



News Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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YEK Ventures Into Dodge City

WICHITA, Kan. – This month, Wichita community members will be invited to attend three tradeshows put on by area high schools and Youth Entrepreneurs Kansas (YEK) featuring a showcase of students' business ideas.

“You can’t really find hands-on learning experiences like this anywhere else,” said Kylie Stupka, executive director of YEK. “The tradeshows give these high school students the unique opportunity to present their own idea for a business, as well as what they have learned from the class. We are very excited for the community to see what the students have done in these projects”

The tradeshows will be held:

- March 5 at Wichita East High School 9:00 am to 11:30 am in the West

“The event offers parents and students interested in YEK the chance to learn about the benefits of the YEK program while enjoying an evening of food and activities,” Stupka said. “It also gives students the chance to visit with peers who have been through the program and get an insiders perspective on the curriculum and yearlong activities.”

Currently, YEK provides students with business and entrepreneurial education in 24 schools throughout the state of Kansas. The goal of the curriculum is to stimulate economic thinking skills, encourage intelligent risk-taking, provide practical business expertise and instill independence and personal responsibility. YEK students write business plans, participate in classroom competitions, and work with community business leaders to enhance their business skills for future endeavors, including entrepreneurship and higher education.

Each year an annual survey of students, teachers, parents and volunteers proves the YEK curriculum teaches the skills and fundamentals necessary to succeed in the business world. The 2008-2009 annual survey report showed 80 percent of students said YEK

changed their future education and career goals for the better, and 75 percent of parents noticed a change in their student's behavior, knowledge and attitude since involvement with YEK.

Students interested in signing up for YEK during the 2010 fall semester should contact Melody Head, DCHS Business Department Head, at (620) 338-5974 or head.melody@usd443.org. Students must sign a contract indicating their commitment to the yearlong program and space is limited. For more information on the open house, contact Lily Wu, YEK program coordinator, toll-free at 1-866-999-3921.

About Youth Entrepreneurs Kansas (YEK)

Founded in 1991 by the Charles G. Koch Charitable Foundation, YEK teaches free enterprise fundamentals to high school students through hands-on experiences. The program gives students the skills and tools to start their own business or enhance their business skills for future career opportunities, as well as encourages them to continue into higher education. Funded completely by private donations, YEK is a public 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. For more information, to donate or to volunteer with YEK, please visit www.yeks.org.

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