

HIGHEST AVERAGE GED SCORE AWARD



COREN COOMBS

Coren Coombs, a former Minot Adult Learning Student, captivated his teachers by scoring the highest GED score for North Dakota with a 746. Way to go, Coren!

With his highest score being 195 in math and his lowest in RLA, Coren averaged 187 in the four core subjects, a feat accomplished by few.

Currently, Coren has been plotting out his future, assessing what field would be best for him to undertake as well as analyzing the financial challenge that college presents. He has decided to stay close to home at Minot State University but has plans to one day venture East to North Dakota State University.

A concerned North Dakotan voter, Coren finds sociology fascinating and would like to study sociology and anthropology. His passion leads him towards politics to work drafting policies and getting involved with the local legislature.

We are proud of Coren. He was pushed into the real world prematurely. He has been working full time, and like many of our students, he knows that success can happen with patience and grit. He has proved to us that goals are set to be achieved despite the obstacles that life can present.

Today we would like to honor our student, Coren Coombs, with The North Dakota Association for Lifelong Learning Award for the Highest Average GED Score.

OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP/SERVICE



STEPHANIE KUEHN

To have a leader who will do everything they can to support you is truly a blessing. Stephanie Kuehn is that kind of leader.

Stephanie's leadership is truly inspiring. She leads by example in lifelong learning by working toward her doctorate. To that end, she purposefully chose a dissertation on Native American learners to increase programming for a demographic heavily represented within the North Dakota Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DOCR) classroom. She has worked to increase programming for residents with the University of Mary and worked to establish a Memorandum of Understanding with Ashland University, so DOCR residents have the availability to take college courses via iPads and Securus tablets. These types of negotiations take months, and her resolve always sees the DOCR program across the finish line. Finally, Stephanie led the pilot project for the DOCR Education Department's participation in a GED TS research project on dyslexia.

Stephanie's leadership by example and compassion for her teacher's personal and professional lives is unmatched and inspires everyone around her.



NDALL's mission is to support adult and alternative education, its educators, students and partners.

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BEYOND BOUNDARIES 2022

NORTH DAKOTA ASSOCIATION FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

AWARDS LUNCHEON

September 22, 2022

STUDENT OF THE YEAR - ADULT EDUCATION



LILY MOSTAD
Region III Adult
Learning Center

Day after day, students walk through the doors at the Region III Adult Learning Center (ALC) in Devils Lake. Each carry their own story of battles and triumphs, wins and losses, sadness and happiness, and success and defeat. At 17-years-old, Lily Mostad was no different when she walked into the center on December 7, 2021. However, she was determined to charge forward and create a better path for her life.

Although traditional school didn't fit the mold for Lily, she still gained the knowledge she needed to pass and receive her GED diploma. During this process, she would get up each day and drive 30 minutes to her job at a deli, work her shift from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m., and go to the ALC to work on her GED. Because of her tenacity, drive and the fact she is extremely bright, she was able to conquer her GED in only eight days, passing her last official test on December 15, 2021.

She decided she wasn't going to stop with just her GED, and had a bigger vision to attend college. She immediately enrolled as a full-time student for the spring semester at Lake Region State College and began taking classes toward an associate degree in business management and accounting, with the goal to one day work as a personal banker.

Lily's advice to anyone facing challenges is to focus on yourself, balance your life and if you need help, ask for it. She stands firm in her belief there are always people willing to help, you just need to find them.

2022 NDALL AWARDS

STUDENT OF THE YEAR - ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION



LIBERTY ETHEN-HOOK
Community High School -
Grand Forks

The meaning of the word "liberty" is the state of being free from restrictions.

When life presented Liberty (Libby) Ethen-Hook with multiple challenges, making high school seem impossible to complete, she instead grew, matured and made plans for a bright future. Libby went to Community High School (CHS) about one year ago and graduated in June.

Early on, Libby was not considering college as a next step. As a result of her newfound liberty at CHS, she now attends the University of North Dakota and working towards a degree in secondary science education. Libby explained that teaching science in a traditional school would allow her to use her creativity and also be "that person for those students," referring to students who struggle. Libby says staff members in the alternative setting make great connections with students, and she wants to make sure more of those types of teachers exist in the traditional setting as well.

Liberty has freed herself from limitations and will surely make a positive impact on her future students.

EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR



EILEEN ZYGARLICHE
Community High School -
Grand Forks

Eileen Zygarlicke teaches English at Community High School (CHS) in Grand Forks, where she has impacted the lives of hundreds of students over the last 19 years. Students and staff alike are better people because of her.

Eileen always looks for ways to provide opportunities for students to learn and develop their English skills for life beyond high school. She has been instrumental in the creation of new courses that the Grand Forks Public School District has adopted over the years. The most recent course she designed, Practical Applications of English, is a product of teaching numerous alternative education students who are bound for the workforce instead of college.

Eileen is the model of professionalism. She mentors new teachers and has been an active member of the Grand Forks Education Association as a building representative for CHS. She also serves as a co-lead at the school for the Sources of Strength program, a peer leader group focusing on suicide awareness and mental health. Eileen's involvement in Sources of Strength not only helps students now but sets them up with skills to succeed in their future. Because of her, students make progress down "another road to success."

Eileen is an educator through and through. She's intelligent, sarcastic and funny. These qualities just scratch the surface of how she's influenced countless lives. When students reflect on their time in high school, there are teachers who just stand out. Eileen Zygarlicke stands out.