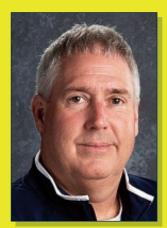
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Teen Health & Wellness real life • real answers

AT A GLANCE

- Students Served: Over 11,000
- Education Facilities: 16 elementary schools, 4 middle schools, 3 high schools
- **Notable:** 1:1 for students in grades 4–6 and 7–9



Mike Buckler HPE Curriculum Coordinator

You can view more case studies on Teen Health & Wellness here:

www.teenhealthandwellness.com/static/ case_studies

Teen Health & Wellness is the awardwinning, critically-acclaimed online resource that provides middle school and high school students with nonjudgmental, straightforward, standardsaligned, curricular and self-help support. Topics range from diseases, nutrition, and mental health to drugs and alcohol, bullying, suicide, green living, and financial literacy. To learn more about Teen Health & Wellness and sign up for a FREE 30-day trial, visit teenhealthandwellness.com.



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Mobile app available in the iTunes store

TEEN HEALTH & WELLNESS STORY ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL DISTRICT ST. JOSEPH, MO

Mike Buckler is the HPE Curriculum Coordinator at the St. Joseph School District in St. Joseph, Missouri. When he discovered Teen Health & Wellness by chance, he knew it would be the perfect tool to help the district with the development of a new middle school and high school curriculum, especially with the integration of the Common Core.

ABOUT ST. JOSEPH

St. Joseph School District is one of the top 5 largest school districts in the state, surrounding the city of St. Joseph, serving a suburban community in northwest Missouri. Sixty percent of students in SJSD are in the free or reduced lunch program. The district's 16 elementary schools have summer school and enrichment programs including the Explorers program, a summer childcare program that focuses on academic and physical enrichment. The district is 1:1 with computers for students in grades 4–6 and 7–9.

STUDENT USE

Teen Health & Wellness use in SJSD is two-fold. It provides a resource for academic research; the resource is built into the PE and Wellness class curriculum. Students also have the opportunity to explore database content for their own inquiries.

Daily reading through a silent sustained reading program provides the opportunity to explore nonfiction texts on topics that pique individual interests. Students can use headphones to listen to the content being read aloud with the text-to-speech function available on each article.

Independent exploration of Teen Health & Wellness in an unrestricted classroom or library environment allows teens to explore what they want to know and what they find interesting. The informational text found in the database's articles teach students to be better readers, a skill that translates to all subject areas.

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TEACHER USE

Collaboration is key in the St. Joseph community. Curriculum groups work with teachers to find resources for their students that can be widely used and highly integrated into the classroom.

The SJSD has adapted professional development for its K–12 teachers on text complexity and informational texts as a part of Common Core integration. Teen Health & Wellness has been implemented as a nonfiction text resource used across various reading levels. Teachers have selected articles within the database and assigned Lexile levels to the content. Classrooms then use Teen Health & Wellness articles for at least one text complexity activity per guarter.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

Collaboration in St. Joseph reaches far beyond school walls and out into the community, as well. Buckler describes St. Joseph as a community that highly embraces its schools and its students. A handful of community reading programs in the summer give kids their very own copies of new books; Backpack Buddies, a program sponsored by the Second Harvest Community Food Bank and with which Buckler is deeply involved, provides kids with a backpack of food to take home every weekend of the school year.

With over 130 local businesses as partners, SJSD aims to prepare students for a future beyond Grade 12. Teen Health & Wellness provides a valuable resource as teens navigate their way in the world. Content on applying to college, renting an apartment, interviewing for a job, creating a budget, and more help St. Joseph's teens become college-ready and career-prepared.

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