



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DATE: February 11, 2008**

**Included:** Educators in attendance

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## Preparing for State Assessments

As new Kansas Social Studies Assessments will be given in the spring of 2008, how do teachers prepare for them? Several one-day workshops addressing the issues involved are being offered to educators this spring.

The most recent one, "Getting Ready for the Kansas Social Studies Assessments Grade 8: A workshop for Grades 7-8 teachers and administrators," was held February 8 at the Jones Institute for Educational Excellence at Emporia State University. Thirty-five educators from across Kansas came to get a clearer picture of what the standards require of Kansas' students.

The workshop featured a discussion of activities supporting the tested indicators to enable teachers to prepare Grade 8 students for the assessment.

Kim Rasmussen, the workshop's presenter, is a K-12 Curriculum Coordinator for the USD 437 Auburn-Washburn Public Schools and was a trainer at the KSDE Social Studies Academy. Kim served for eight years as social studies consultant at KSDE, facilitating development of state standards and assessments. She formerly taught fifth and eighth grades, has served on numerous state and national curriculum and assessment teams, and was the QPA contact for more than 80 districts.

Workshops focusing on the social studies standards are also being held Feb. 12, for grades 5-6 educators, and Feb. 27, for high school educators. For more information about these workshops, visit [www.emporia.edu/jones](http://www.emporia.edu/jones) or contact Toni Bowling at [mbowling@emporia.edu](mailto:mbowling@emporia.edu), 1-877-378-5433, 620-341-5372.

Educators attending the conference included:

USD 202,  
Turner-Kansas City –  
Ryan Stephans

USD 265, Goddard –  
Rick Childs, Jenni Dinkel,  
Crystal Petru, Erin  
Christensen

USD 385, Andover –  
Meghann Maddux, Suzie  
Smith, Kim Breitenbach,  
Kelly Helmer, Shannon  
Beard

USD 418, McPherson –  
Jackie Bohenenblust,  
Richard Ekholm

USD 230, Spring Hill –  
Jerry Hunsaker, Kristin  
Ricker, Christine Hecke

USD 330, Mission Valley –  
Donna Tranter

USD 402, Augusta –  
Kay Powell

USD 490, El Dorado –  
Blake Vargas, Dustin  
Dooley

USD 231, Gardner  
Edgerton –  
Jaclyn Binder, Heath Sigg,  
Stan Watchous, John  
McIntire

USD 340, Jefferson West  
– Chad Jackson, Chris  
Baker

USD 408, Marion-Florence  
– Chad Adkins

USD 503, Parsons –  
Eddie Kearns, Rob Barcus

USD 251, North Lyon  
County –  
Brian Hadley, Terri Bush

USD 384, Blue Valley –  
Pat Stratton, Jan Sigler,  
David Noble

USD 416, Louisburg –  
Rochelle Peters, Jeremy  
Holloway

###TEACH###

