



Past, Present, Future Professional Development for ABE Support Staff

November 17 - November 18, 2022

Virtual via ZOOM!

Sponsored by:

**Minnesota Adult Basic Education Assessment Training –
Southwest Adult Basic Education**



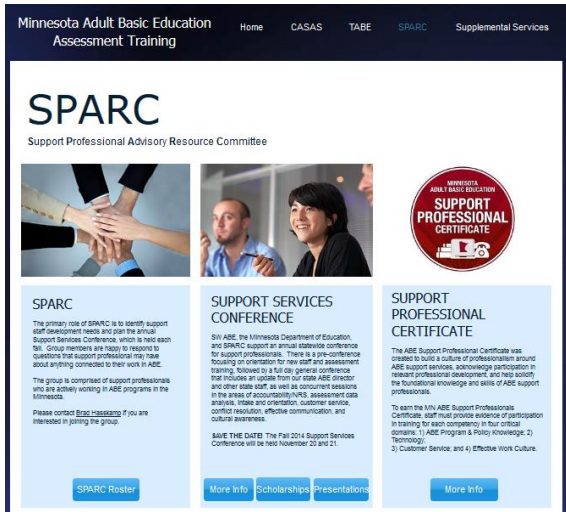
**Minnesota Adult Basic Education –
Department of Education**

“The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.”

-Eleanor Roosevelt

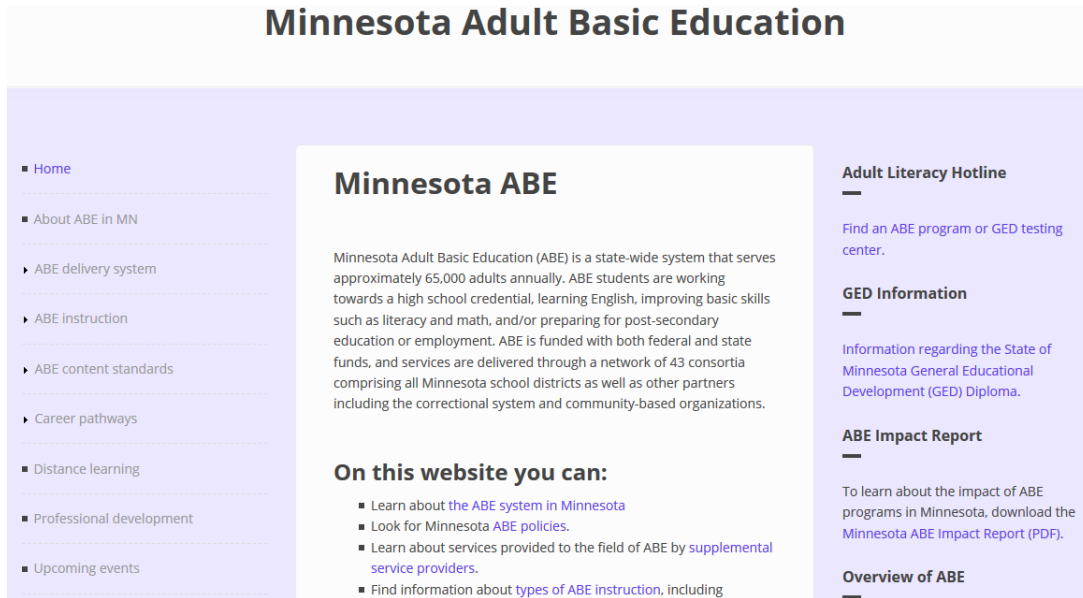
Visit the ABE Support Services resource page:

<http://www.mnabeassessment.com/> and click on the ‘SPARC’ tab



- The www.mnabeassessment.com website has resources and information on ABE in MN, accountability and NRS, assessment, teaching resources, Supplemental Services, and more
- The SPARC tab has information and contacts for the Support Professionals Advisory & Resource Committee (SPARC)
- There is also information regarding the annual Support Services Conference
- Learn more about the Support Professional Certificate

Visit the Minnesota ABE website: <http://www.mnabe.org/>



Resources and information on:

- ABE system in Minnesota
- ABE law and policy
- Accountability and NRS
- Contacts and directories
- Professional development
- Supplemental Service providers

See also the ABE Supplemental Services page on the SW ABE Assessment website:

<https://www.mnabeassessment.com/supplemental-services>

ABE Supplemental Service providers offer assistance to all approved ABE programs for activities such as professional development, volunteer training, low-incidence needs, and technological innovation.

Conference Agenda

Thursday, November 17 – *Virtual via Zoom*

Click on JOIN LINK to access the Zoom link.

- 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. ***CASAS Implementation** – *Marty Olsen*
This session covers selecting and using the appropriate CASAS test, interpreting test scores, and measuring student progress. Discussion will focus on CASAS appraisals, pre- and post-tests, and introduce online instructional resources. Information about CASAS GOALS will be included. Participants who complete this session will be authorized to order and administer CASAS multiple-choice assessments.
- 12:00-12:30 p.m. **Break**
- 12:30-3:30 p.m. ***TABE Implementation** – *Linda Keller and Dave Haugen*
This session covers selecting and administering TABE 11&12, interpreting test scores, and measuring student progress. Discussion will focus on best practices for using the TABE Locator, and pre- and post-tests. The latest updates on TABE 11&12 will be shared. Print and online instructional resources will be discussed.

***NOTE:** These sessions are intended for anyone who is not CASAS or TABE certified, or is new to ABE. This means that you are welcome to attend this portion of the conference even if you do not have program support duties.

Friday, November 18 – *Virtual via Zoom*

- 9:00-9:45 a.m. **Welcome/Keynote Address from MDE Staff**
- 10:00-10:45 a.m. ***Concurrent Session 1**
- 11:00-11:45 a.m.. ***Concurrent Session 2**
- 1:00-1:45 p.m. ***Concurrent Session 3**
- 2:00-2:45 p.m. ***Concurrent Session 4**

***NOTE:** Session descriptions are on the following pages.

Session Schedule: Friday, November 18

Click on JOIN LINK to access the Zoom link.

TIME	SESSION
9:00-9:45	<p align="center">Welcome to Past, Present, Future</p> <p align="center">Jodi Versaw and Brad Hasskamp, MN Department of Education; Marty Olsen, SW ABE MN ABE Assessment Supplemental Services Grant; Heather Williams, Robbinsdale ABE, SPARC Chair</p>
CONCURRENT SESSION 1:	
10:00-10:45	<p align="center">HiSet</p> <p align="center">Tanya Haug, ETS</p> <p>Each attendee will learn about the HiSET exam and program. We'll provide an overview of the exam and resources for adult ed programs, test centers and test takers. Additional topics will include testing accommodations, the paper-based option and online proctored tests. We'll set aside time for HiSET Q&A.</p>
	<p align="center">SiD + NRS: Effective Testing Strategies for Better Level Gains</p> <p align="center">Jenny Schlukebier and Mary Zimmerli, SiD Support Team</p> <p>Are you involved in giving tests or recording them in SiD? Do you keep an eye on level gain targets for your program? In this session you'll find solid explanations of how NRS testing and SiD work together: approved tests, how to identify which tests assign student entry levels; and best practices for improving level gains.</p>
	<p align="center">Is Your Mental Backpack too Heavy? Learn How to Lighten the Load and Understand Key Warning Signs of Anxiety Disorders</p> <p align="center">Wendy Sweeney, PANDA Manager and Licensed Psychologist</p> <p>Learn techniques on how to lighten the load of stress and anxiety. Gain useful information about how stress and anxiety impact mental health. Learn concrete problem-solving strategies that can reduce anxiety, manage stress, and increase attention span. Acquire useful mental health resources</p>
CONCURRENT SESSION 2:	
11:00-11:45	<p align="center">GED Direct - What is it and how can it help your program?</p> <p align="center">Melissa Hultstrand, MN GED State Relationship Manager, and Linda Keller, Accountability Coordinator, Metro North ABE</p> <p>GED Testing Service is continually working to improve our offerings and meet the needs of Adult Educators. Do you know how easy it is to purchase, share, and assign GED Ready tests, CBT Tests and OP Tests directly to Students through GED Direct?</p> <p>Come learn about GED Direct and the updates we have made to this feature within GED Manager (which allows you to easily assign tests without voucher codes to manage). But, more importantly, watch and learn how Metro North ABE has been using this feature to save time.</p>
	<p align="center">LAN Marketing Tool</p> <p align="center">Kaija Bergen</p> <p align="center">Waiting for description</p>

	<p align="center">Stay Organized and Productive with Google Keep and Google Tasks Jason, Brazier, Technology Administrator and Trainer, Literacy MN</p> <p>If you are looking for ways to stay organized and productive Google Keep and Google Tasks may be the answer. These tools allow you to capture, edit, share, and collaborate on any device, anywhere. This follow-along session will get you started on using both tools.</p>
CONCURRENT SESSION 3:	
<p>1:00-1:45</p>	<p align="center">TABE Recertification Linda Keller, Metro North ABE</p> <p>Did you know that state assessment policy states that TABE test administrators need to be recertified every 5 years? Come to this session to hear the latest on the TABE 11&12 test series. We will review standardized testing and address questions you may have about administering these tests. This session is for experienced test administrators. Those who complete this session will satisfy the recertification requirement for test administrators.</p>
	<p align="center">Student Surveys & Focus Groups Julie Kleve, Adult Academic Program of Robbinsdale Area Schools, and Christine Wytaske, Metro South ABE Waiting for description</p>
	<p align="center">Racial Equity Grant See Moua-Leske, Program Coordinator, SW ABE - Marshall</p> <p align="center"><u>JOIN LINK</u></p> <p align="center">Waiting for description</p>
CONCURRENT SESSION 4:	
<p>2:00-2:45</p>	<p align="center">Google Session -TBD Susan Wetenkamp-Brandt, Literacy MN Google Stuff</p>
	<p align="center">CASAS Recertification Marty Olsen, SW ABE, Assessment Trainer</p> <p>Did you know that state assessment policy states that CASAS test administrators need to be recertified every 5 years? Come to this session to hear the latest on the CASAS test series, including GOALS, Life & Work, STEPS, and Math 2. We will review standardized testing and address questions you may have about administering these tests. This session is for experienced test administrators. Those who complete this session will satisfy the recertification requirement for test administrators.</p>
	<p align="center">Training New Data Staff - Panel Discussion Tim Rowe, Mpls ABE; Kelly O'Brien, Mpls ABE, and Linda Keller, Metro North ABE</p> <p>Everyone wants new staff to get off to a great start. Join us as we highlight resources that can help your program strengthen your onboarding and new staff training process. The SiD Support team will share help articles, webinars, and videos – including the brand new SiD Orientation Series (SOS). Experts from Minneapolis and Metro North will present their successful onboarding procedures and materials. There will be time for Q & A at the end. You won't want to miss this!</p>

Participant materials folders can be found [here](#).

Many Thanks

to those who planned and/or supported this conference!

- Becca Bair, Great Rivers Adult Education
- Karen Blee, SPCLC
- Dean Dvorak, Osseo ABE
- Marylynn Dvorak, Metro South ABE
- Linda Jacobs-Buse, South Suburban ABE
- Linda Keller, Metro North ABE
- Marty Olsen, Southwest ABE
- Michael Redman, Metro North ABE
- Tim Rowe, Minneapolis ABE
- Reshanda Shanklin, DOC
- Heather Williams, Adult Academic Program of Robbinsdale Area Schools
- Jenny Schlukebier, SiD Support
- Brad Hasskamp, MN Department of Education
- Astrid Liden, MN Department of Education
- Jodi Versaw, MN Department of Education

Special thank you to **ATLAS for assistance and technical support.**

Introducing Our Presenters

Becca Bair is the Program Specialist for Great Rivers Adult Education Consortium, serving Hastings, Woodbury, Cottage Grove and surrounding areas. She has been working in ABE for the past 10 years and has worked in many areas of the program including assessments, data management, finance, and more. bbair0@sowashco.org

Jason Brazier has been working with technology in ABE for 20 years. Working for Literacy Minnesota he provides training, technical support, and consultation to ABE practitioners on best practices in technology integration, digital literacy, and distance learning. jbrazier@literacymn.org

Marylynn Dvorak is the Student Accountability and Data Manager for Metro South ABE, serving Bloomington, Richfield, Edina, and Eden Prairie. I am also the Bloomington Public Schools building assessment coordinator not only for the adult program but the K 12 required testing for BPS Choice alternative high school. I enjoy working with data. I like new challenges. mdvorak@isd271.org

Brad Hasskamp is the Adult Secondary Credential and Education Policy Specialist at the Minnesota Department of Education. With his work on the state ABE team, his primary responsibilities include state high school equivalency test administration, standard adult high school diploma administration, and federal and state policy implementation. brad.hasskamp@state.mn.us

Tanya Haug tanya.haug@psionline.com

Mellissa Hultstrand is the Minnesota State Relationship Manager for GEDTS. She is responsible for coordinating all GED® matters for ABE within Minnesota. Mellissa has been with GEDTS since 2012, and prior to her SRM role, she was a senior member of the GEDTS Technical Operations & Training Team. Mellissa is a key leader in our service to Corrections across the US. mellissa.hultstrand@ged.com

Linda Keller is the ABE Accountability Coordinator for Metro North ABE and manages SiD for the consortia, as well as provides CASAS and TABE Implementation Training locally, and through the Supplemental Services Grant with MN ABE Assessment since 2008. lindam.keller@abschools.us

Julie Kleve has worn many hats while working in ABE for over fifteen years. At the Adult Academic Program (AAP), she is the Special Projects & Volunteer Coordinator and licensed teacher. For AAP, she manages the school's marketing efforts, Facebook page, events and community partnerships. She also teaches AAP's computer skills classes. julie_kleve@rdale.org

See Moua-Leske is the SW ABE- Marshal Program Manager. See had been an educator for nine years teaching before joining SW ABE in the fall of 2018. see.moua-leske@marshall.k12.mn.us

Kelly O'Brien supervises EdTech and Distance Learning at Minneapolis Adult Education and serves as the consortium liaison. kelly.obrien@mpls.k12.mn.us

Marty Olsen is a nationally-certified CASAS assessment trainer, a state-certified TABE assessment trainer, and manages the assessment training supplemental services grant for SW ABE. martha.olsen@gmail.com

Tim Rowe has been with Minneapolis Adult Education since 2010. He currently supervises the evening program in South Minneapolis. tim.rowe@mpls.k12.mn.us

Jenny Schlukebier works at Urban Planet in development and support of the SiD data system. Jenny comes from a background of working on accountability in ABE at St. Paul Public Schools ABE (Hubbs Center) and MLC. jenny.sidmn@gmail.com

Adam Springwater, Senior Client Manager, ETS HiSET Program, serves as a main point of contact and provides HiSET information for adult education programs, state HSE directors and other stakeholders. Prior to joining ETS in 2018, Adam worked with several high school equivalency exam preparation companies, developing and marketing instructional tools for adult education programs. adam.springwater@psionline.com

Wendy Sweeney is the PANDA manager and a Licensed Psychologist. She has been working in the ABE field since 2007. Her expertise is mental health, specific learning disorders and ADHD. wendy_sweeney@rdale.org

Jodi Versaw is the Adult Basic Education Program Quality Specialist at the Minnesota Department of Education. With her work on the state ABE team, her primary responsibilities include the five-year narrative, program improvement, and program support. jodi.versaw@state.mn.us

Susan Wetenkamp-Brandt has been working with digital literacy, technology integration and online learning in adult education for 20 years. As the Technology and Distance Learning Support team leader, she provides training and technical support to adult education providers around the state. swbrandt@literacymn.org

Heather Williams works several roles within ABE: in Robbinsdale she is the Student Data and Assessment Specialist; she is a GED test examiner at both her main site and the Hennepin County Adult Correctional Facility. She also serves as chairperson of the SPARC group. heather_williams@rdale.org

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Mary Zimmerli maryz.sidmn@gmail.com