

# SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

## Policy Manual

**SUBJECT:** South Dakota School for the Deaf Mission Statement

**NUMBER:** 1:10:7

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The role and mission of the South Dakota School for the Deaf is to meet the educational needs of sensory impaired children from birth through twenty-one in the state of South Dakota by serving in dual leadership and resource roles in the statewide efforts to serve these children. This mission shall be carried out through cooperative efforts with all appropriate state agencies, educational cooperatives, local education agencies and college and universities. It is recognized that the mission of the South Dakota School for the Deaf is a significant part of the continuum of services in the statewide delivery system for children in need of special education **OR** special education and related services.

The South Dakota School for the Deaf understands this responsibility to include:

Direct educational programs and services to deaf and hearing impaired students, parents, and professional service providers, including satellite programs in appropriate locations;

Residential services for those students whose needs are better served in such an environment;

Educational evaluations and interpretation of results for parents, public school personnel, and public service providers with recommendations for appropriate educational programming and placement;

Consultative services for local school districts, cooperatives, parents, and professional service providers, including curriculum and materials for statewide use, captioned film depository, professional library and updated curriculum outline;

Public information and referrals for Deaf Awareness programs and Speakers Bureau;

Educational support services through outreach program for refinement of existing programs specific to the immediate and particular needs of deaf and hearing impaired students as well as those with secondary disabilities;

Community education in collaboration with GED and Adult Basic programs and the Communication Services for the Deaf in Sioux Falls and Rapid City;

Specialized programs with emphasis on leadership development, transitional process, and utilization

of talent for special arts, including summer programs for reinforcement of educational growth and development as a compensation for the loss of sound experience;

Parent and family education workshops, seminars and information-sharing through a monthly newsletter;

Comprehensive sign language and interpreting training and certification programs in cooperation with Communication Services for the Deaf and the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf;

Staff and professional development programs based on demonstrated successes of programs for the deaf in the nation, in cooperation with the National Consortium of Educational Resource Centers on Deafness;

Research and development facility for student interns and special education personnel, working alongside college and university personnel in the area of special education and updating the special education degree programs as necessary in response to the immediate and particular needs of the deaf and hearing impaired students; and

Cooperative efforts with Southeast Vocational Institute in Sioux Falls to facilitate the transitional needs of the deaf and hearing impaired students.

**SOURCE: BOR March 21-22, 1991**