

# THE KEYSTONE

## Special Edition

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

Did you know that October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month? NDEAM was established by the U.S. Dept. of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy and has been an ongoing effort since 1945. Here in Kansas DCF has launched a new program called Pre-ETs (Pre-Employment Transition Services) targeting Kansans with disabilities. Transition is an important part of our work in special education and NDEAM and Pre-ETS present opportunities to connect students with the ongoing effort to create greater opportunities for handicapped individuals. This year's theme is Inclusion Drives Innovation. It's true in the workplace and it's true in the classroom.

Here are some great resources to learn more:

<http://bit.ly/2ydMOOX>

<http://bit.ly/2dDIUZv>

<http://bit.ly/2yfOwkB>

\*Don't forget that October is also Bullying Awareness Month. Here are some great resources to help bring awareness to this great cause.

<https://www.stopbullying.gov>

<http://bit.ly/2xy3mmy>

<http://bit.ly/2gcQGLq>

Thanks for all you do. Andy

### ISSUE 2, OCTOBER, 2017

#### 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



## Meet the Staff at Keystone Learning Services

**Name:** Khrystyan Masters

**Hometown:** Effingham, Kansas

**Current city of residence:** Lancaster, Kansas

**Current position:** Student Data Technician (a.k.a Master of student data)

**Number of years at Keystone/NEKESC:** 1/12 year

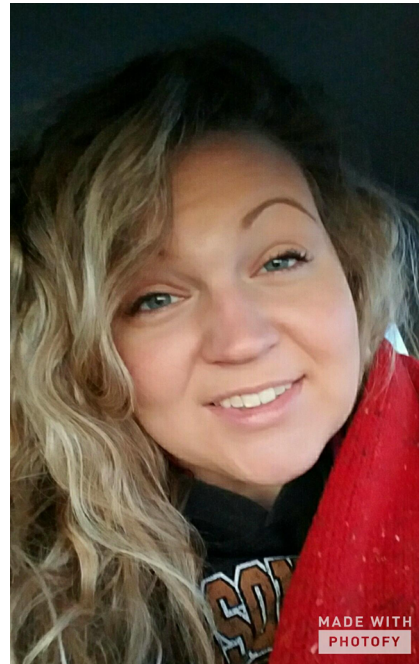
**First ever paying job:** Fuemmeler Lumber saw mill as a laborer

**Pet Peeve:** Wet socks

**What do you fear most?** Not taking chances

**What is something that people would be surprised to know about you?** I make and sell weighted blankets.

**Motto/Favorite Quote:** "I declare after all there is no enjoyment like reading! How much sooner one tires of any thing than of a book! When I have a house of my own, I shall be miserable if I have not an excellent library." - Jane Austen, Pride and Prejudice



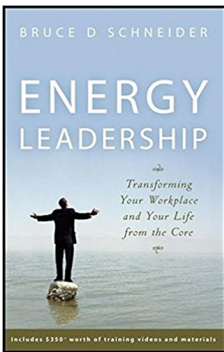
Hei! My name is Khrystyan Masters. I have been married to my husband Cody for 5 years and we have three children; Ashlynn (12), Drayden (7) and Emma (4) also have three dogs; two corgis- Ranger and Phoebe and our yorkie Tonto. We live in a beautiful neighborhood in Lancaster, Ks. There we have a huge garden that the kids love to help in. This summer we planted, tomatoes, potatoes, sweet corn, carrots, cucumbers, watermelons, cantaloupes, Okra, purple and green bell peppers, jalapenos, banana peppers, cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, radishes, okra, Brussels sprouts, eggplant and peanuts. It keeps us busy to say the least.

I graduated ACCHS in 2010 and after high school attended Washburn University. I was given a scholarship to sing in a 11 woman chorus! (Sometimes on channel 11 they will broadcast the Vespers Concert from 2010, I'm in there!) Other hobbies besides singing include painting, playing baseball with my kids and reading.



## SPECIAL ED DIRECTOR'S CORNER

~Nathanael Norman



Over the next few months, I will be sharing some excerpts from the book “Energy Leadership” by Bruce Schneider.

“You can become a powerful leader of your school district and your life. To get you started immediately, I'd like to introduce you right now to the first of five empowerment principles that shape every interaction in Energy Leadership. The first principle is so powerful that discovering and applying it can change your entire life. Here's the first principle. **There are no problems. There are no challenges.** That may sound like unvarnished positive thinking, but it goes deeper than that. Consider this: *Problems and challenges are creations of fear based perspective on life. When we transcend fear, what remains is opportunity.*”

Empowerment principle 1: **Life offers neither problems nor challenges, only opportunities.**

There are “problems or challenges” that come our way every day. They often manifest in ways like: IEP's, student behavioral challenges, working collaboratively with parents, and many more. The opportunity we have is to begin empowering ourselves by reframing our thinking and finding opportunity in those situations that arise every day. By doing this we maintain a positive energy level, this positive energy is contagious to those around us and is infectious for a positive culture.

I will end with this quote from Energy Leadership, “**Everything I do matters, and everything I am matters even more.**”

Recently, the IEP present level pages were updated to reflect some decisions made by the supreme court in the [Endrew decision](#). I wanted to provide some direction from the process handbook on impact of exceptionality.

- **Impact of Exceptionality** upon ability to access and progress in the general curriculum: In addition to describing the child's current performance (academics and functional areas), PLAAFP's must describe how the exceptionality affects the child's involvement and progress in the general curriculum. The present level statement must also include more specific information that clearly describes how the child's exceptionality impacts (or manifests itself) within the general education curriculum that prevents them from appropriately accessing or progressing. By completing this statement, it will make it clear to the team what the child's needs are and which ones are of highest priority to be addressed. (KS SPED p. 77)
- **Example of Impact of Exceptionality:**
  - Jeremiah has difficulty paying attention during class time. His inability to stay on task and follow directions is negatively affecting his classroom performance. When asked to begin work, he often looks around as if he does not know what to do. Observations indicate he often looks to peers for directions, rather than attending to the teacher. This occurs in both classes that he likes and in those he does not like. When the teacher goes to him to provide individual help, he refuses help and insists he understands what to do, but then he often completes the assignment incorrectly.
  - Jeremiah also needs to work on staying in his personal space and not invading others' personal space. This is exhibited when he swings a backpack or his arms around in a crowded room or while walking down the hall. Observations of Jeremiah show this is also an issue during games in PE class and in unstructured activities during recess, such as playing tag. He is unable to appropriately interact with others. He sometimes stands very close to other students, squaring up to them, in a posture that is intimidating to younger students, and challenging to those his own age. He has also been observed to inappropriately touch other students. These behaviors have been especially problematic during special out-of-school activities, and Jeremiah has not been allowed to attend the last two class field trips, because of the severity of problems on earlier field trips. (KS Sped p. 78)



October 17-School Psychologists/Social Worker's Meeting 8:30-11:30

October 18-Keystone Board of Directors Meeting 7 p.m.

Oct 19-JDLA Open House & Flu Shot Clinic 6:00-7:30 p.m.

October 20-JDLA No School

October 25-Tiny k Playgroup 3:30-4:30

October 26-Assistive Technology Considerations Training 9-3

October 27-Count Your Kid In at Perry; WebKIDSS Board Meeting in Salina

October 31-Speech Pathologists Meeting 8-11

November 1-Autism Team Meeting 2-3:30; Tiny k Playgroup 3:30-4:30

November 6-ACT Test Prep 8-2; Keystone Office Staff Meeting 8:15

November 7-Superintendent Council 12:30; PDC Meeting 4-5

November 8-Tiny k Playgroup 3:30-4:30

November 9-CPI Training 8-3:30

**John Dewey Learning Academy's  
OPEN HOUSE is on October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
from 6:00-7:30 p.m. at the school in  
Ozawkie. Please RSVP to Brandi  
Barnhardt at 785-876-2357 by October  
18<sup>th</sup>.**



The Jefferson County Health Department will be providing flu shots during the Open House for students and family members. Insurance plans accepted: Blue Cross Blue Shield, United Healthcare, Medicare and Medicaid (KanCare: Amerigroup, Sunflower, United Healthcare). Please bring your insurance card to the Open House. Questions on flu shots? Contact the Jeff County Health Dept. at 785-403-0025x3.





## Kansas Association of School Boards

October

### Ergonomics

Ergonomics has become a word used more frequently in the past few years. It is associated with car design, office environments, and manufacturing plants. Ergonomics simply means creating a space that fits the person, as opposed to forcing a person to fit a predetermined space. In this regard, ergonomics has a significant role in keeping school employees safe. There are a few key issues you may control to reduce your likelihood of suffering an ergonomic related injury.

**General Posture** – The maintenance of good everyday posture is important. Teachers may spend a considerable amount of time bending down to their students. The teachers are at a disadvantage as their work environment is generally designed for a much smaller person. In order to avoid problems associated with prolonged or sustained poor posture, teachers need to be aware of their posture (e.g. if you are helping a child who is seated at his/her desk you may need to squat or kneel down to their level instead of bending over).

**Sitting** – With the advent of computers, and more recently email communication, we seem to be spending more time sitting. Although this is necessary, you should avoid sitting for too long no matter what the task. When you are sitting be sure to:

- Have shoulders and upper arms relaxed.
- Use the chair backrest for support.
- Have your feet flat on the ground (or a footrest).



**Lifting and Carrying** – Carrying materials like laptops or schoolbooks to and from home or even from one classroom to another can cause a strain on your muscle and joints. If it is necessary that you do this:

- Carry only what is necessary.
- Use a cart or two-wheeler if possible.
- Carry items as close to your body as possible.
- Use a backpack rather than a handheld bag. It Takes less energy and promotes a better posture.



Just as physical activity is important for the children, it is also important for staff. Incorporate exercise into your daily life. A sedentary lifestyle may increase your risk of injury and make it more difficult to recover from an injury. Be responsible for your own health and fitness.



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

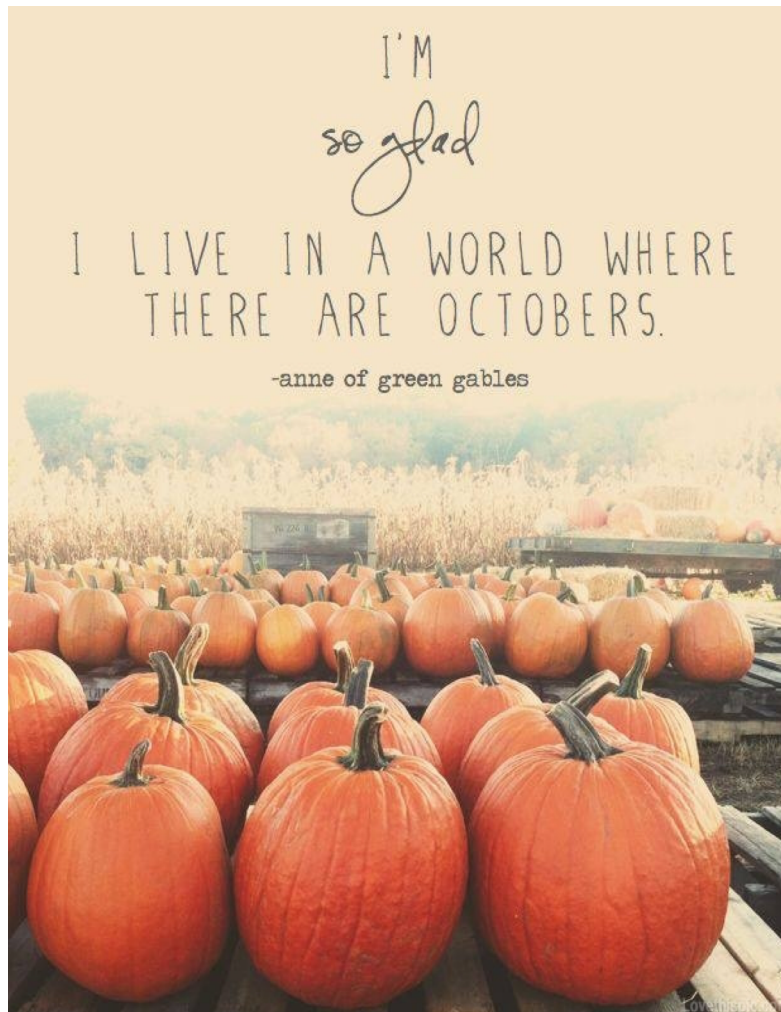
## Assistive Technology Considerations:

### Moving Beyond a Check Box

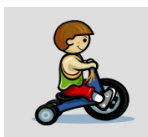
How do you make Assistive Technology Considerations more than a yes or no checkbox on the student's IEP? When is technology in the classroom considered Assistive Technology? This presentation provides an overview of the definition of AT, a review of legal requirements of AT and an in-depth look at AT Considerations for students. AT Considerations will be explained using information from the QIAT and SETT framework.

Oct. 26, 9-3 at Keystone Learning Services

Register at: <http://bit.ly/2yelor6>



## Count Your Kid In!



## FREE INFANT and PRESCHOOL SCREENING CLINICS

### 2017-2018 Screening Information

October 27-Perry

November 17-Meriden

December- 15-Valley Falls

January- 19-McLouth

February 23-Effingham

March 16-Nortonville

April 20-Easton

May 11-Lecompton

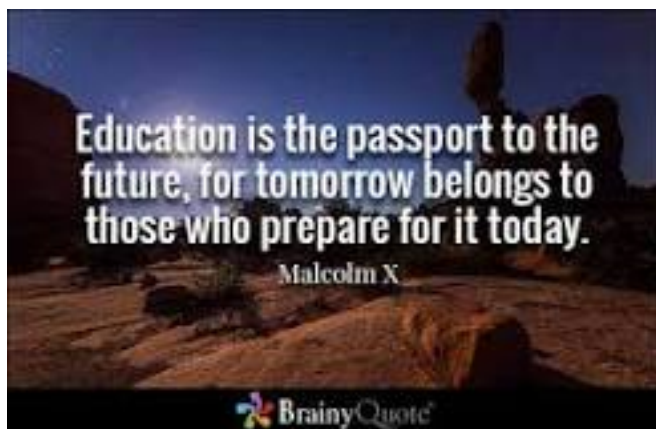
Keystone Learning Services and the Jefferson County Health Department offer Count Your Kid In clinics throughout the school year for infants and preschool children, free of charge. If you have concerns about your child's development, this free screening will provide help for children 0-5 years of age. 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.



### October Screening Information

**WHEN:** Friday, October 27, 2017

**WHERE:** Perry United Methodist Church, 220 Oak, Perry, KS



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Ozawie, KS 66070  
Phone: 785-876-2214  
Fax: 785-876-2629

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