

2026 MAACCE BREAKOUT SESSIONS

THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2026

Session 6: 9:00 am – 10:00 am

Co-Teaching in the Adult Education Classroom

The old phrase is that two heads are better than one is even more true when you have two teachers working together to teach lessons. Learn how the strategy of Co-Teaching opens up a variety of opportunities for you and your students to succeed.

Presenters: Netty Doyle – Teacher, Literacy KC
Kimberly Simmons – Instructor, Literacy KC
Jenny Heller – Instructor, Literacy KC

Categories: Adult Education – Directors, Teachers, ESL; Community Education

DESE High School Equivalency Program Highlights

Learn about Missouri's High School Equivalency (HSE) Program policies to help your students succeed on test day and beyond. There will also be time for a question-and-answer session.

Presenter: Stephanie Scheulen – Director, DESE High School Equivalency Program

Categories: Adult Education – Directors, Teacher

Get Them Moving, Get Them Learning!

Experience movement-based activities that energize ELL classrooms and improve student engagement. This hands-on session includes interactive games, collaborative discussions, and adaptable strategies using simple materials. Leave with practical ideas to get your students moving and learning.

Presenters: Shelby Brunscher – AEL Assistant Director-ELL, Crowder College AEL
Medland Wallace – English & Digital Literacy Instructor, Crowder College AEL

Categories: Adult Education – ESL

Strategies for Creating Low Anxiety ELL Classrooms to Increase Students' Oral Participation, Retention, and Confidence

This session focuses on rebuilding students' confidence when they speak a second language, from my experience as both a teacher and a former ELL student. Participants will learn how teacher feedback, classroom environment, and mindset can either increase anxiety or help build self-esteem. This presentation is for educators who want to change fear into confidence and improve student participation and retention.

Presenter: Isabel Bateman – Student Service Coordinator, Kansas City Public Schools

Categories: Adult Education – Teachers

Teaching the Notes and Melodies: Incorporating Effective Pronunciation Instruction into EL Lessons

Extended Session – Sessions #6 & #7

In this training, learn about techniques to teach pronunciation that will be helpful for learners from a variety of language backgrounds and ESOL levels, and multisensory activities that can be used during in-person or remote instruction that go far beyond "listen and repeat."

In Part 1 (Teaching the Notes) we will dive into ways to teach and practice the sounds of English, including minimal pairs, articulatory settings, final consonant production, and consonant clusters.

In Part 2 (Teaching the Melodies) we will go above and beyond the sounds to explore ways to teach and practice the rhythms of English, including word stress, thought groups, and intonation.

Presenter: Andrea Echelberger – Adult EL Teacher & Trainer – Common Ground Literacy

Categories: Adult Education – ESL

Unlocking MSG Gains: Strategically Investing in Informal Reading Assessments

Our team-driven approach uses informal reading assessments to identify literacy barriers that standardized tests miss, protecting our 74.6% MSG rate and ensuring instructional funds are targeted effectively. Discover how to strategically invest staff time and resources into diagnostic tools that reduce costly attrition and provide students with a clearer path to success.

Presenters: Dinise Mustain – Literacy Coordinator & AEL Instructor, Moberly Area Community College
Ben Falby – AEL Coordinator & Instructor, Moberly Area Community College

Categories: Adult Education – Directors

Vocabulary and Language Activities

Various activities to assist your students in their language/reading learning from TABE to the HiSET. We will be reviewing daily activities as well as how to write a simple passing essay for the HiSET test.

Presenters: Leslianne Bagwill – Educator, State of Missouri Department of Corrections
Stacia Schollmeyer – Educator, State of Missouri Department of Corrections

Categories: Adult Education – Teachers

Session 7: 10:15 am – 11:15 am

AEL and CTE: Creating Connected Pathways

This session highlights practical strategies for connecting Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) with Career and Technical Education (CTE) through strong community partnerships. Attendees will explore how CTE programs can serve as intentional next-step pathways for AEL learners by offering hands-on learning, stackable credentials, and clear educational progression. Participants will leave with actionable approaches to support learner transition, persistence, and informed decision-making across education pathways.

Presenters: Caitlyn Kroboth – CTE Coordinator – Moberly Area Community College

Categories: Adult Education – Directors, Teachers, ESL

CIVICS -the phonics of

There is no more important task than the development of an informed, effective, and responsible citizenry. Democracies are sustained by citizens who have the requisite knowledge, skills, and dispositions. Civic education, therefore, is-or should be-a prime concern.

Presenter: Kwame Mensah – AEL Instructor, Ritenour School District

Categories: Adult Education – Teachers

Developing Strong Relationships

Discover simple, high-impact strategies for building strong classroom community. Learn practical tips for differentiation, meaningful conversations, improved retention, and using slower, clearer speech to support diverse learners. Leave with easy tools you can use right away to create a more connected and inclusive class environment.

Presenter: Jeanette Powers – AEL ELL Teacher, Kansas City Public Schools

Categories: Adult Education – Teachers, ESL; Community Education

HiSET Bootcamp: Planning vs. Content

Is it possible to complete HiSET training and testing in 3 weeks? Data based on five sessions with 100% graduation rate make this concept exciting. There were a lot of hiccups along the way. This presentation will review the class syllabus and content as well as the planning and logistics that make this program work and hopefully help you avoid our mistakes.

Presenter: Barbara Rieder – Adult Education Instructor, St Charles Community College

Categories: Adult Education – Directors, Teachers

Implementation of Philosophies of Adult Education

This session explores the five primary theories of adult education and the distinct lenses they offer for teaching adults. Participants will complete a brief inventory to identify their dominant philosophy and gain practical insights to strengthen their effectiveness as educators.

Presenter: Leigha Layne – Assistant AEL Director – AEL, Crowder College AEL

Categories: Adult Education – Teachers

Teacher Sanity and the Prodigal Student

If you are in Adult Education in the community, you know the stress, disappointment, heartache, anger, fatigue, etc. of working really hard with a student, only to find out he or she has disappeared into thin air. You are human and you care, right? This presentation is about keeping your sanity and promoting self-care before you pull all your hair out and give up.

Presenter: Cheryl Carpenter – Adult Education Instructor – State Fair Community College

Categories: Adult Education – Directors, Teachers; Community Education

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CLOSING SESSION 11:30 am

Taco Station – Closing Meeting – PRIZES!

CAPSTONE SPEAKER – Jim Martenson – “Leadership & Conflict Resolution”