



Dear Keystone Paraeducator,

We welcome each of you back to school. For our returning staff, your presence has been missed. To our new staff, please know that you have joined a very illustrious group of people that strive to make each child leave our schools with the best education.

Keystone Learning Services (also known as Northeast Kansas Educational Service Center) is one of seven Service Centers in the State of Kansas. Service Centers provide support to school districts through multiple programs. Keystone provides special education cooperative to seven school districts in Jefferson County (Jefferson North-#339, Jefferson West-#340, McLouth-#342, Oskaloosa - #341, Perry-Lecompton-#343, Valley Falls-#338) and Atchison County Community Schools in Atchison County. Besides special education, Keystone runs a nationally recognized service school named John Dewey Learning Academy (JDLA). In addition, Keystone has a Learning and Leading division that assists in the training for not only Keystone, but across the State. Our early childhood programs provide services to nine counties in northeast Kansas through our Parents as Teachers and tiny-K programs. Keystone also supplies a computer generated iep program - WebKIDDS that is used across the state. As a bit of trivia, did you know that Northeast Kansas Educational Service Center designed and developed WebKIDDS? Keystone also manage several grants from the Kansas State Department of Education, such as KSTARS grant (school/student data collection for the state) which also funds, KISN (educational support network such as the Kansas Autism Information and Neurological Disabilities Support Project), and Project Spot (which focuses on training). Keystone assists not only our seven school districts but other school districts in ordering supplies and materials at a reduced amount. Our computer services also extend to providing technical support to northeast Kansas. As you can see we have a lot going here.

Keystone is governed by a Board of Directors consisting of one member from each of the seven districts. Each of the district superintendents serve as advisors to the Board and Administrative Team.

This notebook is yours to use during the current school year 2009-10. Due to the suggestions made by the Para Committee we have tried to make things clearer this year, along with some additional supports for you. Hopefully, these additions will make it easier for you to do your job.

We look forward to another great year.

Keystone Administrative Staff