



# Jan Jones

## ESU 10

### Representative

Thank you in advance for your interest and support of NATA's involvement with Educational Service Units across Nebraska. I'm Jan Jones, the NATA ESU representative for Unit 10, headquartered in Kearney. This will be my 28<sup>th</sup> year as an Art Specialist for Kearney Public Schools where I've taught k-8 classrooms, but for over half of my tenure (and presently) I've been teaching at Horizon Middle School. In addition to my involvement with NATA, my most recent roles in leadership have been as Executive Board President of the Kearney Symphony Orchestra and as International Fine Arts Grant Chair for Alpha Delta Kappa educational organization. I was recognized this spring for innovative teaching strategies by the Nebraska Association of Middle Level Educators.

2010/2011 was my first year in this position, so it has been formative but very enjoyable as I began to identify and familiarize myself with art teachers in the largest demographic area of all of Nebraska's service units! We have over 50 art teachers in 38 buildings. ESU 10 already has a wonderful support system under the guidance of Dr. Wayne Bell the Administrator, Deanna Stall, Integration Specialist and Bob Lungrin, Staff Developer. They have begun to offer opportunities to bring together the Fine Arts teachers across the area in the last two years. We are now organizing our Visual Art teachers and not only planning on meeting their specific art needs, but also working together with the intentions of joining the unit with NATA sponsorship to establish a stronger bond of professional camaraderie and person artistic growth.

Educator names and schools have been collected within our ESU and an electronic survey identified our teacher's greatest professional interests, needs and preferred delivery systems. With that information we are planning on-going activities to connect and engage our teachers with NATA and each other. Example activities include: introductions to the organization via "Meet and Greets"; guest-artist workshops; collaboration with neighboring ESU; as well as effectively building art advocacy tools. NATA will sponsor these events with our local ESU facility and staff.

Through all these venues our optimum goal would be to build NATA membership by modeling our strength in supporting art teachers in ESU 10, therefore serving students better! My role is to pull the opportunities together, so if you ever have questions, ideas, or concerns... please feel free to contact me at [jan.jones@kearneypublic.org](mailto:jan.jones@kearneypublic.org) I look forward to visiting with you and serving ESU 10 art teachers!!