



News Release

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State Education Boards to Meet Jointly

PIERRE, S.D. – Three state education boards will meet jointly Wednesday to build on a partnership that results in more students graduating from high school, pursuing postsecondary education, and creating successful careers.

The three boards – Board of Education Standards, Board of Technical Education, and Board of Regents – oversee education policy in South Dakota on a continuum from K-12 schools to technical colleges and public universities. Board members will meet by Zoom teleconference Wednesday, Dec. 9, from 1 to 3 p.m. (Central Time). The public may access this joint meeting through the South Dakota Network at <https://www.sd.net/>.

“Our boards meet periodically to discuss ways to cooperate and work together,” said Regents President John W. Bastian. “We all share an important goal. Guiding students to higher levels of educational attainment results in engaged citizens, a skilled workforce, and a strong economy for South Dakota.”

“Collaboration among our three boards enhances opportunity for South Dakota students and helps our systems align to better meet the educational and workforce needs of the state,” said Dana Dykhouse, chairman of the Board of Technical Education. “Meeting together gives us a chance to reaffirm our shared priorities and explore new ways to strengthen existing partnerships.”

The boards’ joint agenda this week includes a discussion of strategies to improve South Dakota students’ completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, known as FAFSA. Cathy Mueller, executive director of a public service, non-profit organization, Mapping Your Future, will offer her insights on the challenges to FAFSA completion in South Dakota. Other topics include the state’s high school dual credit program and streamlined articulation agreements between technical colleges and public universities.

“The joint meeting is an opportunity to share mutual interests, new endeavors, and challenges,” said Jacqueline Sly, president of the Board of Education Standards. “Through those conversations, the three groups can explore ways to move forward, working toward the common aspiration of supporting South Dakota students in attaining credentials vital to their lifelong success.”