

Summer  
Special  
Edition!

May/June/July 2019

# SHESC Tidbits

## SHESC PARTNERS WITH STOPIT TO ADDRESS SCHOOL SAFETY



Kids are in school to learn; they shouldn't also have to worry about how to handle a threat of violence they overhear or bullying behavior they observe.

Thanks to a partnership between Smoky Hill Education Service Center and STOPit Solutions, many Kansas K-12 students will have a new, powerful tool to help make their schools a safer place.

Neil Hooper, chief operating officer of STOPit Solutions, said that the STOPit app helps more than 3,500 institutions worldwide create safer schools.

The app, website, and phone hotline allow continuous reporting and 24-hour monitoring of potential or actual school violence, harassment, bullying, or self-harm, Hooper said.

"We could not be more excited to work with Smoky Hill to help Kansas schools with their school and student safety," Hooper said.

Interested institutions can arrange a free demo of the system at [stopitsolutions.com/shesc](http://stopitsolutions.com/shesc) or by contacting Nick Zema at [@stopitsolutions.com](mailto:nzema@stopitsolutions.com) or 908-748-4552.

Students may use STOPit to report incidents anonymously, but the website and app also allow STOPit representatives to ask follow-up questions for more details. With the new Smoky Hill ESC partnership, school districts can address these important school safety issues at a low cost with minimal administration required from schools.

Chris Modellmog, executive director of SHESC, said he was excited to add the STOPit app to the center's variety of critical programs and services.

"Learning is at the heart of every school," Modellmog said. "However, learning can't really begin if students don't feel safe and secure in the classroom. STOPit is a great tool for empowering students to take action, and we're looking forward to offering it."

Heath Johnston, assistant principal with Shenandoah County Public Schools in Virginia, has already experienced STOPit and said it solves a perennial problem in education.

"There's always a focus on finding a way for students to report but not having to come forward," Johnston said, "because it's intimidating for some people to come into the office and tell the principal."

Smoky Hill  
Education  
Service Center  
[www.smokyhill.org](http://www.smokyhill.org)

## Upcoming Professional Learning Opportunities!

**June 3 (Hays)  
Teambuilding in the  
Classroom**

**June 3 (Hays)  
July 8 (Salina)  
Developing Critical  
Thinking and Analysis in  
the Teaching of Social  
Studies**

**June 4-5 (Hays)  
June 6-7 (Salina)  
Ruby Payne's "A  
Framework for  
Understanding Poverty"**

**June 4 (Salina)  
Chronic Absenteeism**

**June 5 (Salina)  
June 19 (Hays)  
LETRS Module 1: The  
Challenge of Learning to  
Read**

**June 6 (Hays)  
June 7 (Salina)  
Math Talks K-6 – Using  
Discussion to Help  
Students Learn Math**

**June 6 (Salina)  
Family and Community  
Engagement**

**Continued inside...**

**VISIT:** [www.smokyhill.org](http://www.smokyhill.org)  
for more information (detailed  
descriptions, times &  
availability of college credit) as  
well as links to register for these  
events!

**FOLLOW US on Twitter for the latest events! @SmokyHillEd**

## Golf Tournament Fundraiser May 28

The annual Smoky Hill Education Foundation Charity Golf Tournament is set to tee off on Tuesday, May 28, at the Salina Municipal Golf Course—2500 E. Crawford St. in Salina.

The donation to play is \$268 per team, which includes four green fees, two golf carts, lunch, prizes, beverages, and a chance to win a new Traeger grill!

You can also support the tournament by donating a prize, sponsoring a hole for \$50, or making a cash donation.

Register by May 19 with Diane Mann at: 605 E. Crawford St., Salina, KS 67401; 785-825-9185; or [DMann@smokyhill.org](mailto:DMann@smokyhill.org).



## ‘Teacher Safari’ Guides Along Re-design Adventure

A Teacher Safari, you say... Well, “Alpaca” my bags and expect an “emu” sing time!

Irresistible animal puns aside, this event at the Rolling Hills Zoo will be a great opportunity to learn what other districts and teachers are doing with the Kansans Can School Redesign Project, gain ideas from colleagues, and have some fun, too. Spots are filling up fast, however, so sign up as soon as possible.

This workshop is designed for K-12 classroom teachers, who would like to share and learn more about the state’s Redesign initiative. Workshop participants will be asked to share their ideas and visions as well as their concerns in Teacher Table Talk settings around the room. Baker University credit is available.

The event will also take advantage of the unique venue as a part of the workshop. For example, considering how to incorporate a museum tour—such as the one at Rolling Hills—or a nature walk into science curriculum, or how to use a zoo trip to help students explore careers or use interest inventories.

“Wallaby” seeing you there!



**What:** “Teacher Safari” workshop

**When:** 9 a.m. -4 p.m., July 16-17

**Where:** Rolling Hills Zoo,  
625 N. Hedville Road, Salina, KS

**June 10 (Salina)**  
**June 14 (Hays)**  
**Cultivating a Trauma-Sensitive Classroom at the Elementary School Level**

**June 11 (Salina)**  
**Moving To the ABCs — Songs, Movements and Lessons to Promote Early Literacy**

**June 12-14 (Salina)**  
**Creating a Culture of Improvement – High Leverage School Leadership**

**June 14 and July 15 (Salina or Zoom)**  
**Book Study: Reading and Writing Fiction and Non-Fiction**

**June 17 (Hays)**  
**July 9 (Salina)**  
**Setting Up a Classroom for Personalized Learning: Voice, Choice and Space**

**June 18-20 (Salina)**  
**June 25-27 (Hays)**  
**LETRS Foundations**

**June 19**  
**Grading Practices and Homework**

**June 26 (Salina)**  
**July 17 (Hays)**  
**Summarization, Summarization, Summarization**

**July 1 (Hays)**  
**July 2 (Salina)**  
**Cultivating a Trauma-Sensitive Classroom at the MS/HS Level**

**July 1 (Salina)**  
**July 8 (Hays)**  
**LETRS Module 4: The Mighty Word**

**July 2 (Salina)**  
**Dealing with Issues Unique to Rural Education**

Continued

**July 2 (Salina)**

**July 9 (Hays)**

**LETRS Module 5: Getting Up to Speed**

**July 9 (Salina)**

**July 10 (Hays)**

**Our Language Matters**

**July 9 (Salina)**

**Crisis Preparation and Response to Trauma**

**July 11 (Salina)**

**Congratulations, You're the Principal... Now What?**

**July 11 (Salina)**

**July 18 (Hays)**

**LETRS Module 6: Digging for Meaning**

**July 16-17 (Salina – Rolling Hills Zoo)**

**Teacher Safari 2019: ReTHINK, ReGROUP, ReDESIGN**

**July 17 (Salina)**

**Educational Change, School Improvement, KESA and Redesign**

**July 18 (Salina)**

**Making In-School Suspension Meaningful**

**July 24 (Hays)**

**July 25 (Salina)**

**Student Engagement vs Student Participation**

**July 29 (Hays)**

**July 31 (Salina)**

**AAA Driver Improvement**

**July 30 (Hays)**

**Aug. 1 (Salina)**

**Medic First Aid**

**VISIT:** [www.smokyhill.org](http://www.smokyhill.org)

for more information (detailed descriptions, times and availability of college credit) as well as links to register for these events!

## Learn360 Makes Classrooms Lively

Learning comes alive when it can go beyond the text on the page and engage with video, images, sound and more.

Learn360 serves this need for more than 25 million students in more than 33,000 schools across the United States and Canada, and it's not too late to add your district for the 2019-2020 school year!

Learn360 is the premier streaming digital delivery service for the K-12 education market. Teachers, students, and parents can stream high-quality full-length videos, video clips, teacher guides, activities, music tracks, sound effects, speeches, audiobooks, newsreels, images, maps, fact sheets, timelines, science experiments, and articles.



Learn360 provides award-winning media resources from more than 130 top educational producers including: A&E, History Channel, Reading Rainbow, National Geographic, BBC, Dr. Seuss, Scholastic, and many more. They hold more than 153,000 multimedia items.

For more information about [Learn360](http://Learn360) or to subscribe for your district, call Smoky Hill ESC at 785-825-9185 today!

## Credit Recovery Assists In Graduation

A Smoky Hill Credit Recovery account can increase graduation rates and keep students on schedule to graduate with their peers—or even graduate early!

Districts can save money by running an on-site credit recovery program through Smoky Hill Learning Center's Odysseyware account at only \$100 per semester course.

If that option is not possible, students can also go directly to the Smoky Hill Learning Center to recover failed or incomplete credits or by working virtually with Smoky Hill teachers with prior approval from school officials and verification of the class or classes a student needs to recover.

This costs \$200 per semester course. For more information, please call the Learning Center at 785-825-0435, or e-mail Troy Marseline at [TMarseline@smokyhill.org](mailto:TMarseline@smokyhill.org).

## Volume Purchasing Program Contact Info Changing

Adam Pracht has been hired as Smoky Hill Education Service Center's new marketing and volume purchasing program coordinator. If



**Adam Pracht**

you have questions or need assistance with the program, he is now the primary contact and will be glad to help you in any way he can.

Contact Pracht by email at [APracht@smokyhill.org](mailto:APracht@smokyhill.org) or by phone at 785-825-9185.

You may also contact him with any suggestions or requests for new products you would like SHESC to carry for volume purchasing. Feedback on the new look and focus for marketing materials and suggestions for news releases are also appreciated.

# LETRS Foundations Addresses Literacy Pitfalls

If your literacy MTSS is falling short, LETRS Foundations with certified trainer Rachel Loersch could provide the solution.

The class will address differences between good and poor readers; all aspects of language important for literacy; components of effective instruction; principles of systematic, explicit instruction in each component; and instructional activities that can support the implementation of any comprehensive core program.



## Literacy MTSS Pitfalls

- Weakness in the Big 5: Phonological Awareness, Phonics, Fluency, Vocabulary, and Comprehension.
- Intervention groups formed of students who are “behind” rather than lacking a particular skill.
- The teacher or leader does not understand when, why, and how to teach and practice this skill.
- The teacher is not using explicit, systematic, sequential methods.

*“Education is the movement from darkness to light.”  
- Allan Bloom, American Philosopher*

## Music Supports Early Literacy

Children are naturally interested in music and movement, but



it's more than singing and dancing! Research shows that daily exposure to music also provides cognitive and social-emotional benefits. Combined with movement, music helps promote health and wellness plus language and literacy development.

Join Randy Sauer, award-winning children's singer/songwriter, for *Moving to the ABCs* on June 11 in Salina. Learn hands-on music and movement activities that will have children in your classes dancing, singing, and learning, while improving health and emotional well-being.

**Randy Sauer**

## Details Set for Darrell Scott Event

SHESC invites you to hear a father's moving and inspiring message this fall.

Darrell Scott is the father of Rachel Scott, the first person killed in the Columbine tragedy.

He will be presenting to educators, mental health professionals, law enforcement officials, and community members on Oct. 14 at Webster Conference Center, 2601 N. Ohio St. in Salina—a change in venue from previous communications.

A few weeks after Columbine, Scott spoke to a Congressional House Judiciary Committee about school violence. His speech has become one of the most widely-read documents on the Internet. Shortly afterwards, he founded “Rachel's Challenge” - a bullying and violence abatement program. More than two million students



annually experience Rachel's Challenge and have the opportunity to accept the challenges, modeled after Rachel's life and writings.

The presentation will run 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and will cost \$65 per person, which includes breakfast and lunch.

Contact Diane Mann at [DMann@smokyhill.org](mailto:DMann@smokyhill.org) or 785-825-9185 for more information.