



# News Release

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## **Neighborhood Meeting Nov. 15 on Sale/Lease of School for the Deaf Campus in Sioux Falls**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. –The South Dakota Board of Regents will host a Nov. 15 neighborhood informational meeting with the Bender Companies concerning a proposed sale and/or lease of its 14.5-acre South Dakota School for the Deaf campus along 10<sup>th</sup> Street near downtown Sioux Falls.

A recent regents' report recommended selling approximately 6 acres of green space at the School for the Deaf campus and leasing out much of its 98,000 square feet of building space, which includes offices, classrooms, an indoor pool, and gymnasium. Selling the entire 14.5-acre campus also remains an option.

The meeting will be held at 6 p.m. Nov. 15 in the Thomas Berry Room of the School for the Deaf main building, located at 2001 E. 8<sup>th</sup> Street in Sioux Falls.

“It is important we engage with the local neighborhood early in this process to get input and ideas as we move forward,” said Mike Rush, the regents' executive director and CEO. “It is also important to us that any developer who comes into any part of the campus has a plan that will be good for the neighborhood.”

Rush continued, “As noted in the report, we expect to remain a big part of that neighborhood ourselves. This effort is not about leaving. It is about maximizing the best use of state resources while still providing the highest quality service for the deaf and hard of hearing community in a neighborhood we can all be proud of.”

Neighborhood residents or other parties interested in learning more about land purchase or facility leasing options are encouraged to review the report online at [https://www.sdbor.edu/Documents/SDSD\\_Report.pdf](https://www.sdbor.edu/Documents/SDSD_Report.pdf). Bender Commercial Real Estate Services (Michael Bender, Principal) has been retained to assist the board in developing its plan. For more information, contact Rush at (605) 773-3455 or Bender at (605) 336-7600.

The consulting agreement between Bender and the Board of Regents is in effect through June 30, 2018.