

The **Kansas Instructional Resource Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired (KIRC)** provides instructional materials and services, including professional development seminars, to support teachers across Kansas working with students with visual impairments. The project represents a partnership between the **Kansas State Department of Education** and the **Kansas State School for the Blind**.

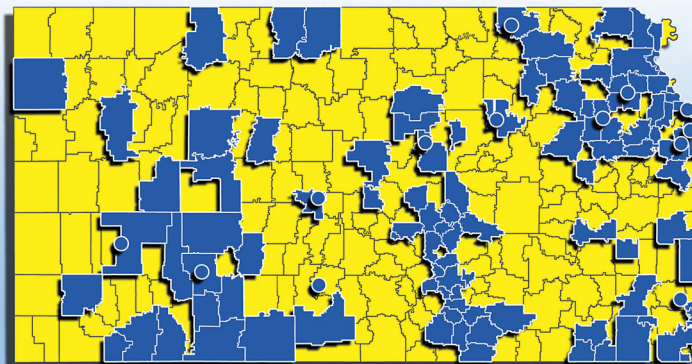


PROVIDING INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES TO STUDENTS WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS

Currently 1,157 Kansas students with visual impairments are registered in KIRC's lending database. During the 2017-18 school year, KIRC provided \$422,432 in resources to 110 Kansas school districts and 17 other schools or educational organizations to support these students. The resources, which can be found in a searchable, online catalog (<http://webopac.klas.com/ksirc>), include textbooks and library books in braille and large type, assistive technology, and electronic files that meet the National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standard (NIMAS). Additionally, KIRC coordinates and maintains the annual federal count and funds for the American Printing House for the Blind. In 2017, the allocation of funds was \$206,699 for the 795 Kansas students who qualified for federal quota funds.

KIRC PROVIDED MORE THAN
\$422,000
in instructional resources for
students with visual impairments
ACROSS 110 KANSAS SCHOOL DISTRICTS

DISTRICTS / RELATED ORGANIZATIONS IMPACTED

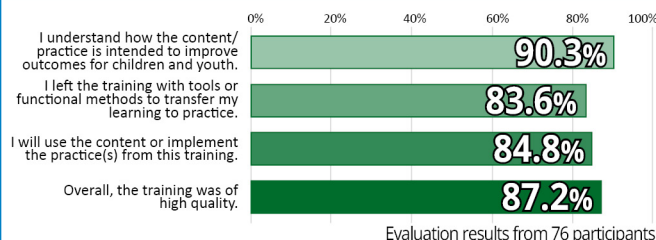


PROVIDING PROFESSIONAL LEARNING TO EXPAND TEACHERS SKILLS

During the 2017-18 school year, KIRC provided three workshops attended by a combined 99 participants from 19 Kansas school districts. Through these workshops, national experts provided training on the topics of The Individualized Meaning-Centered Approach to Braille Literacy Education (I-M-ABLE), Duxbury Training for Braille Transcribers, and Teaching Social Skills to Students With Visual Impairments. Participants found the workshops to be practical and beneficial; as described by one teacher, "We all got hands on practice with the braille and another person. This was one of the best workshops."

All three 2017-18 KIRC workshops were observed by a member of the TASN Evaluation team. Trainers met 79% of indicators regarding high-quality professional development, including 100% of indicators in the Demonstration domain and 83% of indicators in the Engagement domain.

PERCENTAGE OF PARTICIPANTS WHO RESPONDED Agree OR Strongly Agree

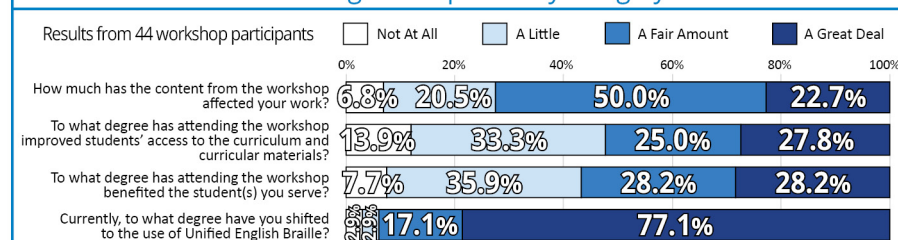


"The training was great! Loved all the practical activities. I also enjoyed the personal anecdotes... makes it more personal and interesting."

SERVING STUDENTS' INSTRUCTIONAL NEEDS

After each workshop, participants utilized their newly learned skills to support students. Results from follow-up surveys showed that the workshops impacted educators' instructional practices and students' access to curricular materials.

KIRC 2017-18 FOLLOW-UP SURVEY RESULTS Percentage of Responses by Category



"My students are already reading braille with increased fluency and confidence."

"I have a wider skill set that allows the students a larger variety of learning opportunities."

"These students are now learning that braille has meaning."



MORE INFORMATION AT:
WWW.KSDETASN.ORG/KIRC