

THE

KEYSTONE

Special Edition

From the Director's Desk.....

Welcome to the Keystone Learning Services newsletter! I am excited to introduce myself as the Executive Director here at Keystone. It is an honor to serve our member districts and to work alongside some of the most dedicated staff members anywhere. I look forward to supporting you and working together in a partnership that will enable us to better serve children with disabilities.

For those of you who are curious, let me share a synopsis of my career to this point. My career in education began in 1991 when I joined the staff at Sabetha Elementary School as a 4-grade teacher. In addition to my teaching duties, I enjoyed working as an assistant high school football coach. I have many fond memories from my two years in Sabetha and still connect with students and staff from that chapter of my career. I moved on from Sabetha to Clay Center, KS where I was recruited to teach middle school math and continue my football coaching efforts. Again I was rewarded with lifelong connections to students and staff. The 3 years I spent in Clay Center were fantastic! In 1996 I accepted a position working for the Wamego Special Services Cooperative as a special education

teacher. I was assigned to Alma Grade School and then to the Jr. High in Paxico, KS where I helped implement a self-contained program for boys identified with the BD label. While there in Paxico, I married my wife, Julie, and we have been blessed with two boys who are now 12 and 14. After 10 years, my career grew beyond Paxico and included positions with Kaw Valley Special Services and then with the South Central Kansas Special Education Cooperative as their executive director.

With this newsletter, I hope to connect all of us who are part of Keystone, to share news and information about trends in special education, to point out new resources to aid you in your professional practice, and most importantly, to celebrate the successes we experience together here at Keystone Learning Services.

Please don't hesitate to connect with ideas and anecdotes you might like to share; my door is always open.

Andy

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Keystone Learning Services

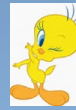
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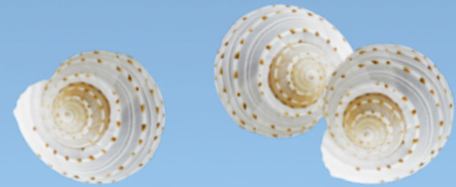
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GET CONNECTED!

Find us on Facebook
(Keystone Learning Services)
and



Twitter
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And for JDLA's Twitter:
@JDLA_KLS

The Road Not Taken by Robert Frost

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;
Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that, the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I marked the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way
I doubted if I should ever come back.
I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I,
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.



Changes . . . Have Come!

By Tim Marshall

Changes have been brewing at Keystone for quite some time, but everything became official on July 1st when our new fiscal year began. Mr. Andy Ewing has taken over as Executive Director and, thanks to his ability to join us mid-June, he has hit the ground running. Rhonda Denning and Alicia Kheir have both left Keystone for other pursuits and Tim will be moving to a part-time support role. Those changes have left three administrative openings, two of which have been filled. The other position has been absorbed and will not be filled for now.

Meet our new executive director! Mr. Andy Ewing started officially at Keystone on July 1st as our new director. Mr. Ewing brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to Keystone as well as some great ideas and innovation. He will be directly involved in supervising special education. His background as a special education teacher and administrator will serve him well in the top spot at Keystone. Mr. Ewing's most recent position was as executive director at South Central Kansas Special Education Interlocal, housed out of Pratt, Kansas. They serve 15 districts across 8 counties. Mr. Ewing is most excited about being involved in some of the other projects that are unique to Keystone. He appreciates Keystone's reputation across the state and wants to enhance and grow that reputation. Mr. Ewing, his wife Julie and two sons are living in a family home temporarily in Maple Hill, Kansas. His wife will be working at the Kansas State Department of Education as a consultant on the Early Childhood, Special Education and Title Services team.

Tim will be working through the summer, supporting the business office in budget preparation for the new year and supporting new grants that began on July 1st of this year. This fall, Tim will be teaching at Emporia State University in the principal preparation program. He will continue supporting the grants that Keystone was awarded last winter.



“Tell me and I forget,
teach me and I remember,
involve me and I learn.”

— [Benjamin Franklin](#)

Important Upcoming Events

Thursday,
August 6th:

*New Certified
(Licensed)
Teaching Staff
INSERVICE*

*Location: Keystone
Learning Services in
Ozawkie*

*8:00 - 4:00
(lunch will be provided)*

Friday,
August 7th:

*All Certified
(Licensed)
Teaching Staff
INSERVICE*

*Location: Oskaloosa
School District*

*8:00 - 4:00
(lunch will be provided)*

*NOTE: BENEFITS
ENROLLMENT
BEING HELD TODAY AT
OSKALOOSA*

Tuesday
August 11th:

*All Paras
INSERVICE*

*Location: Keystone
Learning Services in
Ozawkie*

*8:00 - 3:00
(lunch will be provided)*

*NOTE: BENEFITS
ENROLLMENT
BEING HELD TODAY AT
OZAWKIE*



*SUMMER
HOURS*

*Monday-Thursday
7:00-5:30*

CLOSED FRIDAYS

**REGULAR OFFICE HOURS WILL
RESUME AUGUST 3rd**

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

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES....

- July 27th - New Para Training – 8:00 - 11:30 at Keystone Learning Services in Ozawkie
- August 10th, IEP 101 Training--For more information, contact Lindsey Graf @ lgraf@keystonelearning.org
- August 19th, Board Meeting-- at Keystone Learning Services in Ozawkie

IPEC Leadership Coaching Training Series at Keystone Learning Services in Ozawkie

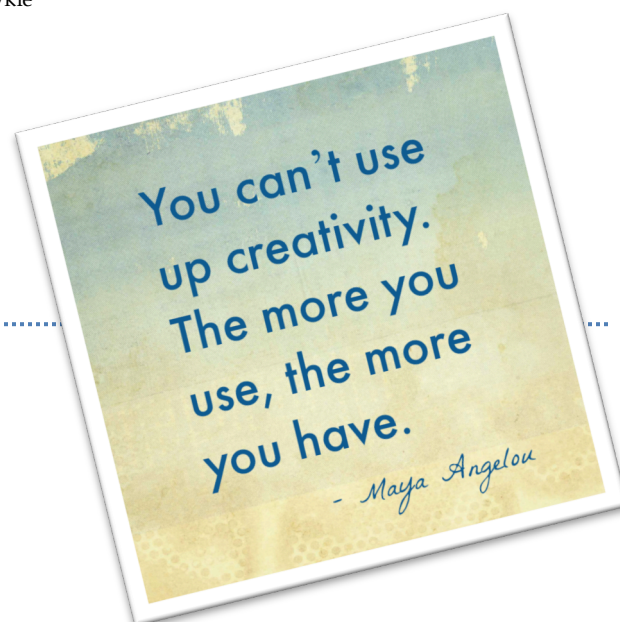
Session I August 5th
Session II August 13th
Session III September 15th

Crisis Prevention Intervention Training

CPI RENEWAL Training -- August 3rd
8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

CPI INITIAL Training will be on August 4th
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (bring your own lunch!)

All CPI trainings will be at Keystone Learning Services in Ozawkie



Welcome New Employees at Keystone Learning Services!

New Staff and Locations

Amy Keim—Valley Falls

Audra Sundberg—Jeff West

Breanna Kruegar—SLP

Caleb Denton—Perry/Lecompton

Clarissa Cope—Oskaloosa

Franchesca Willisams—YES
Program

Jolie VanPetten—McLouth

Marie Moore—School Psychologist

Mary Holm—Oskaloosa

Rena Kilgore—JDLA

Robert Bergunsen—Atchison
County Community Schools

Eva Adams—Oskaloosa



MEET SPECIAL EDUCATION ASSISTANT DIRECTOR LINDSEY GRAF

I grew up in Leavenworth, Kansas and graduated from Leavenworth High School. Before starting my education career, I obtained my Bachelors degree in Secondary Social Science Education from Friends University in Wichita, Kansas. A Masters degree in School Counseling from Wichita State University, and a Masters degree in School Administration and Special Education Licensure from Emporia State University.

My prior experience in education has been as a High School Social Studies teacher at Goddard High School in Goddard, Kansas for four years. Then became the Elementary school Counselor at Tonganoxie Elementary School in Tonganoxie, Kansas for 3 years before moving to the High School to become a Special Education teacher for 4 more years. Then I moved on to become a Special Education teacher and Athletic Director at McLouth High School.

I look forward to working with everyone and becoming a positive resource for all of Keystone. For the 2015-2016 school year, I will be serving the Valley Falls, McLouth, Oskaloosa and Atchison County Community school districts. I can't wait to get the school year started!

Staff Shares

This newsletter's main purpose is to communicate information and share news and happenings! If you have anything newsworthy you would like to submit, please email Linda Kilgore at lindak@keystonelearning.org. Please note there is a deadline for submission, so get your news in early!

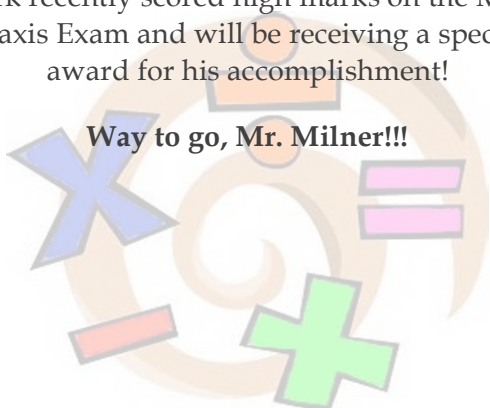
The deadline for article/news submission will be by the 12th day of each month.

Approved photos, stories and poetry are welcome!

CONGRATULATIONS TO JDLA'S MARK MILNER!!!

Mark recently scored high marks on the Math Praxis Exam and will be receiving a special award for his accomplishment!

Way to go, Mr. Milner!!!



If at any time you need to schedule a meeting room or the conference room at Keystone, please contact Linda Kilgore at lindak@keystonelearning.org

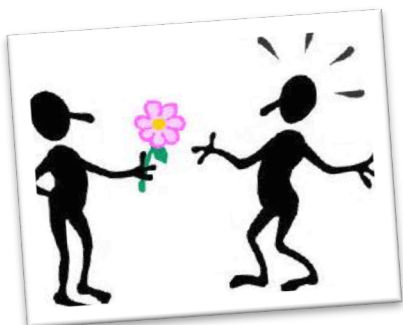


Meet Cristo, JDLA's newest therapy dog!

Cristo is an almost 2-year old Bernese Mountain Dog, who has become a fast favorite of both students and staff at Keystone Learning Services.

Cristo loves life and treats and brings much joy to the organization!

****Please don't feed the service dog human food!**



Kind words can be short and easy to speak,
but their echoes are truly endless.

-Mother Teresa

Count Your Kid In!

Call today to schedule a free appointment for your child at one of these locations:

September 18, 2015-Perry

October 16, 2015-Oskaloosa

November 20, 2015-Meriden

December 11, 2015-Valley Falls

January 15, 2016-McLouth

February 19, 2016-Effingham

March 4, 2016-Nortonville

April 15, 2016-Easton

May 13, 2016-Lecompton

June 10, 2016 Oskaloosa

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.

Coming Up Next Issue: Summer Ends and School Begins



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