

## Introducing Nick Bylsma and Friends

by Nick Bylsma, System Specialist

I was born and raised in Topeka, Kansas, and have lived here all of my 23 years. I am the second oldest of nine kids. They are all from the same parents, and no, we're not Catholic. I am the owner of two dogs, Drago and Sef. I work here for the State Library and the Legislature doing tech support. Prior to working here, I worked in Leawood for Onsite Logic, and before that I was with SRS for two years.

My education consisted of public school for preschool and kindergarten, then being Homeschooled for the rest of it all. No, I wasn't sequestered inside of my house all day long; my family was part of a large homeschool group in Topeka called "Cornerstone Family School" (google it), so I did have chances to be social. I played basketball for CFS for six years and won an All-Tournament medal during the National Homeschool Tournament during my senior season.



After graduation, I worked for my dad's business for two years doing general labor, painting houses, building decks, doing landscaping, roofing houses, remodeling homes, etc., etc., etc. I was pretty much a jack-of-all-trades-master-of-none type of guy. After two years I decided that I needed a career, so I enrolled at Foss Training here in Topeka to get my technical education. I knew I wanted to work in the IT field, so I figured that a streamlined, focused, and fast approach was what I should go for. I graduated on a Thursday nine months later, and started work for SRS the following Monday.

As far as my personal life goes, I play basketball whenever I get the chance (which seems to be less and less as time goes on...so sad!), I LOVE movies, hanging out with my friends, working out to stay in shape (or at least trying to), doing remodeling stuff on my house, and playing "World of Warcraft" when I have some time to spare. I also enjoy my dogs (Belgian Malinois), taking them to the park and working with them on obedience. They're really smart. We should have a "Bring your Dog to Work" day here at the library so the staff could meet them.

I'm excited to be working for the state again, and look forward to getting to know the State Library staff and helping them with technical issues.



*Drago*



*Sef*