

**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS**

**Academic and Student Affairs**

**AGENDA ITEM: 6 – S**

**DATE: March 30 – April 1, 2016**

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**SUBJECT: College Application Week 2015**

South Dakota College Application Week took place the week of November 2-6, 2015 as a part of the American College Application Campaign. In the second year of the program, students at nineteen high schools across the state has the opportunity to apply to up to three Regental institutions of their choosing and had the application fees waived. Schools for this year’s expanded pilot were selected based on postsecondary enrollment trends (see Table 1), identification as a South Dakota Jump Start target school, existing college preparation activities, and expressed interest from school counselors.

*Table 1  
Enrollment Outlook for the 2013 Graduates for the Nineteen School Districts Participating in  
South Dakota College Application Week*

<b>High School<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>% Enrolled SDBOR</b>	<b>% Enrolled Other</b>	<b>% Not Enrolled</b>
<i>Andes Central</i>	33.3%	42.9%	23.8%
<i>Cheyenne-Eagle Butte</i>	16.7%	31.3%	52.1%
<i>Crow Creek</i>	--	--	--
<i>Flandreau Public</i>	37.2%	30.2%	32.6%
<i>Flandreau Indian</i>	--	--	--
<i>Kadoka</i>	42.9%	33.3%	23.8%
<i>Lead-Deadwood</i>	30.9%	20%	49.1%
<i>Lyman</i>	31.6%	57.9%	10.5%
<i>Pine Ridge</i>	--	--	--
<i>Rapid City Academies</i>	15.2%	16.3%	68.5%
<i>Red Cloud</i>	27.3%	47.7%	25%
<i>Saint Francis</i>	0%	3.8%	96.2%
<i>Sisseton</i>	24.2%	58.1%	17.7%
<i>Stanley County</i>	34.4%	43.8%	21.9%
<i>Sully Buttes</i>	28.6%	50%	21.4%
<i>Tiospa Zina</i>	--	--	--
<i>Wagner</i>	49.2%	28.8%	22%
<i>White River</i>	27.3%	36.4%	36.4%
<i>Winner</i>	50.8%	30.5%	18.6%

<sup>1</sup> Data from Crow Creek, Flandreau Indian School, Pine Ridge, and Tiospa Zina were unavailable.

(Continued)

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Information only.

Training for site coordinators (usually the school counselor) this year consisted of one-on-one site visits rather than trying to schedule a central training. A Dropbox of different materials for site coordinators was created for this year and included the site coordinator manual, College Decision Map and College Essay Practice activities, “You Bet I Went To College!” door decorations, and month-by-month checklists for students and families that outlined the steps they needed to take over the course of their senior year to ensure they were ready for the transition to postsecondary.

District teachers and staff employed a number of strategies during the target week to foster student interest in the initiative including: 1) “You Bet I Went To College!” door signs for staff; 2) allowing staff to wear apparel from their degree granting institutions; and 3) decorating classrooms depicting university affiliations for staff. Many of these activities were integrated district wide to begin creating a college-going culture for all students, not just seniors. Prior to completing applications, students completed common materials emphasizing career interests and identifying institutions that provided degree programs that met those respective goals. During the 2015 expanded pilot of the College Application Week program, 385 students completed up to three applications for their institution(s) of choice, resulting in 895 individual applications to Regental institutions. Table 2 illustrates the breakdown of where students from each high school applied. The impact of the initiative can be observed in anecdotal evidence from a Tiospa Zina high school. The school principal there recently noted that more seniors have been accepted into college this year than in the past three years combined, reinforcing the benefits of encouraging students to understand their options after high school graduation.

**Table 2**  
**College Application Week 2015 Applications**

<b>School</b>	<b>Applicants</b>	<b>BHSU</b>	<b>DSU</b>	<b>NSU</b>	<b>SDSM&amp;T</b>	<b>SDSU</b>	<b>USD</b>	<b>Total</b>
<i>Andes Central</i>	1					1	1	2
<i>Cheyenne-Eagle Butte</i>	31	27	1	5	1	15	20	69
<i>Crow Creek</i>	11	6	2	3		8	10	29
<i>Flandreau Public</i>	16	1	11	2	2	13	8	37
<i>Flandreau Indian</i>	40	21	10	7	4	25	26	93
<i>Kadoka High School</i>	10	7	1	3		9	4	24
<i>Lead-Deadwood</i>	25	18	3	7	5	16	13	62
<i>Lyman High School</i>	13	4	1		5	9	7	26
<i>Pine Ridge</i>	27	20		8	4	17	13	62
<i>Rapid City HS</i>	13	11		2		4	3	20
<i>Red Cloud</i>	41	27	7	3	10	34	32	113
<i>St Francis Indian</i>	28	22	1	11	5	18	23	80
<i>Sisseton High School</i>	2			1		1	1	3
<i>Stanley County</i>	21	9	1	9	1	10	9	39
<i>Sully Buttes</i>	15	5	3	2	5	11	10	36
<i>Tiospa Zina</i>	21	7	2	12	2	15	12	50
<i>Wagner High School</i>	37	16	13	13	6	17	12	77
<i>White River</i>	8	5	4		2	2	5	18
<i>Winner High School</i>	25	16	3	2	1	16	17	55
<b>Total</b>	<b>385</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>895</b>

During the 2014 pilot of the College Application Week program, 234 students completed up to three applications for their institution(s) of choice, resulting in 404 individual applications to Regental institutions.<sup>2</sup> As of the Fall 2015 census date, 61 students (26% of College Application Week participants) from College Application Week pilot schools are enrolled as first-time, degree-seeking undergraduate students at Regental institutions (see Table 3).

**Table 3**  
**College Application Week Pilot School Fall 2015 Enrollment**

<b>School</b>	<b>BSHU</b>	<b>DSU</b>	<b>NSU</b>	<b>SDSM&amp;T</b>	<b>SDSU</b>	<b>USD</b>	<b>Total</b>
<i>Cheyenne-Eagle Butte</i>					3	5	8
<i>Kadoka</i>	2						2
<i>Lyman</i>		2			2	2	6
<i>Pine Ridge</i>	1						1
<i>Rapid City</i>	3						3
<i>Red Cloud</i>	2	1		3	8	2	16
<i>Saint Francis</i>	1		2			1	4
<i>White River</i>	2	1			1	1	5
<i>Winner</i>	2	1	1	1	6	5	16
<b>Total</b>	13	5	3	4	20	16	61

<sup>2</sup> Black Hills State University (52), Dakota State University (29), Northern State University (46), South Dakota School of Mines & Technology (37), South Dakota State University (120), University of South Dakota (121).