

# **USD #377 Atchison County Community Schools News Release**



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## **USD 377 SCHOOL STAFF MEMBER RECEIVES HEALTHY HABITS FOR LIFE GRANT FROM THE BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD OF KANSAS FOUNDATION**

Tenille Forbes, school nurse, Atchison County Community Elementary, USD 377, is a recipient of a \$992.46 Healthy Habits for Life grant from the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas Foundation. Forbes received one of the 112 grants distributed during the 2010-2011 giving cycle; the grant dollars, totaling \$108,066.90, are used by the recipients to develop programs to help school-aged children reduce their cardiovascular risk, increase their physical activity or learn healthy eating habits.

"Collectively, these grantees illustrate the tremendous commitment that our Kansas school nurses, teachers and administrators have to helping our children develop today the healthy habits that will follow them for a lifetime," said Marlou Wegener, chief operating officer of the BCBSKS Foundation. "School personnel are at the forefront of finding solutions to lower the incidence of childhood obesity in Kansas, and the Foundation is pleased to provide staffers like Tenille funding to help those efforts."

The BCBSKS Foundation has now distributed 283 Healthy Habits for Life grants in excess of \$270,000 through five giving cycles. Each year, Healthy Habits for Life grants result in educational or activity programs that touch the lives of thousands of Kansas children, Wegener said.