

South Dakota School for the Deaf

South Dakota Board of Regents

Informational Items

October 7-9, 2014



Guest Lectures with Augustana College Students

Submitted by Kim Wadsworth

Kim Wadsworth, Director of Outreach, provided guest lectures to the Augustana students of Carmen Steen and Christa Gunderson's American Sign Language classes last April. Students toured the SDSD campus, attended a presentation about SDSD services, and discovered what it means to work in the SDSD Outreach Program that serves approximately 410 South Dakota children.

Shared Reading Project

Submitted by Carmen Steen

The Shared Reading Project (SRP) is designed to teach parents and caregivers how to read to their deaf and hard of hearing children using American Sign Language, and to use strategies to make book sharing most effective. SRP is critical to the academic achievement of deaf and hard of hearing youth because sharing books at an early age contributes to higher academic achievement. When parents know how to share books, there is a greater chance of improvement in the reading ability of their deaf and hard of hearing child.

This spring SDSD secured a grant through Sertoma for the purchase of 120 book packets that include a children's book, DVD of a deaf person signing the book, and activity sheets. Paid tutors will travel to a family's home on a regular basis and spend one hour introducing the new book and teaching parents various strategies that deaf readers use when reading to deaf children. Parents then practice and at the next visit, they demonstrate how they sign the book, the tutor provides feedback, the tutor introduces a new book, and the process continues.

SDSD has six trained tutors who will visit 12 families to teach parents the principles needed to share books with their son/daughter. SRP families are from the Sioux Falls, Mitchell, Menno, Volin, and Rapid City areas.

Inside this issue:

Hands in Motion	2
Back to School Fair	3
Judy Hofer Gift	3
Grag Folsom Donation	4
Catfish Bay Event	4
In-service Update	5
Audiology News	5

Hands in Motion

Submitted by Carmen Steen

The Hands in Motion (formerly known as the Summer Enrichment Program) completed its sixth year of providing students an opportunity to socialize with other Deaf and hard of hearing children. This year 30 students ranging in ages from 1 to 13 were served. Children of all abilities, regardless of additional disabilities or degree of hearing loss, signers/non-signers are accepted into the program. Twelve school districts were represented this year: Sioux Falls, Valley Springs, Tea, Beresford, Dell Rapids, Alexandria, Baltic, Marion, Mitchell, Rapid City, Worthing, and Brandon.

Five older students attended the YMCA Leif Erickson Day camp where they were immersed in a camp environment for two weeks. Hands in Motion provided a Deaf Educator to shadow the group and provide communica-

tion access between the hearing and deaf campers. The grant paid for four students and the SDSF Foundation paid for one additional student to attend full day camp.

The month centered on a theme of camping/outdoors. Field trips, learning activities, crafts, and snacks were in some way tied to that theme. Deaf community members were invited to read books or interact with the students in order to promote and teach Deaf culture. For some students this was their first time meeting a Deaf adult and their only opportunity to interact with other students with a hearing loss. The program ended with a short program and family picnic, sponsored by Parent Connection and the SDSF Foundation on July 31.



Back to School Fair

Submitted by Kim Wadsworth

On August 9, SDSD supported the Celebrating Families Back to School Fair at the Washington Pavilion by setting up a booth to share information about SDSD services. Families received flyers to remind them of SDSD's no cost hearing tests and to have their

child's hearing tested to make sure they are able to access the sounds needed to be successful in school. Families attending the back to school fair learned about many of the local agencies that support children and families.

In Memorandum

Submitted by Nancy McKenzie and Kim Wadsworth

SDSD has received a generous amount of money from the estate of Judy Marie Hofer of Emery, SD. Judy passed away on April 12, 2011 after courageously fighting a brain tumor for 11 years.

Judy attended country school at Gross School #64 and graduated from Freeman Public High School in 1963. Continuing her education, she attended Freeman Junior College and earned her teaching certificate in Elementary Education. She began her teaching career at Selby, SD and taught there for three years. She attended Dakota Wesleyan University in Mitchell and completed her Bachelor's degree in 1969. She taught first grade at Kimball, SD for eight years where she earned the "Teacher of the Year" award. She taught at Clear Lake, SD for two years and wanting to be closer to her family, she taught at Bridgewater, SD for 3 ½ years.

Judy was a teacher who had a passion for helping children who needed extra help. The gift will be used to support SDSD's Outreach services which will benefit many children throughout state of South Dakota who are deaf or hard of hearing.



Kim Wadsworth and Nancy McKenzie accepted the gift from Judy's estate presented by Audrey Zeeb.

Greg Folsom Donation

Submitted by Kim Wadsworth

SDSD became the recipient of a generous donation by Sioux Falls resident Greg Folsom. Greg has had a summer neighbor party for the last several, but this year he wanted to pay it forward somehow. He wanted his get-together to have a greater impact on our community. Greg wears hearing aids and remembers coming to

SDSD with his family, when he was younger, for hearing tests. Greg decided to hold a fundraiser to collect donations for activities for deaf and hard of hearing children in our state. He gave the SDSD Foundation a check for \$1000 to go toward activities for SDSD students in SD. Thank you Greg!



Catfish Bay

Submitted by Kim Wadsworth

August 22 SDSD hosted a Deaf Back to School Night at Catfish Bay. SDSD families and Deaf community attended the waterski show. Event goers watched amazing water skiing tricks,



stunts, and a funny, family stage show. Thank you to the SDSD Foundation for their support of this great event.

In-service Update



www.sdsd.sdbor.edu

SDSD Outreach Consultant In-Services

Eileen Anderson.....	7
Julie Delfs.....	8
Carol Johnson	13
Sarah Lingle.....	6
Julie Luke	8
Naomi Mangan	2
Nina Ringstmeyer	1
Kerry Ruth	3
Jodi Schnider	4
Laura Scholten.....	12
Kami Van Sickle.....	7
Total.....	71

In-services and guest lectures are provided by members of the SDSD Outreach team as an extension of support for children and students with hearing loss. These in-services may relate to hearing loss and its educational impact, technical assistance and orientation with hearing aids, cochlear implants, FM systems, sound field systems, and/or interpreters, or educational strategies and materials that may benefit SDSD clients.

Audiology Department News

Submitted by Greg King

The following report details audiological services provided to South Dakota children from July, 2014 through August 29, 2014 on SDSD's campus or via the mobile lab.

Total Screened:	963
Total Evaluated:	124
*SNHL Found:	3
*CHL Found:	74
Mobile Sites:	12

SNHL— sensorineural hearing loss
CHL— conductive hearing loss



www.sdsd.sdbor.edu/audiology.htm