adult Program is to motivate adults in our community to thrive by ensuring that opportunities for personal growth and community connection abound.



ADULT ENRICHMENT: Serves adults of all ages with a wide range of learning opportunities including, arts, computer, health and wellness, fitness, world language, home repair and more.

- Completed work on Lifelong Learning Plan concept and launched marketing campaign in conjunction with all adult learning programs.
- Winter/spring program registrations increased 27 percent over previous year.
- New exercise sampler event drew over 100 participants and boosted registration in fitness classes.
- Intensified partnership with City in mission to help homeowners improve housing stock with increased home repair, remodeling and landscape education.



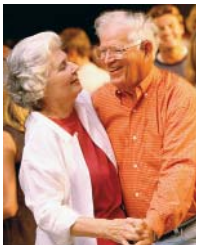
ADULT OPTIONS/ESL: Provides Adult Basic Education services including GED preparation, Family Learning, and English as a Second Language (ESL) classes.

- More than half of learners accomplish a level change in English language skills.
- Workforce Education brings ESL classes to local businesses.
- Learner stories and videos put faces to the city-wide Bookmark In the Park selection, "The Middle of Everywhere."
- Program honored by the League of Women Voters of St. Louis Park for its outstanding community contributions of teaching and mentoring.



PROJECT SOAR: Offers a broad range of educational, recreational and enrichment classes and activities to adults with disabilities in St. Louis Park, Hopkins, Minnetonka and Wayzata.

- Solid program partnerships and community connections result in an 88 percent class success rate.
- Friday night dances, averaging 100 people, are a great way to spread the word about program opportunities.
- Co-sponsored the Fun Fest informational fair, in which over 250 consumers and caregivers made connections and shared information in April 2006.
- The program provides access to Adult Enrichment classes and activities via classroom assistants, sign language interpreters, etc.



SENIOR PROGRAM: Engages adults, ages 55 and older, in a wide range of social, recreational, and educational programs. The program, housed at Lenox Community Center, operates through a partnership between the City of St. Louis Park and Community Education.

- Continued development of Senior Marketing Plan, creating and implementing new logo and tagline: Learn & Laugh at Lenox.
- The Perky Parkettes, Lenox's Red Hat Society, celebrated its first anniversary in June, 2006.
- One hundred ninety seven seniors, including 58 new volunteers, were honored for their 19,424 hours of service at the annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon.
- The woodcrafters group made and delivered over 3,700 wooden toys to Children's Hospital in Minneapolis and St. Paul and Methodist Hospital.



VOLUNTEER PROGRAM: Recruits, trains and places volunteers in service opportunities throughout the school district and community. The program operates through a partnership between the City of St. Louis Park and Community Education.

- Over 1,300 volunteers served in 25 ongoing and one-time volunteer activities for the City and school district.
- New programs included Monarch Butterfly Monitors at Westwood Nature Center, volunteers planting gardens around the city, and corporate connections with Michael Foods Inc. and Double Tree Hotel to help students learn to read.
- Drivers took a high school student to his radiation treatments every day for 26 days.
- Fourth and fifth-graders at Susan Lindgren and Cedar Manor schools got extra help in math from 12 dedicated, weekly volunteers.

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

In partnership with the community, the mission of the St. Louis Park Early Education program is to teach and support all young children and their families as they create the foundation for a lifetime of success (and learning).



AQUATICS: Provides lessons for swimmers ages five months through senior citizens, lap swimming opportunities, and pool rental and synchronized swimming club coordination.

- Infant/preschool swim classes provide families a welcoming introduction to the Community Education experience.
- Senior citizens enjoy the benefits of water aerobics (Aquasize) in ever-increasing numbers – over 1,800 participants in 2005-2006.
- Aquafins synchronized swimming program for girls ages 8-18 is the nucleus of St. Louis Park's State High School Championship Team.
- Pool birthday parties make a splash for over 300 St. Louis Park kids each year.



EARLY CHILDHOOD FAMILY EDUCATION (ECFE): Includes separating, gradually separating, and non-separating ECFE classes, PALS and PALS+ Nursery School, and School Readiness and Family Learning programs.

- ECFE serves the youngest learners in St. Louis Park and their families with classes for children ages birth-five.
- Vehicle Fair and annual Children's Clothing Sale are two of the many community-wide activities sponsored by the ECFE Advisory Council.
- Family Literacy serves parents who are working on English as a Second Language or their GED and their preschool-kindergarten aged children.
- The PALS+ nursery school program, operating in collaboration with Early Childhood Special Education, provides a quality nursery school experience for children with special needs learning together with their typically-developing peers.



KIDS' PLACE CHILDCARE: Offers year-round childcare for infants and toddlers, preschoolers and school-age children.

- Among the many outstanding teachers creating exceptional experiences daily are Beth Shannon, Brooklyn Park Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year, and Lori Katz and Julie Mulford celebrating 25 years in the program.
- Over 300 families connected at the first ever Fall Gathering, enjoying a chance to eat dinner and play games together (rather than passing one another at pick up and drop off).
- Fun-in-the-sun activities for the whole family make the Winter Meltdown a much-anticipated and well-attended event.
- Kids' Place students show they care, raising \$5,000 through a Hurricane Katrina Relief penny fundraiser at Cedar Manor and Aquila.



KINDERGARTEN PLUS: Provides a full-day, fee-based kindergarten option at Aquila and Peter Hobart Primary Centers.

- Children have the same certified kindergarten teacher all day.
- The program is aligned with current classroom curriculum and allows students more time for exploration and learning.
- Tuition is comparable to childcare program.
- Complements traditional half-day kindergarten.



PRESCHOOL ENRICHMENT: Operates Creative Play Nursery School and Kid Dance classes.

- Creative Play preschool program has served children ages 2.5-5 since 1977.
- Summer sessions complement school-year program.
- Minnesota Indicators of Progress guide Creative Play curriculum and evaluations.
- Ever-popular Kid Dance creative movement classes are always full.