

# EASTON USD 449 MAKING GOOD USE OF GALE AND EBSCO

KAN-ED - - WHERE KANSANS  
ACCESS THE INFORMATION AGE

Kan-ed Annual Evaluation Report June 2009

Lori Martin, District Library Media Specialist, reports that the majority of Easton USD 449 students use the Kan-ed sponsored databases. Students receive an orientation to the databases in grade school (4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades) and continue to use them extensively throughout middle and high school. Easton USD 449 offers students access to Kan-ed sponsored databases through the Empowered Desktop.

Students access the databases in classes for a variety of projects. Martin described, "All of our English teachers are using them. Our eighth graders have a project focused on a novelist of their choice, and they use the Literature Resource database, as well as World Book, for that. In Sophomore English, students have to find three supportive articles that connect to the unit they've just finished reading on Hiroshima. They must find data related to World War II on a topic of their choice. They're also learning how to do searches, and eventually they have to find three articles on a topic and present the results back to the class in a digital format, like PowerPoint. Their presentation explains what they've learned from doing their searches. And our seniors have to write pro/con papers, so they also do a lot of extensive research using the Kan-ed sponsored databases."



Kan-ed

Martin reports that the most useful databases have been Gale Resource Center and Ebsco. She shared, "The biggest thing that Kan-ed and the State Library of Kansas did for us was add Ebsco this last year. It was huge. We had been limited to the Gale database, which isn't bad. Our kids were pretty happy and getting very savvy with Expanded Academic, but we are very happy with the Ebsco product. Of course, Ebsco was nowhere within our price range. If it weren't offered through the Desktop, we wouldn't have access. We are limited to whatever Kan-ed and the State Library provide because we have no funding for databases at all."

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**Easton USD 449**  
Serves: 700+ students,  
55+ educators  
Kan-ed member since:  
April 17, 2006