

# THE KEYSTONE

## Special Edition

### *From the Director's Desk.....*

Welcome to our first newsletter of the 2018-2019 school year! I hope you enjoy connecting with new staff and learning more about what's happening at Keystone and in Keystone districts in each of this year's editions. It is an exciting time for educators in Kansas for many important reasons - new funding and school redesign efforts being just two of them. We'll look at those more closely in the months ahead, but this month it's a good time to take a moment to reflect upon the life and sacrifices of a great American who happened to be handicapped.

John McCain died very recently. By the time you read this, his funeral will have taken place. At this moment, his story rightfully receives significant media attention. McCain was a self-described "maverick", so it's understandable that the responses to his life and his accomplishments have spanned a broad spectrum from statesman and hero to not so much. Regardless of where one might stand on that spectrum, it is worth taking note that McCain was a man who understood what it is like to live with significant handicapping conditions.

Thought to be highly intelligent by his peers and teachers, McCain earned low grades in math and science and admittedly struggled in those classes - so much so that he graduated near the bottom of his class at the US Naval Academy. Could it have been that he struggled with dyscalculia or a math disability? Such things weren't diagnosed in that time period so we'll never know for sure. Later McCain experienced the pain of torture and deprivation. He lived with physical limitations and pain through the remainder of his life. The emotional trauma was as significant as the physical disabilities he endured.

For our students with handicapping conditions, the teachable moment may well be found in the example McCain provided. He wasn't successful in all of his educational efforts, didn't achieve the success that close friends did, or rise to the level of achievement his father and grandfather established. He faced many political failures including defeat in his quest to become president. His example shows it's possible to change the conversation from one's disabilities and defeats, from what's not possible and what isn't accomplished to something greater - to the things we can do and the values we can aspire to. That's what makes America great.

Thanks for all you do. Andy

### ISSUE 1, SEPTEMBER, 2018

#### Keystone Learning Services

500 E. Sunflower Blvd.  
Ozawkie, KS 66070

785-876-2214

[www.keystonelearning.org](http://www.keystonelearning.org)

#### GET CONNECTED!

Find us on Facebook  
(Keystone Learning Services)  
and



Twitter  
@KeystoneLeading

And for JDLA's Twitter:  
@JDLA\_KLS

Keystone Learning Services  
OFFICE HOURS

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Monday - Friday



## Important Upcoming Events for September



September 4 – Speech Language Pathologist Meeting 8:30-11:30

September 5 – Keystone Office Staff Meeting 8:15

September 10 – JDLA No School, Teacher Inservice; CPI Training 8-3:30

September 11 – Superintendent Advisory Council Meeting at Noon

September 18 – School Psychologists/Social Workers Meeting 8:30-11:30

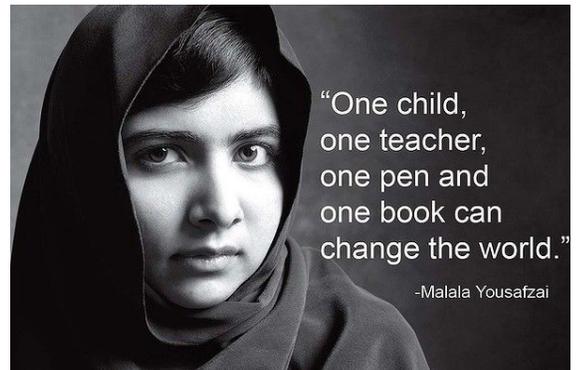
September 19 – Keystone Board of Directors Meeting 7 p.m.

September 21 – Count Your Kid In Screening at Oskaloosa (details, below)

September 24 – Boardmaker Online 2-4

September 25 – FERPA Meeting 1:30

September 28 CPI Renewal Training 8-12; Early Childhood Staff Mtg 2-4



### Submit Your News!

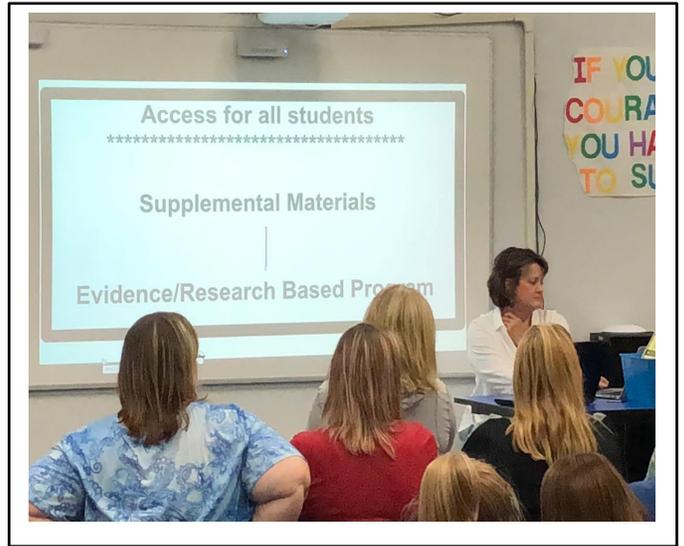
If you have anything you would like to submit, please email Linda K. Chalker at [lindak@keystonelearning.org](mailto:lindak@keystonelearning.org).

The deadline for article/news submission will be by the 30<sup>th</sup> day of each month. Exceptions can be made. ☺

Approved photos, stories and poetry are welcome!

Teacher and Para Inservices were held on August 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. A big thank you to the Oskaloosa school district for hosting the two days of training for our staff.

Here's to a fantastic school year!



## CHANGES in the BUILDING

The Keystone office in Ozawkie has a new voice answering the telephone! Ashley Young has taken over receptionist duties while continuing to help out the business office with accounts receivable. Ashley will also continue her duties with the media center.

Shiloh Thacher is Keystone's new Human Resources coordinator. Shiloh was formerly a para for Keystone before transitioning to the office this summer.

Brandi Barnhardt has switched positions and locations in the building, moving from the JDLA secretary, to working as part-time food service help and part-time Medicaid clerk. Shiloh & Brandi's office areas are located in the Keystone business office.

Emily Bathurst is the new JDLA school secretary. Emily was working for the State of Kansas prior to jumping on board at JDLA.

Welcome aboard!

*We are ready to have a great year!*



To **schedule a meeting** in the large conference room or small meeting room at Keystone, please contact Linda K. Chalker at [lindak@keystonelearning.org](mailto:lindak@keystonelearning.org)



### New Teaching Staff

Jerritt Curtis, JDLA

Roger Brown, JDLA

Caleb Pokorny, McLMS

Stacy Fleeker, JWES

Amanda Clark, JWES

Deena Simmons, PRES

Kelsey Bonnel, Keystone

Esther Mackintosh, JWMS

Laura Snyder, JDLA

Mary St. John, JDLA

Amanda Vervynck, JDLA

Deann Reich, JWES

Leah Magill, JDLA

LaDonna Worden, OES



## Count Your Kid In!

## FREE INFANT and PRESCHOOL SCREENING CLINICS

September 21-Oskaloosa

October 26-Perry

November 16-Meriden

December- 14-Valley Falls

January- 18-McLouth

February 22-Effingham

March 29-Nortonville

April 26-Easton

May 10-Lecompton



Keystone Learning Services and the Jefferson County Health Department offer Count Your Kid In clinics throughout the school year for infants and preschool children, free of charge. If you have concerns about your child's development, this free screening will provide help for children 0-5 years of age. Children are screened in areas of speech/language development, motor development, concept development, social skills, vision and hearing. Trained professionals in these areas will screen your child. Screenings take place in local community settings and last approximately 1½ hours. Contact Lesa Brose at Keystone Learning Services at 785-876-2214 ext. 201 to schedule an appointment.

### September Screening Information

**WHEN:** Friday, September 21, 2018

**WHERE:** Oskaloosa City Hall, 212 W. Washington Street, Oskaloosa



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**“By all these lovely tokens, September days are here. With summer’s best of  
weather, and autumn’s best of cheer.”**

*Helen Hunt Jackson*



500 E. Sunflower Blvd.  
Ozawie, KS 66070  
Phone: 785-876-2214  
Fax: 785-876-2629

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