

July
2018

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Board of Regents Informational Items

Annual Picnic

On May 15, SDSD hosted its Sixth Annual Community Picnic in Sioux Falls on the main SDSD Campus. Over 100 SDSD clients and their families as well as members of the Deaf community attended. For many of our SDSD students, it's one of the few opportunities to interact with other children who are deaf/hard of hearing. Each year, it is like a family reunion allowing people to "catch up" or to meet new members of the "family".



SDSD

South Dakota School for the Deaf

Eagle Butte Spring Wrap-Up



In May, thirty families from the Cheyenne-Eagle Butte area gathered together at the Upper Elementary school for an SDSD meet and greet. The occasion was organized as a way for students

and parents to connect with others with hearing loss before school ends for summer vacation.

SDSD consultants, Sarah Lingle and Julie Delfs, have been serving the school with targeted services this past year to provide training, audiology services, educational resources,

and general classroom support for the district. The spring wrap-up was concluded with a lunch provided by the SDSD Foundation and families were able to exchange information on hearing loss, providers they use, and types of hearing devices their children use.

Networking Across the Nation

In April, Kim Wadsworth attended the Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools and Programs for the Deaf (CEASD)/Listening and Spoken Language Specialty Programs for Infants, Toddlers, and Children with Hearing Loss (OPTION) and National Outreach Conference (NOC) in St. Augustine, Florida. This was a groundbreaking joint CEASD-OPTION 2018 Conference, entitled "Together, We Grow Stronger." The confer-

ence brought together educators who work with deaf and hard of hearing students, using ASL and/or listening and spoken language. It was an exciting opportunity for all to listen to each other, understand the different perspectives, and work together with continued focus on deaf and hard of hearing children's needs and family choices.

A variety of breakout sessions were offered with topics including: ASL Assessment, Lead-

ership in Times of Disruption & Expanding our Capacities for Listening and Conversation, Language Acquisition, Early Hearing, Detection, and Intervention - EHDI & Language Equality & Acquisition for Deaf Children- LEAD-K updates, Universal Design for Deaf Education, Future Teacher Needs, and Accessible Media for Deaf & Hard of Hearing Students. Kim also joined a Florida School for the Deaf and Blind campus tour.



USD Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders

For the past six years, spring has been a collaboration time between USD's Department of Communication Sciences and SDSD. In April, Dr. Lindsey Jorgensen and Dr. Kyle Brouwer invited SDSD Speech-Language Pathologist, Laura Scholten, to talk with future audiologists and speech-language pathologists about working with deaf/hard of hearing students. In

Dr. Brouwer's Language Disorders of Children class, Laura discussed common language characteristics of children who are deaf/hard of hearing. Students also had an opportunity to watch a video of a deaf/hard of hearing student with the discussed language issues. In Dr. Jorgensen's Aural Rehabilitation class, Laura taught students about

auditory skill development and how to facilitate skill development in a therapy setting. The presentations are part of SDSD's mission to expand educational opportunities for parents, school personnel, and community leaders to support the needs of children who are deaf and hard of hearing.



Person-Centered Transition Assessments (PCTA)

Conversations, we all have them on a daily basis, but there are times when we aren't having the right conversations at the right time. In most cases, as students transition from middle school to high school and high school to college, many families have conversations revolving around what kinds of changes their child might experience. Hopefully, families are discussing with their child the next steps that need to take place in order for these changes to happen as smoothly as possible. There are times, however, that conversations are taking place without the child's input. When this happens it can be very frustrating to a child, especially a child with a disability.

Person-Centered Transition Assessments (PCTA) are tools that families can use to help facilitate conversations for their child who is transitioning into a new stage of life. Utilizing

PCTA's, the team helps to gather meaningful information directly from the student and results in setting transitions goals and taking action. Through the PCTA process, the following are discussed: 'great things' about the student, what's important 'to' and 'for' them, who is in their life, their communication, and the characteristics of people who help them be successful.

The intent of this process is to offer a creative way of thinking and planning for a student's future. Each assessment includes an action plan agreed upon by the team and can be incorporated into the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

At South Dakota School for the Deaf, we are proud to have two trained PCTA facilitators. These consultants have focused their effort in using the PCTA with SDSD clients who are of transition age. Alissa Hutchinson and

Jodi Schnider have conducted fifteen PCTA's over the past two years. They are continuing to have great conversations about how our students can have their best life as they transition to college, a career, or other educational opportunities. Alissa and Jodi have received great feedback from the individuals they work with, as well as the schools and the families of the students. The goal is to continue to provide these services for SDSD families. We hope that someday soon, all of our transition aged students will have a PCTA to assure they have a plan for how they can have the best life possible as they continue on in their life's journey.

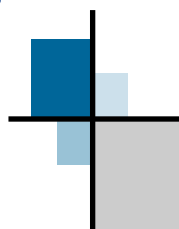


ASL Standards



The Clerc Center located in Washington DC released the K-12 American Sign Language Content Standards. Included in the standards are Anchor Standards, grade-level standards, a glossary, and resources. The Standards offer a portrait of K-12 ASL development which can be incorporated in school's planning and instruction. This will help monitor ASL development in

deaf and hard of hearing children. SDSD Outreach Consultants learned more about the K-12 ASL Content Standards during Spring Professional Development days. Consultants will be able to share these resources with schools and families who use American Sign Language.



LEAD-K

During the past legislative session, House Bill 1155 (also known as LEAD-K) was signed in to law. LEAD-K stands for Language Equality & Acquisition for Deaf Kids. The goal of LEAD-K is to promote English literacy and to use language acquisition milestones and assessment tools to determine children's progress. Proponents also support ASL in addition to English. The strategy of LEAD-K is to raise awareness and understanding of the general

public, parents, and the education system of a Deaf child's experience in language learning. Additionally, the hope is to change public policy to focus on the Kindergarten readiness of Deaf children who use ASL and English, both, or one of the languages. Superintendent Kaiser will be working to put together a volunteer committee with various stakeholders invested in the field of Deaf Education.

Cochlear Implant Outreach Clinic

On April 4-6, South Dakota School for the Deaf Outreach Consultants, Kerry Ruth and Nina Ringstmeyer, assisted with the tenth Cochlear Implant Outreach Clinic in Rapid City. Through a collaborative effort with Rapid City Area Schools and the University of South Dakota Scottish Rite Speech and Hearing Clinic, SDSD was once again able to participate in an opportunity for families living West River to have their child's cochlear implant and osseointegrated

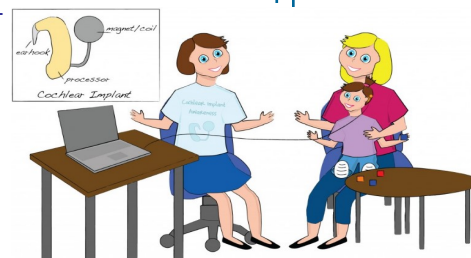
device services, including programming/mapping, and evaluation of auditory development and speech/language skills, provided closer to home.

The USD team utilized the Rapid City School District's sound booth in the Jefferson Building for cochlear implant mapping and audiology evaluations. Dr. Jessica J. Messersmith, USD professor of audiology, saw 30 clients which included audiology services, cochlear implant consultations and map-

ping, and BAHA programming and consultations as well as numerous hearing evaluations. Dr. Mandy Williams, USD professor of speech-language pathology (SLP), and SLP students saw several of these students as well, focusing on language and augmentative communication. Doctoral audi-

ology students from USD were also on hand to assist with the evaluations. This is a great opportunity for families, who would otherwise have to travel numerous hours for these services.

The next Rapid City Cochlear Implant Outreach Clinic is scheduled for fall of 2018.



Audiology Department News

Mobile Lab

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



West River Clinic and Mobile Lab

Total Screened:	3,757
Total Evaluated:	564

SDSD Campus and Mobile Lab

Total Screened:	12,771
Total Evaluated:	1,915

Combined Total Screened:	16,528
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Combined Total Evaluated:	2,479
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Mobile Sites:	154
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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

101

1,212

South Dakotans Educated

Number of Children Served

of Children Served

Fall 2017

522

of Children Referred

113

of Children

Currently Served

567