

# Students go high tech

Larned Middle School kids have fun, grow more high tech-literate

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**LARNED** — Students in the TechYES program at Larned Middle School presented a program for the Larned Area Chamber of Commerce Coffee Hour May 13. Students must complete two projects, then can be certified, and can help out other students, even teachers, and others with computer-related matters.

The students will also mentor next year's TechYES group. The program is part of the State of Kansas' technology initiative, to "do more with technology in schools," said LMS Principal Jim Krohn.

Karen Grossman, media specialist at the school, is a coordinator of the program. Using laptop/notebook computers, iBook G-4s, the students are learning about both hardware and software, Grossman said.

They create PowerPoint projects, use GarageBand software to produce a music video, and/or can produce a photo album of their activities.

As of May 13, six LMS students had completed their certification. They received their certificates during the coffee hour. Two more were "very close," Grossman said.

She said she learned of the program while attending a conference in Denver. "It's a wonderful program," Krohn



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Six Larned Middle School students received TechYES certification, with two more "close behind," at the Chamber Coffee Hour May 13 at the school. Pictured, from left, are Karen Grossman, coordinator of the program for LMS; certificate recipients Willie Hodges, David Welch, Ivan Garcia, Kyle Grant, Justin Van Vleet and Ben Wolf; Bailey Kile and Waco Kile, who were almost qualified as of May 13 for certification; program helper Gwen Layman and LMS Principal Jim Krohn.

said. Grossman said it allows kids to have hands-on technology experience, to figure things out for themselves.

Many students now are more technology-literate than their teachers, she said. The middle school began participating in the program in January. Students have learned about e-mail, plagiarism, programs, compatibility of programs, and equipment, Grossman said.

Paperwork about the projects must be submitted, she said: What the student did, problems he or she encountered, etc.

Larned has been one of the pilot sites for TechYES, according to a story in *The Tiller & Toiler*. John Wolf and Gwen Layman were also involved in helping with the program, the newspaper said.



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Bailey Kile, a Larned Middle School student, shows Linda Henderson the "Bullying in Schools" project she has been working on, during the Chamber of Commerce Coffee Hour May 13 at the school. Students use iBook G4 computers in the TechYES program.