



Academy of Whole Learning

Adult Education



September
2021

Welcome back!

What an exciting start to the year! We added three more participants, bringing our total up to 13 (with applications still coming in for the final 14th spot). One student remarked to me on the first day that, "I bet you are happy to not be in the kitchen with 5 students anymore!". I will always treasure that first year, but I think we all agree that there have been some real upgrades. Ashley, our job coach, remarked how happy everyone seemed to be back on the first day. I noticed this as well. Our primary goal has always been to build a community that stressed both effort, accountability, but also fun. It was heartening to know how much people wanted to be back.

Assessments

Next week is our assessment week so that we can begin to group participants and collect data to track growth over the course of the year. We will be sending a few parent assessments as well, which I try to keep light as I know it can be overwhelming (once in the Fall, once in the Spring). In total, we have four assessments for:

- Academic Knowledge
- Life Skills Knowledge
- Life Skills Application
- Self-Determination/Empowerment/Well-Being

As I tell the students, growth is not always linear. But, we were pleased to note that last year all five participants came out of the year feeling better about themselves and their adult prospects. I will take that as a win.

Staffing Update

Yet another staffing update! With our added enrollment we have decided to add an additional position to our team. We are calling it "Student Support Specialist", and it is both a licensed teacher for our program, as well as a resource/career counselor for the High School. With a third teacher in the program, we can ensure even more specialization and individualization.

I can also announce that we have hired for this position! Mikayla (Mikki) Lucci is/was our Building Sub for the year and so has already been spending time in our program while Kelsey is on maternity leave. Mikki has impressed all of us with her teaching and lesson planning skills, as well as her desire to work with young adults in this capacity. She is also young enough to make relevant pop-culture references with the participants, as Kelsey and I slowly age into irrelevancy. We're excited to have her!

Community Outings/Calendar

Our calendar lists all upcoming events for the month. We will indicate Friday events when we will provide lunch. Participants also have opportunities to buy things in the community, so please let me know how/if we need to monitor that.

With Sincere Appreciation,
Michael Faeth
Adult Education Manager



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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1	2	Video Games and Movies 3
Labor Day. No school! 6	Williston Fitness Center 7	8	Williston Fitness Center 9	Minnehaha Falls Park* 10
PRISM Tour 13	WFC/Voyageur Birthday! 14	15	Williston Fitness Center 16	Como Zoo* 17
Sholom Tour 20	Williston Fitness Center 21	Miss Kelsey returns! 22	Williston Fitness Center 23	Disc Golf* (B.Lake Park) 24
Rock Elm Tour 27	Williston Fitness Center 28	29	30	

Please note:

This calendar is subject to change.

* Lunch included

Students will typically have an option to purchase food or other items

