

South Dakota School for the Deaf

South Dakota Board of Regents

Informational Items

October 4-6, 2016



Hands in Motion

Submitted by Carmen Steen



July 2016 marked the eighth year of Hands in Motion (HIM). It was a month of energetic children, motivated teachers, and happy parents. The program has grown since it started in 2009 and this year was no exception. South Dakota Parent Connection, South Dakota School for the Deaf (SDSD), South Dakota Department of Education, and the teaching staff worked collaboratively to make this program a success.

This program would not be possible without the help of South Dakota Parent Connection and its staff for their support as our fiscal agent. The Department of Education provides the monies necessary to pay the staff and for the day to day needs of the program. SDSD provides the facility as well as funding a bus for field trips and the end of the program Family Picnic.

This year twenty-nine children joined HIM. Recruiting happens through SDSD outreach staff, special education directors, Sioux Falls Public School deaf education teachers, and families. While most of the students attended the entire month, parents had the option of bringing their son or daughter as many days as their schedules would allow. The students' ages varied from 2 to 13. Students attended from a variety of school districts including: Alexandria, Arlington, Bridgewater, Brandon, Baltic, Beresford, Canistota, Marion, Mitchell, Montrose, Rapid City, Sioux Falls, and Yankton.

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Sioux Falls Public School Training

Submitted by **Carly Hemmingson**

Dr. Sarah Zellmer and Dr. Carly Hemmingson, SDSD audiologists, along with Nick Arra, USD Audiology Intern presented to the Sioux Falls School District nurses regarding hearing screenings guidelines. The presentation detailed a review of the audiogram, implications of varying degrees of hearing loss, proper screening procedures, and appropriate referrals. The nurses appreciated the opportunity to ask questions and be informed of the newest guidelines. Following the presentation, the Sioux Falls School District is considering revising their hearing screening protocols to more closely align with the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) guidelines.



Summer ASL Class

Submitted by **Tanya Miller**



The Summer American Sign Language (ASL) Class was a huge success! With the instruction of Colleen Barber and Tanya Miller, twenty-three individuals received functional ASL instruction including new vocabulary, fun-interactive dialogue practice, and games. The participants included a substitute teacher, deaf educators, parents, siblings, friends, and grandparents of deaf youth. An ASL class for advanced signing practice was also offered for four SDSD staff members.

Professional Development Days

Submitted by **Laura Scholten**



On August 2-3, the SDSD Outreach Consultants convened for two days of learning. Professional Development Days are an opportunity to discuss a variety of topics related to deaf education. This fall, the consultants learned about the latest hearing aid, cochlear implant, classroom soundfield, and FM system technologies. Thanks to Tanya Miller the staff also furthered their knowledge about Deaf culture. Finally, best practices in reading progress monitoring for deaf/hard of hearing children was addressed. The team is anxious to share their new knowledge with their schools, families, and students.



A Partnership with Families

Submitted by Eileen Anderson

We asked Melissa Bastian about SDSD Outreach services. Keep reading to learn how SDSD has impacted her family.

How did you learn about SDSD Outreach?

When we found out Quinn was diagnosed with unilateral deafness one of my friends told me I needed to contact the 0-3 program in our state and that there was also help through South Dakota School for the Deaf.



How has SDSD Outreach's involvement benefited your child?



SDSD's involvement in our journey has been truly immeasurable. I feel that so many times I have been "floundering" or not really sure what I needed to do next or what our options were (are) to move forward to help Quinn. The advice and guidance we have received has been amazing. It is very obvious that Eileen, our outreach consultant, has our son's best interests in mind. She has been willing to ask the hard questions, show us how to be advocates for Quinn, and is willing to answer questions or find the answers to questions... and the questions seem endless.

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

This is truly an amazing service that we are very fortunate to have access to. There are so many questions and it can be scary at first. The outreach consultants will help you get through the initial and overwhelming processes and then stay by your side through the long haul.

SDSD Staff Spotlight: Eileen Anderson

What got you interested in working with deaf/hard of hearing children?

When I was in 8th grade, I saw a movie in Sunday School about our church's work with Deaf children. It was a dream that was always in the back of my mind, and in college when I knew that my current major of accounting was not a good fit, I went back to the idea of working with deaf/hard of hearing children. Years later while teaching in a general education setting, I met my husband who has a hearing loss and I thought that perhaps this was the reason for all of my training. I came back to working with deaf and hard of hearing kids when we moved east river and the Aberdeen consultant position was open.



What do you like most about SDSD?

I love the idea that we meet the children and their families where they are and work alongside of them as a member of their team. Now that I have been doing this for a number of years, it is great to watch these children and their families grow and reach for their goals.

If you could share only one piece of advice about deaf/hard of hearing children, what would it be?

Don't assume! Don't assume they understand you, don't assume they can hear you. Deaf/hard of hearing kids and adults are as diverse as the general population, take the time to get to know them as individuals.

American Society for Deaf Children

Submitted by **Laura Scholten**



American Society for Deaf Children - South Dakota has a Facebook page! This page gives parents in South Dakota access to current information regarding Deaf children as well as access to other parents and professionals within South Dakota.

It is a closed group which encourages the posting of current, accurate, friendly information, and/or personal posts to encour-

age others. Their goal is to be a joint strong voice in South Dakota for deaf/hard of hearing children.

2016 SDSD Outreach Scholarships

In the spring of 2016, the SDSD Foundation awarded two SDSD Outreach clients the following scholarships!



Miles Skillman—Sunrise-Sertoma Kevin Roth Scholarship—
\$1,500

Sydney Nash-Fenner— Minnehaha Sertoma Club Scholarship—
\$2,000

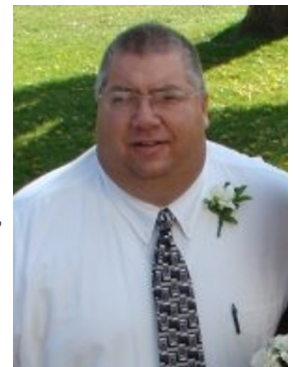


Meet Our New Staff

Submitted by **Brad Hansen**

My name is Brad Hansen and I started at SDSD last November as the Physical Plant Manager. Before that, I spent 20 years at the University of South Dakota (USD) as a Construction Project Manager, designer, estimator, space planner, and various other duties. Some of my projects were the new DakotaDome roof, the Lee Medical School building, the Beacom School of Business building, over 15 million in underground utility replacement and well replacement/irrigation projects, and several parking lot and sidewalk projects. Prior to USD, I had my own construction company for 10 years building houses and doing remodeling projects. Although it was interesting working on the large projects, I've never been happier at my job than I am right now. This is a great place and I plan to do my best to help keep it that way.

Personally I've been married 30 years as of last October to my wife Jeanie, a teacher in Vermillion. We have three children; Sarah, also a teacher in Vermillion, Brian, a power lineman in Aberdeen, SD, and Brett, who just graduated high school and is headed to Morningside College in Sioux City, Iowa, on a bowling scholarship. I was a coach for 30 years, now finally retired, in soccer, T-ball, little league baseball through Teener baseball, girl's and men's softball, and most recently the Vermillion High School bowling team. My wife and I like to camp, fish, hunt, and just be outside. I live on an acreage between Beresford and Vermillion, two miles from where I grew up.



In-service Update



www.sdsd.sdbor.edu

2016-2017 Consultant In-services

In-services
67

696
South Dakotans
Educated

In-services and guest lectures are provided by members of the SDSD Outreach team as an extension of support for children with varied hearing status. 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.

Audiology Department News

Submitted by Greg King

The following report details audiological services provided to South Dakota children from July 1, 2016 through September 2, 2016 on SDSD's campus and via the mobile lab.

Total Screened	1,702
Total Evaluated	255
*SNHL Found	34
*CHL Found	68
Mobile Sites	14

SNHL—sensorineural hearing loss

CHL—conductive hearing loss



www.sdsd.sdbor.edu/audiology.htm