

SMOKY HILL ESC TIDBITS

JANUARY 2018
Issue 1



UPCOMING EVENTS



Test Drive Technology Showcase and Test Drive in Hays on January 25th

Join Smoky Hill Education Service Center and Kansas City Audio-Visual from 11:00 AM—1:00 PM on Thursday, January 25th for a Technology Showcase and Test Drive. See the latest technology from a variety of manufacturers, ask questions and try out different products, and find solutions for your classroom or school. This is a FREE event, but registration is required so we can get an accurate count for lunch. Register today by calling 785-825-9185 emailing register@smokyhill.org or online at www.smokyhill.org



Dr. Nick Yoder & Social-Emotional Learning & Assessment on February 13th

Join Nick Yoder on February 13, 2018 in Salina as he addresses Social-Emotional Learning in the Classroom and Assessment. Nick is a senior technical assistance consultant for the American Institutes for Research. Along with providing technical assistance to states, districts and schools, Dr. Yoder helps conduct program evaluations for SEL programs. He is currently working on a schoolwide SEL intervention called Schoolkit that focuses on the implementation of a classroom-based SEL program in Chicago Public Schools.

Dr. Yoder will conduct two half-day sessions. The morning session will focus on Social-Emotional Learning in the Classroom. Participants will develop a deeper understanding about what social-emotional learning is, the research behind SEL, and the core competencies as defined in the Kansas SECD standards. Teaching practices that support student SEL development and tools and resources available to help teachers reflect on their own SEL competencies will also be addressed. The afternoon session will focus on Assessing Social-Emotional Learning including ways to embed SEL within a cycle of continuous improvement and including ways participants can use their current data systems and processes. Participants will also evaluate formal and informal processes for understanding current SEL efforts as well as review evidence from a recent evaluation of district-wide efforts.

SERVICES

Smoky Hill Adventure Program

When Commissioner Dr. Randy Watson asked “What are the skills, attributes, and characteristics of a successful 24-year-old Kansan?” at the community conversations in 2015, overwhelmingly participants answered non-academic skills. Those non-academic skills included effective communication, teamwork, strong work-ethic, perseverance, self-discipline, and critical thinking. These skills identified as so essential that schools will now be responsible for measuring Social-Emotional Growth locally. Because of this it is imperative that we give students as many opportunities as possible to get hands-on experience developing, struggling with, and reflecting upon these skills.

The Smoky Hill Adventure Program provides a perfect opportunity for individuals to practice and grow these skills through experiential learning. Experiential Learning is a philosophy and methodology in which educators purposefully engage with learners in direct experience and focused reflection in order to increase knowledge, develop skills, and clarify values.

The program allows participants to be physically involved in a series of individual and group intellectual and physical challenges that support and enhance Social, Emotional, and Character Development skills as well as the Habits of the Mind. The challenges require a combination of teamwork skills, individual commitment, problem solving, goal setting, and emotional risk-taking. The program is designed around the Experiential Learning Cycle: Experience, Reflection, Generalization, and Application, as well as the following character traits: Responsibility, Respect, Trust & Commitment, Caring, and Encouragement.

Our program has a high and low ropes course located on the Fort Hays State University campus as well as portable adventure equipment that can be brought to a location. The high and low ropes course is available for 5th through 12th grade students, as well as staffs, sports teams, youth groups, community groups, and corporate groups. The portable equipment program can be designed for all age levels and groups. Both the ropes course and the portable program have accessible elements for individuals with disabilities.

This is an excellent opportunity for you and your group to experience something engaging, encouraging, constructive, and extremely educational. For more information on the Smoky Hill Adventure Program contact Noalee McDonald-Augustine at (785) 621-4414 or nmcdonald@smokyhill.org



OPPORTUNITIES

Kansas State Schools of Character Recognition Program

Calling all schools who are doing great things with social, emotional and character development. We want to recognize your efforts and share your success with other schools around the state. Each year, as part of the Kansas State School of Character Recognition program, the Kansas State Department of Education, KSCharacter.org and Character.org recognize schools in Kansas that are implementing programs and practices to increase character development and social-emotional learning. Recognition applications include State School of Character, Promising Practices, Shifting School Culture, and Enhanced Spotlight. Schools selected for any of these recognitions will be honored at our annual Kansas Schools of Character Recognition Ceremony. The State School of Character application process is done completely online through the Character.org website. The application process is one of self-reflection, documentation and feedback, and is an extensive and deliberate process that evaluates where a school is at putting the 11 Principles of Effective Character Education into practice. The best applicant(s) advance to the national level for review as National Schools of Character. The application deadline was December 8, 2017, so those of you who are interested and did not already apply will need to start the process for next year. State School of Character has an application fee of \$250 payable to Character.org. The Promising Practices Recognition application process is also completely online through the Character.org website and is for schools or districts that have developed and successfully implemented a unique character practice. Promising Practices put one or more of the 11 Principles into action. The application deadline is February 16, 2018 and has an application fee of \$100 payable to Character.org. The Shifting School Culture Recognition is for schools that have developed and implemented an SECD initiative or program for at least one year and are transforming the school culture as well as growing student SECD skills.

These initiatives or programs must support at least one of the SECD Standards strands (Character Development, Personal Development, or Social Development) and the KESA 5R's (Responsive Culture, Relationships, Relevance, Rigor, or Results). This may not be the same application as a Promising Practice or Enhanced Spotlight.

The Enhanced Spotlight Recognition is for schools that are implementing new initiatives or are enhancing existing initiatives that will strengthen the SECD skills in their students and school climate. Initiatives must support at least one of the SECD Standards strands and support one or more of the KESA 5R's. This may not be the same application as a Promising Practice or Shifting School Culture.

Go to www.KSCharacter.org for applications for both the Shifting School Culture and Enhanced Spotlight Recognition. These applications are due March 16, 2018 and can be uploaded at the site or emailed to Noalee McDonald-Augustine at nmcdonald@smokyhill.org. The Shifting School Culture Recognition application has a fee for submitting of \$25 and the Enhanced Spotlight Recognition application has a fee for submitting of \$10. Both of these fees are payable to Kscharacter.org.

Recognized school teams will be invited to participate in the Kansas School of Character Recognition Ceremony on Thursday, May 3, 2018 at the Brown v. Board of Education Historical Site in Topeka. The ceremony starts at 9:30 a.m. with presentations starting at 10:00 a.m. and the afternoon workshop session beginning at 1:00 p.m.

The Kansas School of Character Recognition Program is sponsored by the Kansas State Department of Education, Character.org, KSCharacter.org and the Brown v. Board of Education Historical Site. For more information, contact Noalee McDonald-Augustine nmcdonald@smokyhill.org or Kent Reed, kreed@ksde.org



UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

1/10/18
Annual PDC Training, Hays

1/11/18 & 2/27/18
CHAMPS, Hays

1/12/18 & 2/28/18
CHAMPS, Salina

1/16/18
LETRS Mod 1: The Challenge of Learning to Read, Salina

1/17/18
LETRS Mod 1: The Challenge of Learning to Read, Hays

1/18/18 & 3/28/18
Discipline in the Secondary Classroom, Salina

1/22/18
Creating Personalized Learning the Classroom, Salina

1/22/18
Medic First Aid, Hays

1/23/18
AAA Driver Improvement, Hays

1/24/18
Annual PDC Training, Salina

1/24/18
CIA – Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment, Salina

1/24/18
Understanding Postsecondary Success Data, Salina

1/25/18
AAA Driver Improvement, Salina

1/25/18
Maximizing Your District Hudl Program for Online, Salina

1/25/18
Technology Cadre, Hays

1/26/18
Medic First Aid, Salina

1/29/18
CIA – Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment, Hays

1/29/18
Understanding Postsecondary Success Data, Hays

1/30/18
Classroom Activities for Growth Mindset at the MS/HS, Hays

1/31/18
Classroom Activities for Growth Mindset at the MS/HS, Salina

Go to www.smokyhill.org to learn more about these workshops and to register.

Have you registered yet?



KANSANS CAN... AND DO SYMPOSIUM

WE'RE GOING TO THE MOON!

**March 5 & 6
Manhattan, KS**

Join us this March at the Hilton Garden Inn and Convention Center in Manhattan, KS for the Spring Kansans Can Symposium. Collaborate with your peers, strategize with your administrative team, and discover creative ways to lead the world in the success of each student.

Session presenters include Kansas educators, KAESA consultants, and KSDE staff who will share their experiences with the effective integration of the Kansans Can goals. Mercury districts will be in attendance to share their progress.


Hilton Garden Inn
410 S. 3rd Street
Manhattan, KS 66502
785-532-9116



Commissioner of Education Dr. Randy Watson and Associate Commissioner Brad Neuenswander will set the stage for achieving the State Board's vision and accreditation. Session strands will focus on the five Kansans Can goals and Moon Shot redesign ideas:

- ★ Kindergarten Readiness
- ★ Individual Plans of Study (IPL)
- ★ Social Emotional
- ★ Graduation Rates
- ★ Postsecondary Success
- ★ Kansas School Redesign Efforts ("Mercury" and "Gemini" districts)

1-3 attendees: \$125 pp
4-6 attendees: \$110 pp
7+ attendees: \$95 pp

Register your team online at
www.smokyhill.org

A Collaborate Effort of KSDE and KAESA

The Kansans Can Symposium is a collaborative effort between the Kansas State Department of Education and the Kansas Association of Education Service Agencies designed to provide practical solutions and creative approaches to leading the world in the success of each student.




Upcoming Seminar

For educators, therapists, social workers, victim advocates, law enforcement, and anyone else who works with children.

Child Sexual Abuse: Our Response Matters

Wednesday, January 24, 2018
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Hilton Garden Inn
3320 S. 9th Street Salina, KS

\$75 Early Registration Fee (prior to January 14th)
\$90 Registration Fee (after January 14th)

- 6 CEUs for Social Workers Have Been Approved
- CEUs for Other Mental Health Professionals will be Available
- One Hour Graduate College Credit Available for Educators through Baker University

Register by contacting Diane Mann at 785-825-9185, by emailing dmann@smokyhill.org, or online by [clicking here](#).



Jenna Quinn is a triumphant survivor of sexual abuse, author, speaker, and the survivor behind Jenna's Law. She has become a valiant warrior against sexual abuse of children and adolescents. After disclosing of the abuse she has been on a campaign ever since to spare others her torment. The first step in that campaign was sharing her story publicly only days after her perpetrator was sentenced to 20 years in prison. "I'm not scared. Don't you be scared," she told other victims at the time. Jenna and her family received counseling and support at the Children's Advocacy Center.

Jenna has been an activist for 12 years going back to the age of 17 when she was approached by the Dallas Morning News about featuring her story. This was paramount in her decision to speak out as a victor and not a victim.

With a master's degree in communication studies, she is a sought-after speaker who has traveled nationwide, sharing her unique and inspiring story with legislatures, law-enforcement, abuse-prevention groups, schools, communities of faith, nonprofit organizations, and the general public for over twelve years. She has participated in both local and national radio, television, and news programs, and she has dedicated her life to preventing child sexual abuse through education and legislation.

Registration - 8:00-9:00
Welcome - 9:00-9:15
Keynote - 9:15-10:15

General Session - 10:30-12:00

Jenna's mother, Kellie Quinn, will present along with Jenna during the morning general session on the signs of abuse and how to react, simple and effective strategies to protect children, and much more!

Buffet Lunch-Networking - 12:00-12:50

Afternoon Breakout Sessions 1:00-2:30

Prevention Policies for Child Sexual Abuse and Commercial Sexual Exploitation - Jenna Quinn and Kellie Quinn

An overview of past and present prevention policies will be discussed along with tools to help implement new policies and programs.

Happy Bear - Vicki Price
Happy Bear: a school-based personal safety program of CAPS empowering children ages 3-8.

Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Issues in Education - Noalee McDonald-Augustine
Learn about facts vs. myths surrounding the health and safety of LGBT students. Explore programs, training, and events you can use to help prevent bullying and harassment of LGBT students.

Tell Your Friends - Courtney Train
Courtney is a victim's advocate for DVACK. Her focus will be on sexual abuse, dating violence, and human trafficking.

Audience Questions - 2:45-3:50
Closing Remarks - 3:50-4:00

