



# News Release

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## **Kaiser to Assume Leadership at South Dakota School for the Deaf**

BROOKINGS, S.D. – The long-time superintendent of the South Dakota School for the Blind and Visually Impaired has a new role. Effective immediately, Marjorie Kaiser will become superintendent of the South Dakota School for the Deaf as well.

The Board of Regents, which oversees the two schools serving special student populations, approved expanded duties for Kaiser at a regular meeting this week in Brookings.

“Dr. Kaiser is a highly competent and well-respected school administrator; she has had significant experience in providing education and services to deaf students as well,” said Jack Warner, the regents’ executive director and CEO. Warner noted that Kaiser already oversees the Deaf-Blind Program at the School for the Blind and Visually Impaired. “Her leadership will allow us to consolidate administrative operations and reallocate resources to further enhance direct services to students with vision and hearing impairments,” he said.

As student populations served by traditional schools for the deaf or blind have become smaller, Warner said South Dakota is not alone in looking to manage these educational services differently. Several other states already operate joint schools for the deaf and blind, or have recently moved to unify superintendent structures at these schools, he said.

Terry Gregersen, who served as School for the Deaf superintendent for the past three years, has resigned to pursue other opportunities. “We thank Terry for his service and his dedication to improving the lives of children served by the South Dakota School for the Deaf,” said Regents President Terry Baloun.

Kaiser has been superintendent at the School for the Blind and Visually Impaired in Aberdeen since 1986. She was a staff member and coordinator in the school’s Deaf-Blind Program from 1975 to 1985. She recently received the highest honor awarded by the Council of Schools for the Blind, and is a past president of that national organization. Kaiser earned her specialist and doctoral degrees in educational administration from The University of South Dakota, and also holds degrees from Northern State University and St. Cloud State University.