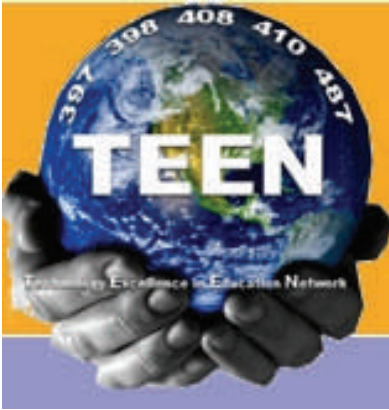


BUILDING NETWORK CONNECTIONS



Kan-ed

KAN-ED — WHERE
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TEEN

**TEEN is a consortium
made up of USD 397, USD
398, USD 408, USD 410,
and USD 487.**

**Serves: 2,300+ students,
240+ educators**

**Kan-ed member since:
September 18, 2002**

According to the Technology Excellence in Education Network (TEEN) #632 Executive Director, Brandi Hendrix, “the Kan-ed network is just fantastic to have.” Hendrix shared examples of member schools that are branching out to work with other schools for Interactive Distance Learning (IDL) classes. She explained how excited students get about participating in IDL classes and the exposure it provides to other’s points of view. One specific story Hendrix shared involves two fifth grade classes at Marion USD 408 and Centre USD 397.

“Right now I have two fifth grade classes from two different districts doing literature circles. They pick one book and everybody reads the same book. They [the students] are divided into character, setting and plot, certain aspects of a story. They meet together once or twice a week.” Hendrix went on to explain that typically, a literature circle would just consist of the students in one classroom, “but now that they are over the network they meet over the IDL through Kan-ed. They discuss it and have lots of rich discussion about the literature that they are reading. They are going to see the movie together afterwards at the same time and have popcorn. The teachers love it because the kids are excited to be able to see another fifth grade class, and they get to meet the different teachers. They meet friends, and establish those connections that they otherwise wouldn’t. It’s exposed them to a lot of different ideas and different aspects that they would not have otherwise gotten.”

“The Kan-ed network is just fantastic to have.”

~Brandi Hendrix

TEEN has even connected with members outside of their network, such as pairing up with another third grade class at Andover USD 385, a member of the South Central Kansas Education Service Center. As she explains: “The third grade class at Marion (USD 408) did a monster exchange where they had to create a class monster. Another third grade class in Andover was partnered up [with Marion] and they had to create their own monster. Both classes had to write step-by-step instructions. That fits with language arts, and they had to use geometric shapes. They exchanged their instructions via email and then they met together after they had built the other [class] monster...to see if the monsters matched. It was neat!”

Hendrix says that “Without the Kan-ed network, we would have to connect in a different way. It would be a bit harder...students have been exposed to other cultures, they’ve been able to receive classes otherwise we could have not offered.”