South Dakota’s Specialized Schools

SD School for the Deaf

SD School for the Blind and Visually Impaired
What’s Different about Sensory Impairments?

- Language development
- Concept development
- Basis for all other learning
- Vision and hearing are the primary modes for sharing information in classrooms
- Preparing students for further education, work and community environments
- Overcoming employment barriers
Statewide Role and Mission

• Not limited to the campuses
• More students today than any time in our history
• Flexibility designed to meet student need
• Miles traveled during school year
  • SDSD average miles traveled 8,300 (91,000 total)
  • SDSBVI average miles traveled 18,500 (74,000 total)
• Variety of services
• Creative Collaborations
Expertise and Quality of Services

- Certified teachers + specialized endorsements
- Level of training – 73% Masters degrees or higher
- Limited pool of qualified candidates
- Teacher education programs
- Salaries – retention and new hires
- Request for salary enhancement comparable to public schools
Instructional Staff Salary Increases

• SDSBVI and SDSD were not included in the K12 Legislative approved salary increase in FY16
• This increase will help us recruit and retain specialized instructional staff
• Funding will be used to increase the instructional staffs salary base
  • SDSBVI – Salaries: $76,303 Benefits: $10,682 Total: $86,985
  • SDSD – Salaries: $52,200 Benefits: $7,308 Total: $59,508
• Regular salary policy will still be distributed in accordance with COHE agreement, based on performance, professional development, and service
SD School for the Deaf

• “Partners in Educational Success”
• Consultation
  • Offices in SF, Pierre, Aberdeen, Hot Springs, Deadwood
• Comprehensive student evaluations
• Professional development (training)
• ASL classes for families and schools
• Building connections – collaboration within communities
• Summer program on campus with Parent Connection and DOE
Audiology

- Hearing screenings – over 13,000 students annually
  - Audiological evaluations July – January 1,968
- Pediatric audiology services on Sioux Falls campus
- Upgraded audiology booth in Sioux Falls
- Expansion of pediatric audiology to Rapid City
- Expansion of school hearing screenings in western SD
- Need two FTEs
  - Audiology Tech
  - Outreach Consultant
SDSD Property in Sioux Falls

- Base of outreach operations, audiology, and training
- Current lessee
  - SDSU Cooperative Extension and 4-H (September 2021)
  - USD Archives and Archivist (July 2024)
  - SD Association of the Deaf – offices and museum (November 2017)
  - Swim America pool area regular schedule monthly
  - Revenue covers maintenance and repair not general fund appropriations
- DOE, SDSU and others use our conference center as a training site
- DOC uses the vacant dorm wing and other portions of the building for training
SDSD Facility Utilization

Blue – SDSD
Yellow – SDSU Extension
Orange - Available
SDSD Facility Utilization

Blue – SDSD
Red – USD
Green - SDAD
SDSD’s Facility Usage

- Administrative Offices
- Outreach Staff Offices
- Audiology Offices, Lab, and Sound Booth
- Student testing areas
- Secretary/Reception Area
- Summer Program Classrooms
- DDN Classrooms
- Conference Room – Joint Use
- Mechanical areas and storage
SD School for the Blind and Visually Impaired

- “Preparing students to step forward with confidence and a vision of lifetime success”
- Consultation
  - Offices in Aberdeen, Mitchell and Spearfish
- School term
- Accreditation
- Comprehensive student evaluations
- Professional development (training)
- Building connections – collaborations with communities
- Summer program in Aberdeen; Transition week with SBVI in Sioux Falls
Efficiencies and Effectiveness

- SDSBVI and SDSD have moved to Managed Print Services
- SDSBVI’s Certified Maintenance Staff has held down M&R costs by not contracting out jobs
- SDSD redirecting current funds to expand west river with the completion of Brandon contract
- SDSBVI and SDSD will be going through a facility audit conducted by Honeywell
SDSBVI is currently budgeted for only 48.6 FTE after having 4 FTE cut in FY17. These pooled FTE are necessary for sub teachers, dorm staff, kitchen staff, and summer school. We also experience temporary vacancies during turnover and retirement periods.

SDSD only has open FTE when experiencing actual turnover or retirement situations.
Summary

• Rural nature of SD demands creative solutions and partnerships
• High faculty expertise required to maximize learning
• SD Model combines
  • Hands on learning
  • On site consultation focused on creating supportive learning environments
  • Students Evaluations and recommendations
  • Training for teachers and families
  • Loaned materials for families and classroom use
Q and A