



# News Release

Contacts: Janelle Toman, Director of Communications  
[janelle.toman@sdbor.edu](mailto:janelle.toman@sdbor.edu)  
Tracy Mercer, Information Research Analyst  
[tracy.mercer@sdbor.edu](mailto:tracy.mercer@sdbor.edu)

Telephone: (605) 773-3455  
Fax: (605) 773-5320  
[www.sdbor.edu](http://www.sdbor.edu)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** Thursday, May 21, 2020

## **Board Recognizes Departing Regent and Special Schools Superintendent**

PIERRE, S.D. – In a web conference meeting today, the South Dakota Board of Regents bid farewell virtually to departing Regent Lucas Lund and retired special schools’ superintendent, Marje Kaiser.

Special board resolutions were read and adopted to honor both Lund and Kaiser.

A Sioux Falls native, Lund graduated this month from the University of South Dakota with a master’s degree in public administration. He was appointed in September 2018 as the student regent representative on the board, which is the constitutional governing body for South Dakota’s six public universities and two schools serving special K-12 populations.

“I am forever grateful to have served alongside some of South Dakota’s finest leaders as a member of the Board of Regents,” Lund said. “To be granted this opportunity at a young age is a rare privilege. In leaving the board, I can confirm the regents, staff, and institutional leadership are wholeheartedly committed to ensuring the greatest possible educational experience for our students. Their stewardship and dedication will be a source of inspiration to me throughout my life.”

The board’s resolution recognized Lund’s “advocacy for higher education access and affordability, student success initiatives, and prudent resource management.”

Kaiser retires today as the superintendent at South Dakota School for the Blind and Visually Impaired in Aberdeen and South Dakota School for the Deaf in Sioux Falls. She began her work in the regents’ system in 1975 as a deaf-blind program specialist at SDSBVI. She has been superintendent of the Aberdeen school since 1986. In 2010, she was named superintendent of the School for the Deaf.

The board’s resolution honored Kaiser for “exceptional leadership, advocacy, and support on behalf of students and their families across South Dakota.”

Kaiser is widely recognized within her profession and in her community, receiving the William H. English Award, the highest honor bestowed by the Council of Schools for the Blind, as well as the Woman of Spirit Award from the Aberdeen Area Chamber of Commerce and the Distinguished Service Award from the Aberdeen Mayor’s Committee.