

## 6/30/2003 Moran Announces Grant for Emporia USD #253

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\$312,925 Goes for Counseling Programs

EMPORIA - Congressman Jerry Moran today announced that Emporia Unified School District #253 has received a \$312,925 grant for new counseling programs. The funding was announced recently by the U.S. Department of Education.

"Our schools provide many important services to our children, including counseling children through difficult times," Moran said. "This grant funding will help the Emporia school district better serve the children of their community."

The district will use the funding to expand counseling programs in elementary schools in the district. The district will be allowed to identify model strategies to help promote healthy childhood development.

"Emporia's children will benefit greatly by having a highly qualified full time counselor in every elementary school," Susan Hernandez, Director of Integrated Services for the school district, said. "The professional development designed for this project will train our 'affective service' providers in the roles and responsibilities of school counselors, psychologists and social workers. This concept of cross-training will build the capacity of the Emporia School District to continue full time counselors beyond the life of the grant and provide a model that can be applied across the state of Kansas and the nation."

The emphasis of the program is on counseling services that focus on prevention and early intervention services for elementary school students.

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