

# THE KEYSTONE

## Special Edition

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

Another legislative session will soon be upon us. We hope that funding for special education will see further discussion and action by the new legislature. Sadly, in spite of an increase in funding for special education for the 2018-2019 school year, we're still far below the funding level called for by statute. The Legislative Division of Post Audit recently completed a study of special education funding in Kansas and prepared a report evaluating special education costs. <http://bit.ly/2Tr3sUu> There is a lot of interesting information in that report and two summative recommendations to the legislature. The first is that the legislature should fund special education as per statute – or should change the statute, [K.S.A. 72-3422](http://bit.ly/2F5dmla), <http://bit.ly/2F5dmla> to reflect the funding method and levels actually provided. The two options may sound simple but they are anything but easy when it comes to building a consensus.

LPA's second recommendation had to do with whether the legislature should enact more specific language related to the estimating process used to establish special education funding each year. The process currently used tends to overestimate expenditures by a very small margin. That isn't an issue when funding is well below statutory levels and even when it isn't the point is debatable. Isn't it better to overestimate by a very small margin rather than constantly underfunding an effort? It isn't practical, perhaps even possible, to predict costs for a new school year that are exact.

Special education is a significant endeavor and funding should be both adequate and predictable. Practitioners and all those with an interest in special education will need to continue to make their voices heard if we're going to see funding increases similar to last year's. That funding is vital as we seek to address the needs of handicapped children in Kansas. Watch for updates as special education topics are addressed through the legislative session this year. I hope you'll weigh in with your local representative related to issues in special education.

Thanks for all you do. Andy

### ISSUE 5, JANUARY 2019

#### Keystone Learning Services

500 E. Sunflower Blvd.  
Ozawie, 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

Happy New Year 2019

# January



January 7 - Keystone Office Staff Meeting 8:15 a.m.; JDLA No School for Students, Teacher Work Day-TEACCH/ABA Training 9-3

January 8 - Speech Language Pathologist Meeting 8:30-11:30; Superintendent Council 12:00

January 15 - School Psychs/Social Workers Meeting 8:30-11:30

January 16 - Keystone Board of Directors Meeting 7 p.m.

January 18 - Count Your Kid In Screening at McLouth

January 21 - No School for Students, All Districts Inservice at Perry Lecompton District (for Keystone Certified Staff)

January 25 - Early Childhood Staff Meeting 2-4

January 30 - Jefferson County Alliance Suicide Prevention Meeting 6:30-8:30 at Keystone

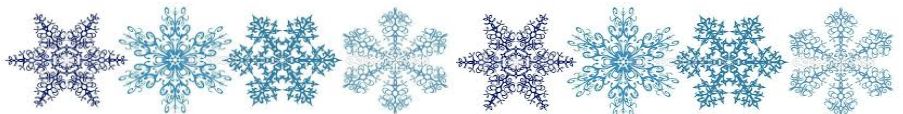
January 31 and February 1 - ASIST Training 8:30-4:30

**"APPROACH THE  
NEW YEAR  
WITH  
RESOLVE  
TO FIND THE  
OPPORTUNITIES  
HIDDEN IN  
EACH  
NEW DAY."**

- MICHAEL JOSEPHSON  
TEACHYMOOD.COM



LESS	MORE
TALKING	LISTENING
PLANNING	DOING
SODA	TEA
JUNK FOOD	SALADS
COMPLAINING	ENCOURAGING
WORRYING	HOPING
DOUBTING	BELIEVING
LAZING AROUND	WORKING OUT
FROWNING	SMILING
INSECURITY	TRUST
WEAKNESS	CONFIDENCE
IGNORANCE	UNDERSTANDING
HATE	LOVE
UNGRATEFULNESS	GRATITUDE



## BAD WEATHER REMINDER

In case of inclement weather, if USD 341 Oskaloosa school district is closed, the Keystone offices are closed. Any meetings planned for those days are automatically cancelled. Stay safe!





Serving Educational Leaders,  
Inspiring Student Success

## January 2019 School Board Recognition Kansas Association of School Boards

Boards of education are being honored this month for their service to districts which is done on a volunteer basis, and they deserve our appreciation and thanks. They are held accountable for the decisions they make that impact the future of not only our students, but our communities.

Public education is the backbone of American society, and local school boards are deeply rooted in U.S. tradition. In fact, in 1966 the people of Kansas amended our state's constitution to specifically call for local public schools that are 'maintained, developed and operated by locally elected boards.' Our local board of education is responsible for setting a vision our local education program and partners with staff and other members of the community to provide the facilities and infrastructure to achieve that vision.

Each board member is a strong advocate for the success of every child in our schools. They research, study and then discuss issues so that they can make informed decisions on countless complex challenges. Too often we forget about the personal sacrifices school board members make. They spend hours in meetings and on committees, and also advocate for our schools with elected politicians by speaking out against budget cuts or pushing for policy and program reforms.

The job of a school board member is tough, the hours long and the thanks few and far between. It is time we change that, at least that last part. January 2019 marks the annual observance of School Board Recognition Month. The theme this year is "School Board Members Lead the Future." This is a time to shine a light on how local boards prepare today's students to be tomorrow's leaders. In January, join with others throughout the state to salute the men and women who provide leadership for our public schools.

January is School Board Recognition Month, and Keystone is lucky to have 8 fantastic individuals serving on our board. The extra time and dedication are very much appreciated! The women and men serving on the Keystone board are:



USD 338 Sharon Sweeney

USD 339 Ron Langston

USD 340 Scott Gibson

USD 341 Jana Farmer

USD 342 Robin Croxel

USD 343 Ramon Gonzalez

USD 377 Barb Chapman

USD 449 Rita Oatney

## NEWS FROM THE OFFICE

### January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019 All-District Teacher Inservice

**Location: Perry Lecompton School District**

8:15 AM Busses begin arriving at Perry Lecompton School District

8:45 AM Keynote Session - Gerry Brooks

10:00 AM Break

10:20 AM Job/grade level alike collaboration

11:30 AM LUNCH - in PLMS gym

12:15 PM Keystone Break-out session

1:10 PM Keystone Break-out session

2:05 PM Keystone Break-out session

3:00 - END of DAY - districts head home



### WebKIDSS

**Reminder:** Whenever you get a new student in your classroom, remember to notify Khristyan Masters. Thank you!



### Food Service

Pictured, left, is Wanda Collins, JDLA food service, standing near her brand new proofer rack. Wanda is very happy to have the new kitchen addition! The proofer will help tremendously while preparing meals.

## Student Project at JCNMS Offers Meals for Teachers & Staff

The School Kids Café opened in September 2018 with a number of important goals to accomplish; Learning goals for bargain shopping, budgeting, tax, tipping, healthy meals, learning about different foods, making homemade meals, customer service, counting money, making change, and so much more were all included in these past few months. Little did we know that we would accomplish all these and more in such a short time!

In the beginning, our team hoped to make a limited number of balanced meals, and sell them to teachers and staff in the JCN elementary-middle school building. Part of the project was determining how much money to sell each plate for in order to make sure we received just as much money as we had spent in order to keep the program sustainable. We broke down each item we bought to find the best bargain and learned to stay within our budget.

Now, counting cents is never the most fun part of running a café. It's the food of course! Our chefs have served ham & cheese sliders, baked spaghetti, baked potato bar, root beer floats, lasagna, and taco salad. Each meal included a dessert, and a side of either fruits or vegetables. The students bought, measured, cooked, sold and served the meals. Really, they have seen the process from start to finish! Included in this experience was learning food service, payment methods, food prep, and appliance operations. This month they made 240 Christmas sugar cookies along with decorating, peanut clusters, and chocolate covered pretzels. We learned how assembly lines work, as well as appealing packaging.

Originally, we aimed to sell twelve meals every other week. As the café grew more popular, however, we learned that our supply was not enough for the demand! We sell out within ten minutes of posting our sign-up every time, proving that our meals have been very popular with teachers!

Future goals for the School Kids Café include making more meals at a time, learning different recipes, appetizers, and continuing the café until the end of the 2018-2019 school year.

Bon Appétit!

Pictured right and below, School Kids Café students and teachers are shown cooking, baking and selling their goods.





## Kansas Infnitec Coalition Honors Students

Five Kansas students have received honors for their outstanding use of assistive technology designed to promote independent living for people with disabilities. Kansas Infnitec Coalition, a division of United Cerebral Palsy Seguin of Greater Chicago, presented the honors at its twelfth annual awards luncheon, November 30, 2011 at The DoubleTree Airport Conference Center in Wichita.

This year's student recipients were nominated by teachers or therapists and selected by a committee of assistive technology experts for outstanding school and community accomplishments resulting from their mastery of assistive technology.

Kameron Duckworth is a seven year old boy from Oskaloosa Kansas who was honored with the 2018 Kansas Infnitec Coalition Outstanding Student Technology Achievement Award. Kameron is the son of Amy Duckworth Johnson of Oskaloosa Kansas. Kameron is in Stephanie Brake's second grade class and Clarissa Cope is Kameron's special education teacher at Oskaloosa Elementary School.

Kameron is an amazing young man with a great sense of humor and also always has a big smile on his face. Kameron has vision needs and has learned to read, write and draw as a result of being able to use assistive technology to help him see, access and participate in curriculum materials. Kameron uses a visiobook, which is a type of CCTV, for approximately three years now, and has mastered how to access information. Kameron has learned to advocate for his visual needs and will work hard to get his school work done. Kameron also uses a magnifying glass, slant board, an ipad with zoom and Apple accessibility features like an enlarged arrow to point and click on a computer to support his visual needs. Kameron loves superheros, tells imaginative stories and loves to build with legos. At recess you can find Kameron on his adapted swing. Kameron wants to be a scientist when he grows up. Kameron, you are an amazing young man and we feel that you are so deserving of this award.

"As these remarkable young people remind us, disabilities are less important than *abilities* — what people are capable of doing, given tools and opportunities," said Dr. Paul Dulle, President of UCP Seguin Foundation. "These real-life examples show us how important it is to look beyond the wrappers we are all born in, to see what is truly important."

The work of the Kansas Infnitec Coalition goes beyond its important efforts to identify and honor students who overcome significant barriers to achievement through the use of assistive technology. KIC provides educators in Kansas with access to resources, information, and training on state-of-the art assistive technology, Universal Design for Learning, technology-based resources, and much, much more. In fact, over 600 presentations are available in the Infnitec Online Classroom. Through Infnitec, all school districts in Kansas have access to InfniTExT, a repository of digital learning resources to support students with print disabilities. The repository currently houses more than 48,000 files and more than 3,000 complete textbooks/novels. You can find more info about Infnitec at [www.ksdetasn.org/infnitec](http://www.ksdetasn.org/infnitec) or [www.myinfnitec.org/home](http://www.myinfnitec.org/home). Our local Infnitec contact here at Keystone is Cindy Malone. Cindy Malone is a member of the Kansas Infnitec Coalition and can be contacted through the Keystone office 785-876-2214 or via email at [cmalone@keystonelearning.org](mailto:cmalone@keystonelearning.org)



### About UCP Seguin of Greater Chicago and Infnitec

UCP Seguin is a non-profit human services agency with a mission to advance the independence of people with disabilities, enrich their lives, provide support to their families, and advocate for their inclusion in every facet of community life. Infnitec, an assistive technology project spearheaded by UCP Seguin, which aims to improve access to technology for children and adults with disabilities.

### About the Kansas Infnitec Coalition

In the summer of 2005, twenty directors of special education supported by leaders from the Kansas Department of Education and Infnitec established the Kansas Infnitec Coalition. Dedicated to promoting inclusive opportunities and advancing independence for all students through technology, the Kansas Infnitec Coalition reaches 248 districts, in more than 1000 schools, impacting over 360,000 students in Kansas.

## Count Your Kid In!

January 18-McLouth

February 22-Effingham

March 29-Nortonville

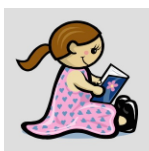
April 26-Easton

May 10-Lecompton



## FREE INFANT and PRESCHOOL SCREENING CLINICS

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.



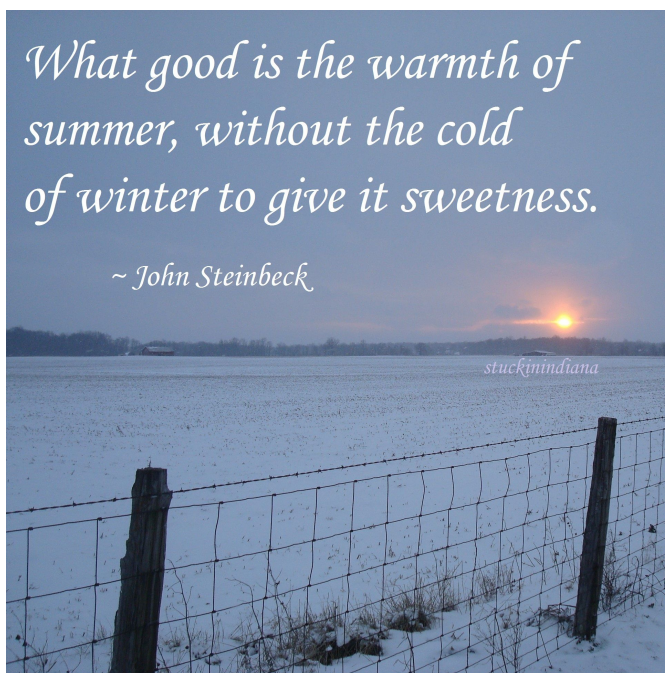
### December Screening Information

**WHEN:** Friday, January 18, 2019

**WHERE:** Church of the Nazarene, 901 East Lake St., McLouth

*What good is the warmth of  
summer, without the cold  
of winter to give it sweetness.*

*~ John Steinbeck*



500 E. Sunflower Blvd.  
Ozawie, KS 66070  
Phone: 785-876-2214  
Fax: 785-876-2383

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