

## ***SD EveryTeacher: Teacher Quality Enhancement***

The Department of Education (DOE) was notified that it received a grant from the US Dept. of Education of nearly \$3.7 million annually for three years. DOE submitted the proposal during the summer; the funds will be used to support a new *EveryTeacher* professional development program.

The purpose of the program is to help South Dakota teachers and other school staff become more effective in delivering classroom instruction and more knowledgeable about the subjects they teach.

As part of the program, two successful professional development models, Technology for Teaching and Learning (TTL) academies and Advanced Reading Enhancement Approach (A.R.E.A.), will be used to inform practicing teachers of knowledge and pedagogy required to meet the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS). The standards explain what teachers should know and be able to do. Because South Dakota legislation provides incentives to National Board Certified teachers, teacher education courses in the state's public universities will be reviewed and revised if necessary to meet the NBPT Standards. A set of graduate seminars will be created within the public university system to guide and support teachers who have registered to pursue national board certification. The South Dakota Board of Education's teacher certification standards will also be reviewed and revised if necessary to reflect the major tenets of the NBPT Standards.

*EveryTeacher* has six reform objectives, based on the NBPTS, that are designed to support pre-service teachers (university students studying to become teachers), paraprofessionals (educational assistants/teachers' aides) and practicing teachers. The reform objectives are to:

- redesign teacher preparation programs at the state's five public universities to reflect the NBPTS;
- provide quality education for teachers' aides;
- provide professional development for practicing teachers that requires reflective practice, portfolios, and the analysis of student work;
- develop and begin a system for recruiting and supporting practicing teachers who want to obtain National Board Certification;
- establish a group, that following the NBPTS, will promote quality teaching and learning; and,
- review current NBPTS legislation and federal Teacher Quality Enhancement Program requirements.

During the implementation of the *EveryTeacher* program, DOE's will be partnering with 16 K-12 and postsecondary partners statewide. They are Associated School Boards of South Dakota, Beadle and Spink Enterprise Communities, state Board of Regents, Governor's Expert Teachers Panel, state Legislative Research Council, School Administrators of South Dakota, Shannon County School District, South Dakota Education Association, South Dakota's National Board Certified Teachers and the Technology and Innovations in Education (TIE) organization.

A press release with quotes from Governor Janklow was distributed to media statewide. DOE is currently recruiting for a director for the new program.