



SDSD

South Dakota School for the Deaf

**April
2018**

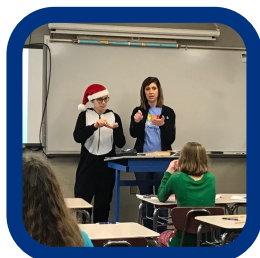
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Board of Regents Informational Items

Learning in a Day



Have you ever had a chance to learn four completely new things in one day? It's not an opportunity that we have very often. But, it is an opportunity that Brandon Valley sixth and seventh graders had as part of their "Learning in a Day" opportunity.

For "Learning in a Day", students are offered a variety of learning opportunities covering a number of topics. One option students could choose was learning American Sign Language (ASL). Three consultants from SDSD, Alissa Hutchinson, Julie Luke, and Sherry Juergens along with one of

Brandon Valley's speech therapists, Amy Dulaney, organized the learning ASL opportunity for approximately 90 students.

The ASL lesson focused on information about Deaf culture. We wanted the students to understand why ASL is necessary, different opportunities people with hearing loss have, and how they can be a good friend to someone who has a hearing loss.

After our lesson on Deaf culture, we taught the students some everyday signs they could use with friends or in the community. One of our students, who is a fluent ASL user, taught his peers some signs which was a great way for the students to see and understand how ASL is necessary for people who are Deaf or hard-of-hearing.

To complete our time together, students played

sign language Bingo with the signs they just learned and "I Have Who Has" which is another game to reinforce the signs they learned. We hope that all the students left with a better understanding of Deaf culture and ASL.



SDSD Audiology Leadership

Dr. Sarah Johnson, Au.D. CCC-A, is a pediatric audiologist on-campus at SDSD's main location in Sioux Falls. At the close of 2017, she finished her two-year term as Vice President of Audiology for the state's Speech-Language-Hearing Association (SDSLHA) Board. Through her position at SDSD for the last four years, she has gained significant experience providing progressive, evidence-based, pediatric audiologic care. This experience allowed Dr.

Johnson to bring valuable expertise to the SDSLHA board by advocating for best practices in pediatric audiology throughout the state, and planning activities at the annual convention that allowed SD audiologists to continue advancing their current service provision. Thank you Dr. Johnson for volunteering your time and expertise to best serve the hearing healthcare needs of the children in our state!

Dr. Carly Hemmingson, Au.D. CCC-A, is our SDSD-West River Clinic audiologist, and we are excited to announce that she was recently elected to take over the next two-year term as Vice President of Audiology for the SD Speech-Language-Hearing Association Board! She looks forward to volunteering her time over the next two years to continue representing pediatric hearing healthcare in our state.

Teen Group News

This winter, SDSD Deaf Teens in Action participated in two different events. The first event was organized by Teen Group leaders Jodi Schnider and Alissa Hutchinson. The teens were guided in leading a playdate for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing preschool aged clients from SDSD. The teens and preschoolers enjoyed playing in a bounce house, reading books, and doing craft activities related to a book about snow and winter.

It was nice for the parents of the young children to connect and talk while their kids played. It also provided an opportunity for the teens to be role-models for the preschoolers.

We had four teens and

four preschoolers attend our event along with their families.



For our February event, we had four teens come to SDSD to enjoy a movie night. We watched the movie *Wonder* and talked about its themes which included discussion on kindness, bullying, and friendship. The teens enjoyed discussing their perspectives on the movie and sharing about their own experiences in school.

Everyone who watched the movie said they would recommend it to others. Upon leaving, the students were encouraged to remember a quote from the movie,

“When given the choice of being right or being kind, choose kind.”

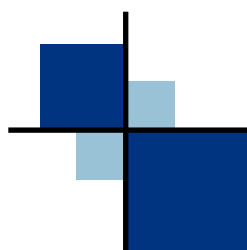


Teens In Action



Family Night

SDSD Outreach Consultants, Nina Ringstmeyer and Kerry Ruth, hosted a pizza party for clients and families on Friday, February 9, 2018. The event was held at Pizza Ranch in Rapid City. Over 50 people attended the snowy event, including clients, their parents, their siblings, and members of the deaf community. It was a great opportunity for families to meet and connect. Special thanks to the Pizza Ranch on Stummer Road and the SDSD Foundation.



Partnering with Families

We asked Jolene Mittlestedt about SDSD Outreach Services. Keep reading to learn how SDSD has impacted her family.

How did you learn about SDSD Outreach?

We learned about SDSD Outreach through our daughter's elementary school.

How has SDSD Outreach's involvement benefited your child?

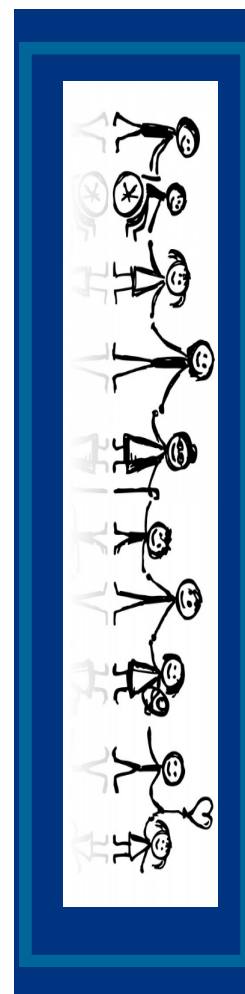
Our daughter has benefitted greatly from working with Eileen. Eileen visits our daughter at her school several times a year and talks with her about her needs, accommodations, skills, etc. She has really encouraged our daughter to be an advocate for herself, and working with Eileen has built up her confidence. Our daughter has had more success academically and socially thanks to her work

with Eileen. Eileen also works with all of the teachers to make sure they know how to use the amplification system correctly and how to implement the appropriate accommodations for our daughter. Even though our daughter's hearing loss is not severe, the help she has received through the outreach program has been invaluable. As parents, we also really appreciate the communication we get from Eileen. It feels like we are all part of a great team working for the best success possible for our daughter.

What would you say to other families who are considering SDSD services?

I cannot say enough good things about the SDSD Outreach Services. This amazing program is a great benefit to students and their fam-

ilies. I am beyond grateful for the help our family has received.



Partnering With Schools

We asked Jackie Remily, a Special Education teacher at the Northwestern District in Mellette, SD about how SDSD Outreach Services have benefited her. Here is what she said.

How did you learn about SDSD Outreach?

Our school has a student with a hearing impairment and the parent was very willing to work with the school. We learned of SDSD Outreach through the parent and doctor. Our representative for the school has been very supportive

and active in assisting the student with hearing equipment, checkups, and suggestions on how to work with the student in the classroom setting. She has assisted the student in talking with his teachers and peers about his condition and given workshops about obstacles the student may have to overcome.

How has SDSD Outreach's involvement benefited your deaf/hard of hearing student(s)?

Our representative has been very proactive in working with the student and school. She has gotten materials and supplies that we did not have to search for. She has been a very productive resource for things that assist the student.

What would you tell other educators about using SDSD consultative services?

YES!! This has been a very effective resource for not only the student with hearing loss but also his/her peers by learning about how hearing loss makes it difficult for the student to perform in a similar fashion.



Family Sign Class

Sioux Falls Consultants, Julie Luke and Sherry Juergens, taught Family Sign Class to our SDSD families and community members. Parents, grandparents, classmates, and teachers attended class. Our themes included Community Places, Outdoor Play/Garden, Family/Home, Questions, St. Patrick's Day/Spring, and Feelings vocabulary. Each week, the class was exposed to Deaf Culture topics and community event information. After learning new vocabulary, class at-

tendees participated in games and activities. We are proud to be able to offer these classes to individuals in the Sioux Falls area.



Pierre Pizza Night

SDSD Outreach Program consultant, Sarah Lingle, hosted a family meet and greet pizza night in Pierre on January 25, 2018. Over 30 people were in attendance to eat, connect with other families, and share their child's hearing story with the group. The SDSD website was also toured to demonstrate and learn about the variety of resources and information available. Special thank you to Pierre School District for

providing the space to meet and the SDSD Foundation for providing the pizza and treats.



EHDI Meeting



In its 17th year, four members of the SDSD Outreach team had the opportunity to attend the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Meeting: Kim Wadsworth, Laura, Scholten, Alissa Hutchinson, and Jodi Schnider. EHDI includes a wide variety of attendees from all around the country whose focus is to expand opportunities for young children with hearing loss.

The goal of the annual EHDI Meeting is to enhance the implementation of comprehensive state-based Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) programs. Participants learned about how to:

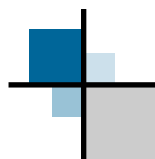
- Identify and promote knowledge and aware-

ness of successful strategies for implementing comprehensive state-based EHDI programs that include screening, audiologic diagnostic evaluation, early intervention, medical home, reporting, tracking, surveillance, loss to follow-up issues, data integration, and other related surveillance components.

- Interpret and describe current research and research methods related to EHDI.
- Examine cultural competence of providers and assess their ability to work with children who are deaf or hard of hearing, their families, and communities.
- Discuss the importance of enhancing and creating new and ongoing

working relationships among federal agencies, non-profit organizations, state health departments and educational agencies, advocacy groups, families, and professionals.

SDSD team members are already looking forward to next year's meeting!



Did you know?

SDSD provides multidisciplinary evaluations. Evaluations are designed to assess a child's achievement across several areas including:

- Cognitive
- Speech/ Language/ Listening
- Behavior/Social Skills
- Audiology
- Academics
- Transition (age 13 or older)
- American Sign Language

SDSD evaluators administer, score, and analyze a child's tests. The information is then compiled, a comprehensive report written, and a final report provided to parents/guardians, LEAs, and Outreach Consultant.

Audiology Department News

Mobile Lab

The following report details audiological services provided to South Dakota children from August 2017 through February 2018 on SDSD's campus, West River Clinic, and via the mobile labs.



West River Clinic and Mobile Lab

Total Screened: 2,723
Total Evaluated: 299

SDSD Campus and Mobile Lab

Total Screened: 11,087
Total Evaluated: 554

Combined Total Screened: 13,810

Combined Total Evaluated: 853

Mobile Sites: 108

www.sdsd.sdbor.edu/audiology.htm

Partners in Educational Success

In-services and guest lectures are provided by members of the SDSD Outreach team as an extension of support for children with varied hearing levels. These in-services relate to varied hearing status and its educational impact, technical assistance and orientation with hearing aids, cochlear implants, FM systems, sound field systems, and/or interpreters, or educational strategies and materials that may benefit SDSD clients.

Consultant In-services

100

1,197

South Dakotans Educated

Number of Children Served

of Children Served

Fall 2017

522

of Children Referred

93

of Children

Currently Served

553