

The purpose of the Kansas Technical Assistance System Network (TASN), as a system, is to increase the capacity of districts to implement and sustain the use of evidence-based practices addressing Kansas State Department of Education Early Childhood, Special Education, and Title Services (KSDE ECSETS) identified

priority areas and practices. This professional learning and technical assistance system comes out of federal requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and the Individuals with Disability Education Act (IDEA) which both require the state education agency to provide direct support to districts addressing these special populations. The overall goal is to improve the quality of education and outcomes for students who receive Title services and students with disabilities. These students spend the majority of their time in the general education classroom and receive most of their instruction from general education staff. Therefore, many of the supports provided by TASN target district and building level systems and instruction that occurs in the general education classroom.

VISION

To provide coordinated evidence-based technical assistance to Kansas school districts is coordinated, based on sound data, and leads to improved outcomes for children and their families.

MISSION

TASN supports Kansas districts' systematic implementation of evidence-based practices by establishing and maintaining communication and work alignment among all technical assistance providers in the network.

SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

TASN provides the structure through which KSDE ECSETS provides resources and direct and indirect support for improvement planning and capacity building to districts across the state. The collective work of TASN is driven by the implementation research. As a system, implementation research is used to guide the support provided to districts in improvement plan development and implementation. TASN providers are inclusive of all KSDE ECSETS staff, KSDE ECSETS internal and external grant projects, KSDE ECSETS contractors, and projects and agencies that are funded (partially or fully) by KSDE ECSETS to directly or indirectly support districts.

The role of the system and the actions of all providers within the system are focused on providing coordinated technical assistance resulting in the development and/or implementation of a district improvement plan that results in sustained practices that positively impact student success. The improvement plan developed during the provision of technical assistance is not a specific form. It can be any implementation plan, including improvement or corrective action plans associated with any accountability, accreditation, or improvement system that results in the creation of a set of coordinated actions for the expressed purpose of building, supporting, and sustaining local capacity for the implementation and sustained use of evidence-based practices.