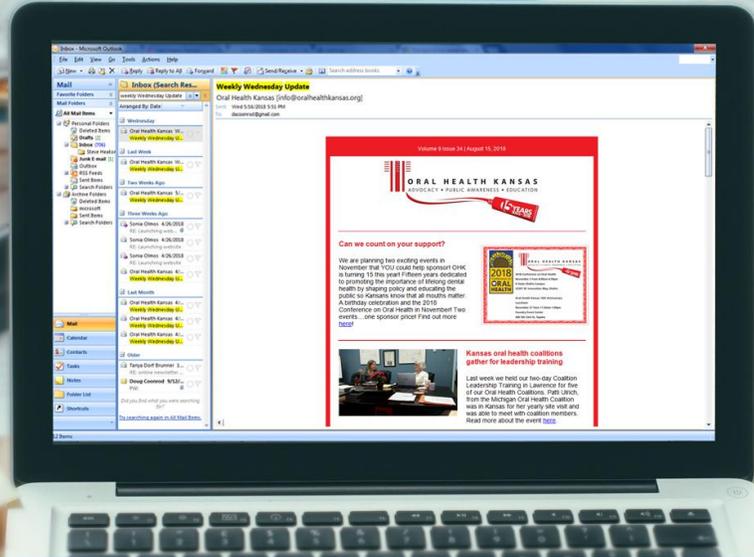




**ORAL HEALTH KANSAS**  
 ADVOCACY • PUBLIC AWARENESS • EDUCATION



## WEEKLY WEDNESDAY UPDATE

The Weekly Wednesday Update is our newsletter which we email every Wednesday with oral health, health and policy updates from around the state and nationally.

To view past issues [click here](#).

Click here to sign up for our [Weekly Wednesday Update](#).

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## Deadline Extended! Get Your Application In For Dental Champions

We extended the deadline to apply for the Dental Champions Leadership Program. It is now **Friday, March 8**. We are excited with the amount of interest we have had! We would like everyone interested to have the opportunity to apply. Anyone interested in making progress in oral health for pregnant women and children 0-3

should apply! Dental Champions is a leadership program that started in 2005 and includes **129 alumni**.

The program offers participants leadership and personal development skill-building as well as advocacy, messaging, and content training about the oral health landscape in Kansas and across the nation. The goal of the program is to develop state-level leaders with a progressive vision of oral health improvement in Kansas who are poised to make changes to improve oral health. The program includes three phases: leadership development, understanding the issue, and developing initiatives. Class members will develop at least one project to address the barriers and challenges they discover.

The class will meet from **March 2019 to January 2020**. A few sessions are listed as "location TBA." These sessions will be two-hour conference calls and will be scheduled around the class members' own schedules.

Click [here](#) for more information including a list of meeting dates and the application.



## Questions About Advocacy and the Kansas Legislature?

Every other Friday throughout the Legislative Session, OHK hosts live webinars providing legislative updates and advocacy education. This week, we want to answer YOUR questions! Submit your questions [here](#) by 5PM Thursday, and we will answer your questions on Friday,

March 8th! Questions can range from *what happened in the legislature this week* to *how does a private citizen or organization submit testimony*.

Oral Health Kansas has an all-day board meeting on Friday and will be unable to host a live webinar with our responses. Instead, we will send out a recording of the webinar. If you want to ensure you get a copy of the recording, sign up for our webinars [here](#)! Our next live webinar update is scheduled for Friday, March 22nd.

## Oral Health Kansas Shares Resources At Early Childhood Events

We were thrilled to exhibit at the Kansas Division of Early Childhood Conference last week and then at the Parents as Teachers Mini Conference this week. These opportunities helped



us reach early childhood staff who requested oral health resources to help educate families they serve.

Home visitors were excited to see the different resources we had to help with toothbrushing. [Beating Brushing Battles](#) is a simple to read handout to give to families if they're

struggling with ideas to help during brushing time. Our [Tips and Tricks on Toothbrushing](#) is a short fact sheet with useful information for the every day consumer. For a list of Tips and Tricks on different topics, click [here](#).



## Parsons Makes Change To T21 Ordinance

Last year, Parsons, Kansas passed the Tobacco 21 ordinance with exceptions. T21 prohibited businesses in Parsons from selling tobacco products, like cigarettes and vaping devices, to anyone under the age of 21 but grandfathered in anyone who turned 18 on or before April 3 of last year, and those serving in the military.

On Monday, commissioners voted for the ordinance to include no exceptions, meaning anyone wanting to purchase tobacco or vaping products in Parsons must be 21 or older. Businessowners thought it was becoming too complicated to determine who was grandfathered. Read more in the [Parsons Sun](#).



Congratulations to Kansas Health Foundation President and CEO Steve Coen on [the announcement of his retirement](#) after 31 years at the Foundation. Steve has been a supporter of oral health and community water fluoridation for many years. His dedication to public health and to oral health is an important factor in how much the public and oral health infrastructures in Kansas have grown over the years.



We are grateful for Steve's commitment to Oral Health Kansas and to all of the improvements in health he has helped foster for Kansans.



## Reserve A Sugary Drink Display

*"The last time we had a display one of our teachers quit drinking Dr. Pepper 'cold turkey' and is still sticking with it! I'm so proud of her"-Ms. Sue, Butler Community College.*



What is a Sugary Drink Display? It's our drink display that has 10 popular beverages and shows how much sugar is in each. Make your reservation now! You can reserve a child drink display or an adult drink display for a month. Spots fill up quickly! We will do our best to fulfill requests of less than 30 days but there is no guarantee. There is no charge to use the Sugary Drink Display; postage is reimbursed if you send in your receipt. All we ask is for you to fill out our survey included in the display materials and provide us with feedback about the display. Click [here](#) to make a reservation!

Interested in purchasing a Sugary Drink Display? Great, email us at [info@oralhealthkansas.org](mailto:info@oralhealthkansas.org) and we'll send you more info!

## Follow Us



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