



LEAPES YR 2

SUMMER 2023

KANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY

College of Education



LEAPES CAMP REACHES NEARLY 500 STUDENTS

It's been another eventful summer for the LEAPES Camp, thanks to a nearly \$2.7 million grant through the Department of Defense to promote science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) degrees and careers throughout Kansas. LEAPES focuses on Learning, Exploration, and Application for Prospective Engineering Students.

The Rural Education Center was awarded the grant, under the National Defense Education Program (NDEP) in STEM, Biotechnology, and Enhanced Civics Education. The REC partnered with the Center for Remote Sensing

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A LOOK AT SOME OF OUR CAMP SITES FOR LEAPES



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of Ice sheets (CReSIS) at the University of Kansas.

This summer 280 middle school students from 32 schools and 80 high school students and 10 high school teachers participated. A total of 360 students and about 50 teachers benefited from the grant this summer. Five more middle schools are set to participate asynchronously this fall, with an expected enrollment of 120. That brings the total to approximately 480 students.

A special thank you to Kevin Colle, program coordinator for the REC, who led this project, and to Jennifer Laverentz and the rest of the CReSIS team.

Also, thanks to content experts: Computer Science--Dr. Nathan Bean & the KSU Department of Computer Science; Artificial Intelligence/Robotics--Chad Bailey, Tim Bower, Balaji Balasubramaniam, Troy Harding and the KSU Salina Department of Integrated Studies; and Aerospace Engineering/ Unmanned Aerial Systems--Shanna Walker, Spencer Schrader, Travis Balthazor, Kurt Carraway, and the KSU Salina Department of UAS.

Providing career connections were Dr. Richard Webb, CEO of Designori, LLC; Komari Ablerle and the rest of the Northwind Integrated Systems team; and Caitlyn Gregory, Textron Education.



PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

USD 107 Rock Hills
USD 113 Prairie Hills
USD 214 Ulysses (2 classes, cooperative with USD 209 Moscow)
USD 215 Lakin (2 classes)
USD 234 Fort Scott
USD 252 Southern Lyon County
USD 261 Haysville (Haysville S.P.A.R.K. Program)
USD 272 Waconda
USD 298 Lincoln
USD 303 Ness City
USD 305 Salina
USD 306 Southeast of Saline
USD 310 Fairfield
USD 320 Wamego (2 classes)
USD 327 Ellsworth
USD 330 Mission Valley
USD 349 Stafford
USD 353 Wellington
USD 355 Ellinwood (cooperative with local homeschoolers)
USD 357 Belle Plaine (2 classes)
USD 368 Paola
USD 372 Silver Lake
USD 377 Atchison County Community Schools (2 classes)
USD 398 Peabody-Burns
USD 405 Lyons
USD 420 Osage City (2 classes)
USD 428 Great Bend
USD 436 Caney Valley
USD 450 Shawnee Heights
USD 492 Flinthills
USD 505 St. Paul - Chepota
USD 507 Satanta

The following schools received equipment and will participate asynchronously in the fall:

USD 243 Lebo-Waverly
USD 284 Chase County
USD 288 Central Heights
USD 480 Liberal
USD 352 Goodland

