



2015-16

Sioux Falls School District

# ignite

Our Mission: "to educate and prepare each student to succeed in a changing world."

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*Introducing Superintendent  
Dr. Brian Maher*



# *Welcome*

Dear Families and Community Members,

The next exciting adventure—that is how I am classifying my appointment as Superintendent of the Sioux Falls Public Schools.

It is my pleasure to introduce myself to you and to share my educational philosophy. I am a life-long educator having taught high school math, physics, and computer science prior to becoming a principal and eventually a superintendent. First and foremost, however, I am a father to three wonderful adult children and a grandfather to two beautiful grandchildren. My wife Peg and I come to you from Kearney, NE, and we are eager to experience and participate in all Sioux Falls has to offer.

My first official day on the job was July 1, and the transition has been extremely rewarding so far. I credit the Board of Education for allowing me a successful transition into the role of Superintendent. It is truly an honor to live and work in a progressive community that willingly supports its public schools.

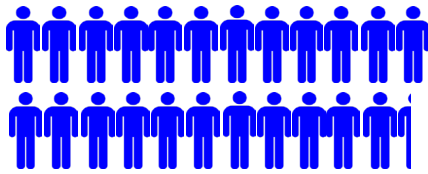
Excellence is evident in our schools through the many programs and pathways already established. I fully intend to continue building upon that success and will look for new opportunities to help our schools—more importantly, our students—become incrementally better. Relationships are important to me. In my first year as Superintendent, I plan to listen and learn from the top-notch administrators, staff members and the greater community while adding my own touch of leadership along the way.

I look forward to greeting the 24,000 students and their families we serve when the 2015-16 school year begins on Tuesday, September 8. Best wishes for a great year!

*Brian Maher*

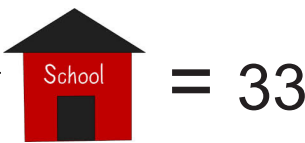
Projected K-12 Student Enrollment  
2015-2016

23,338



11,692 Elementary  
5,019 Middle School  
6,627 High School  
+1,002 Pre-K  
+51 Learning Adventures Preschool

Schools (Buildings)



23 Elementary (4 specialized)  
5 Middle Schools  
3 Traditional High Schools  
1 Career & Technical Education Academy  
1 New Tech High School

District Distinctions

- **AP Pass Rate/ACT Scores:**  
Both higher than the state and national averages
- **Accredited by the SD Department of Education**
- 80 languages spoken in the homes of our students
- **24 HS Advanced Placement Courses**
- 293 courses offered at traditional high schools
- **1:1 Student Technology**
- 17,857 meals served daily in school cafeterias
- **\$217 Million Total Budget**

Important Dates to Remember

On April 14, 2015, voters chose a post-Labor Day start for the next three school years. Here are some important dates to remember:

- The first day of school is Sept. 8.
- The last day before winter break is Dec. 22.
- Semester tests/end of first semester is Jan. 20 & 21.
- Last day of school is June 2 (snow/cold days added to end).
- Graduation day is June 5.

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# Our Public Schools



**T**he Sioux Falls School District prides itself on providing an individualized approach to each child's education. That's a big job with some 24,000 students but one we believe is worth every effort.

The Sioux Falls School District was established in 1871 and, by enrollment, is the largest in South Dakota. The District consists of approximately 80 square miles and is located primarily in Minnehaha County. Approximately 23,338 K-12 grade students are served along with another 1,002 income-eligible preschool children in Head Start and Early Childhood.

The District has 23 elementary schools serving grades K-5. Elementary instruction emphasizes mastery of basic skills along with respect for one's self and others.

Five middle schools serve grades 6-8. Middle schools are designed to meet the academic, social, and emotional needs of early adolescents. The middle school format fosters a sense of community and cooperation while allowing plenty of opportunity for exploration, both in the academic setting and through participation in co-curricular activities.

Sioux Falls has three traditional public high schools serving grades 9-12. Lincoln, Roosevelt, and Washington High are known for producing academic scholars, world-class fine and performing arts programs, and a full menu of extracurricular opportunities.

The District continues its commitment to the alternative Joe Foss Program at Axtell Park. We are proud to offer the Career and Technical Education Academy where formal education and career skills allow students to earn certifications and advanced education in various career fields. Sioux Falls New Technology High School offers a smaller learning community where students meet content standards through real-life scenarios and project-based learning.

Kids Inc., the District's state-licensed after-school program located in all elementary schools, combines a safe environment with learning and fun. Fee-based Learning Adventures Preschool receives glowing recommendations from parents.

Outside of the traditional PreK-12 environment, your public schools offer hundreds of non-credit classes for all ages through Community Education.



CTE Academy students learn marketable, hands-on skills to prepare them immediately for the world of work or give them an advantage to future college and career selection.

# Path to a Skilled Workforce

For decades, the solitary “beyond graduation” goal for students was enrolling at a four-year institution.

Advanced certifications can be earned in areas like welding, manufacturing, housing construction, cabinetry, computer networking, restaurant management, and more.

But just as the Sioux Falls School District knows not every student learns in the same way, at the same time, and in the same space, officials recognize that this post-graduation route is only one possibility among many. Setting students up for success can mean more than a college acceptance letter.

Hands-on experience is also a cornerstone of learning at the Career and Technical Education Academy. Students in the housing construction program build two homes from the ground up each year. Advanced welding students routinely take the top (and most of the remaining) honors at area competitions. Auto body students work with state-of-the-art facilities many commercial businesses envy. For those who are willing, job offers are waiting as soon as the diploma is earned.

Students who are looking to immediately enter the work force, earn an associate's degree at a technical institute, start an apprenticeship, or enter the military with a particular specialty deserve the same level of preparation and expertise as college-bound students. In a booming economy hungry for such skilled workers, partnerships and incentives exist for students willing to enter the workforce and stay in South Dakota.

Coupled with pre-engineering courses featuring robotics, biomedical sciences courses which can result in being EMT certified, computer sciences, and automotive repair – all of which are supported by community partners who see the incredible value in this kind of educational investment – the pathways exist for all students, regardless of their ultimate goals, to find success beyond graduation day.

Students in the Sioux Falls School District have opportunities to master skills and earn industry certification prior to graduating from high school.

## Want to make a difference? Join the SFSD Team TODAY!

Every day more than 3,000 individuals dedicate themselves to delivering on our mission “to educate and prepare each student to succeed in a changing world.” We would be honored to have you join us! Go to our website [sf.k12.sd.us](http://sf.k12.sd.us) and click on “**Employment**” to view available jobs and complete the online application process or find job openings on the SFSD app. We hire the highest quality applicants for various positions all year!

# Dual Credit Just Makes Sense! (Cents!)

**T**alk about multitasking! Today's students are savvy when it comes to getting things accomplished efficiently.

During the 2014-15 school year, 246 Sioux Falls School District students earned a total of 1596 college credit hours through dual credit – a chance to earn both high school and university/technical institute credit simultaneously – thanks to the District's commitment to providing multiple pathways for student success.

Students involved in Learners to Leaders, Project Lead the Way, Academy of Finance, New Tech High (NTH), and the Career and Technology

Education Academy (CTE) were previously able to earn dual credit through various partnerships with Augustana College, the University of South Dakota, and Southeast Tech. However, the approval of the high school dual credit program by the 2014 Legislature opened the door for even more students to benefit.


High school students now pay just \$40 per credit hour at any of the state's regental or technical institutions compared to \$300 and \$200 per credit, respectively, at those post-secondary schools.

For many, that's a value-added reason to take high school seriously. It just makes sense to earn college credit at a lower cost, thereby reducing worrisome debt in the future.

Recent Roosevelt graduate Kirstan Hyser earned both high school and college credit for taking ART 111 (equivalent of Drawing I) at University Center. Hyser earned her credits alongside other college students who did not previously have the dual credit option.





 Hungry students at Washington High School consider their options for a quick but healthy snack to help fuel their bodies for learning.

# Grab 'n Go

## A Popular Option



Today's teens often live life in the fast (food) lane. They are multi-tasking geniuses who don't always take the time necessary to fuel their mind and body with healthy breakfasts and snacks. Enter Grab-n-Go Carts.

Grants from the Midwest Dairy Council and South Dakota Health and Wellness subsidize the cost of items on the cart to attract more customers. Students can grab healthy yogurt, low-fat milk, juice, fresh fruit, whole grain cereals, granola and protein bars, or string cheese before class.

The cart concept was designed for students by students during a conversation at the Superintendent's Forum where students from each high school are empowered to solve challenges by bringing their common sense, teen perspectives to the table.

The goal is to entice students to eat affordable, good-fuel items purchased at school rather than stopping at the convenience store on the way and choosing a low-cost, easy, but less-healthy option. And, the carts appear to be taking off! Encourage your student to catch up with them at Axtell Park, Lincoln, New Technology, Roosevelt, and Washington High Schools.

### Top 10 Best Sellers

1. Naked Juices
2. Milk (skim chocolate)
3. Low Fat Mozzarella Cheese Sticks
4. Fresh Fruits (bananas, grapes, pineapple, melon)
5. Granola Bars
6. Cinnamon Toast Crunch Cereal (reduced sugar)
7. Greek Yogurts
8. Lara Bars
9. Light Yogurts
10. Trix



# Growing to Meet Needs



*Robert Frost*



*Discovery*



*Pettigrew*

A rapidly growing city with diverse needs calls for change, and the Sioux Falls School District is continuing to answer that call.

New parking lots, kitchen expansions, updates, and repairs are the norm each summer. A new Spanish Immersion Elementary school is currently under construction on the space previously occupied by Jefferson Elementary. While the biggest news coming out of the summer might be the opening of our newest school, Susan B. Anthony Elementary, consider these other significant construction projects creating new homes for programs or expanding to meet neighborhood growth:

**Robert Frost Elementary** – Expansion for

the Challenge Center. There have been many changes over the years for some of our brightest elementary students who attend the Challenge Center, a program that values exploration and enhances learning for curious minds. First located at Mark Twain Elementary, the program later moved to Garfield. However, growth in the Garfield neighborhood student population meant the District needed to find a new home for the program. A long-term solution was desired, so centrally-located Robert Frost Elementary underwent an addition in order to house the program into the future.

**Discovery Elementary** – Expansion for ELL. As the Sioux Falls School District looks at development and population growth on the west side of the city, two new schools have joined the family in recent years: Discovery and R.F. Pettigrew. Discovery is expanding this year to serve not only the

hundreds of neighborhood students who call the school home, but also English Language Learner (ELL) students from throughout the District. These students of all ages are new to the US and are still mastering the English Language.

**Pettigrew Elementary** – Expansion for Early Childhood. This Southwest Sioux Falls school opened its doors to students in 2009, but because of its versatile design, expansion was possible. That is exactly what happened this summer to accommodate new neighborhood development and to serve Early Childhood students from western of Sioux Falls. The federally-funded preschool program serves at-risk students who might otherwise not have the opportunity to be in a classroom prior to kindergarten, giving them the researched-based jump start they need on their education.



# Stand By: We're LIVE (streaming)

“Do you believe in miracles? Yes!”

“Outta here! It's gone! It's 715! There's a new home run champion of all time, and it's Henry Aaron.”

“Look at Mills! Look at Mills!”

Any time you look back on great moments in sports history, mixed with the roars of the crowd are the astounded, ecstatic, or reflective voices of sports announcers processing what is happening. As timeless as these moments would be on their own, the added color commentary from sports announcers often becomes as iconic as the feat itself. And just like the athletes they describe, all of these famous commentators started somewhere.

Since August 2012, Sioux Falls School District students have been live-streaming sporting events and other activities from the three traditional high schools and Howard Wood Field. However, a video camera and crowd noise can only tell a part of the story. Enter our student live-stream teams.

“It sounded like a great way to get involved doing something I'm passionate about, learn with one of my favorite teachers, and get a pretty unique experience that most people never get to do,” Roosevelt High School Senior Jordan Beck says.

The team of students at Roosevelt live-streamed their own school's activities and virtually all Sioux Falls games at Howard Wood Field throughout the season. They lent their voices to KRLN-TV's productions of football, volleyball, and basketball games throughout the school year.

Sophomore Coby Nofziger agrees with Beck. “By doing this, I can

go to the games and watch but also inform others about the game who might not be there. Broadcasting the game with a friend is something that we always had thought about when we watched sports on television, and now doing it with the class makes it a lot more enjoyable,” Nofziger says.

“Research and preparation are the key to having a successful broadcast,” Roosevelt teacher Mike Powers says. Powers began a sports reporting course at Roosevelt after the District implemented live streaming, and he saw the interest. Now he oversees the team and gives them the tools they need each week. “I stress these two points daily because research and preparation can make a good broadcast a great broadcast. The students can't control what happens on the field or the court, but they can control their preparation. They have to react to the situation as the game progresses.”

Roosevelt High School students in Mike Powers' Sports Broadcasting class live-stream and provide game analysis and color commentary for a wide range of activities.



Look for activities from your favorite Sioux Falls Public School or Howard Wood Field on [TheCube.com](http://TheCube.com).

Tune in for a LIVE broadcast or view a previously live-streamed activity at your convenience!

in 5, 4, 3, 2, 1...

The students forgo their study hall to meet with Powers about 25 minutes each day, and most of that time is spent preparing for upcoming events. The students usually spend every Friday during the football season live-streaming at least one and sometimes two football games. After spending seven hours in school, the students have been known to spend another seven hours in the press box live-streaming a football doubleheader at Howard Wood Field.

It's not only the priceless wisdom and resume-building experience they are stockpiling for the future. It's also the moments they'll have forever that make all that work worthwhile.

"My first basketball game that I reported was at Roosevelt when they played Washington," Nofziger says. "The game was just phenomenal and really was just fun to broadcast because of all of the action in the game and how well Roosevelt played going in as the underdog. They ended losing by

only a few points at the end with a shot to win, but it was just a great game."

"Getting to announce the first ever game in the Denny Sanford Premiere Center," Beck says, thinking back to a busy junior year. "Every time I go in there or see a game in there I will always have the memory and be able to say that I did the first broadcast from there, ever."

"It was a great experience, and I plan to continue it through my next three years of high school. It was just a great way to stay involved with sports and share it with the people who aren't able to make it to the game," Nofziger says.

"Being a part of sport broadcasting and going up into the booth for every game has been something that I have really liked doing, and I hope that people watching or listening have enjoyed it, because I sure do have a lot of fun doing it," Beck says.

This school year, you can expect to see even more live-streamed events from throughout all our schools. Each Sioux Falls School District school has its own channel on [TheCube.com](http://TheCube.com) where more than one event at each school can be streamed at once. Memorial Middle School streamed its spring concert, and the 2015 graduation ceremonies used The Cube as well. Just go to the website and look for your favorite school (or Howard Wood Field) to see upcoming events.





*Off we go into the wild blue yonder...*

# Aviation Class Takes Flight

CTE students get settled in the cockpit of a small engine plane, preparing for take-off at the Marv Skie Airport near Tea.

Engagement and relevancy are important keys to student success. For many students, there is nothing more engaging than the promise of soaring above the earth and nothing more relevant than obtaining a pilot's license.

At a time when most teens are just eager to get their driver's permit, these remarkable goals are attainable for high school students thanks to the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Academy's Aviation program. The full program consists of two courses at CTE which are taught in blocks. Students first learn the mechanics and basics of flight before making and launching rockets, operating remote controlled planes, utilizing realistic flight simulators, and visiting airports and the Air National Guard.

Students design model airports and develop solutions to real-work aviation emergencies before finally doing actual pre-flight checks and taking to the skies.

The program is unique to this part of the country. "Everybody says, 'Where was this when I was in high school?' It's a really cool opportunity. What high school student has the opportunity to get into an airplane and go flying?" says instructor Chris Vanden Hoek.

Thanks to community partners like Legacy Aviation at the Tea airport, students not only get actual flight time at the end of the second course, including real take-off and landing experience and coming out of a stall mid-air, but they can also complete their private pilot's license at a reduced rate after completing the course. "It's been a great experience," says Nick Runge, a recent graduate who plans to do just that.

It's one more world-class opportunity for our students and a course heading to success far beyond high school graduation.

### Anne Sullivan

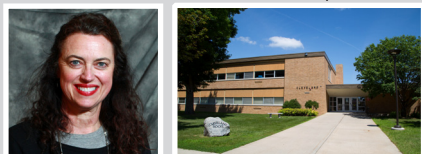
3701 E. 3rd St. • 367-6084  
Dr. Kirk Zeeck, Principal



Enrollment: 569  
Community Center: Kenny Anderson

### Cleveland

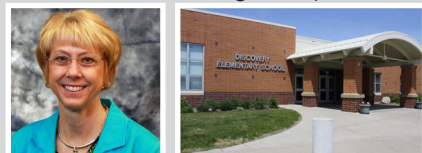
1000 S. Edward Dr. • 367-6150  
Anne Williams, Principal



Enrollment: 496

### Discovery

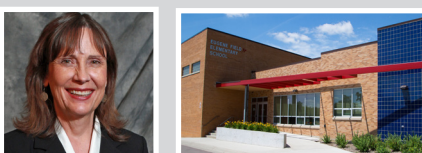
1506 S. Discovery Ave. • 362-3530  
Lois Running, Principal



Enrollment: 807

### Eugene Field A+

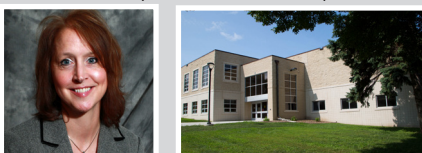
501 S. Highland Ave. • 367-6160  
Ann Marie Davis, Principal



Enrollment: 449

### Garfield

2421 W. 15th St. • 367-6180  
Lynn Gillette, Principal



Garfield Enrollment: 462  
Community Center: Oyate

### Harvey Dunn

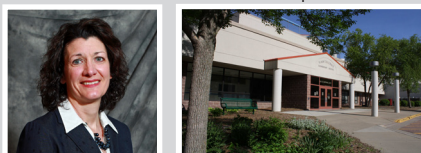
2400 S. Bahnson Ave. • 371-4120  
Teresa Boysen, Principal



Enrollment: 562  
Community Ctr: Morningside  
Learning Adventures Preschool

### Hawthorne

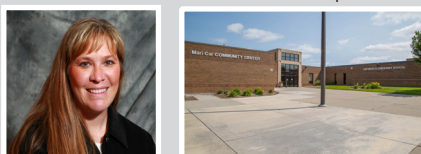
601 N. Spring Ave. • 367-4580  
Patti Pannell, Principal



Enrollment: 426

### Hayward

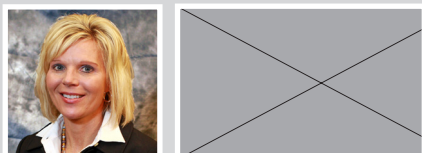
400 N. Valley View Rd. • 367-4590  
Kiersta Machacek, Principal



Enrollment: 702  
Community Center: MariCar

### Horace Mann

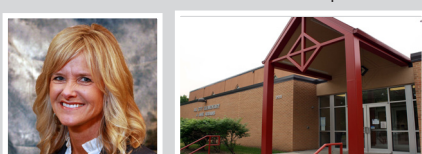
1401 E. 26th St. • 367-6190  
Tara Eckstaine, Principal



Enrollment: 117

### Jane Addams

2511 W. Brookings Ave. • 367-6120  
Jane Hannemann, Principal



All City Enrollment: 131  
Elementary Immersion Center: 110

### John F. Kennedy

4501 S. Holbrook Ave. • 362-2784  
Patricia Vincent, Principal



Enrollment: 677

### John Harris

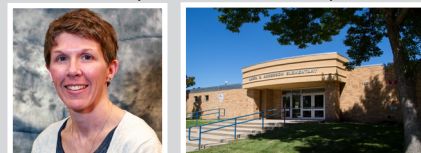
3501 E. 49th St. • 371-4111  
Nancy Hagen, Principal



Enrollment: 667

### Laura B. Anderson

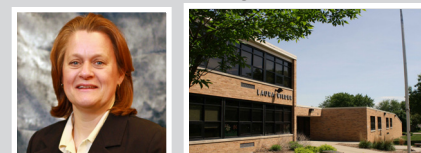
600 N. Wayland Ave. • 367-6130  
Jayne Zielenski, Principal



Enrollment: 377

### Laura Wilder

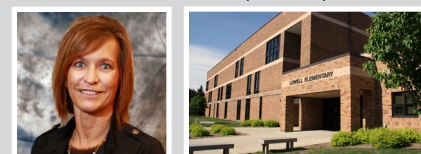
2300 S. Lyndale Ave. • 367-4570  
Nancy Krueger, Principal



Enrollment: 501

### Lowell

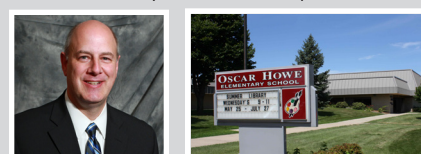
710 W. 18th St. • 367-8378  
Diane Kennedy, Principal



Enrollment: 447

### Oscar Howe

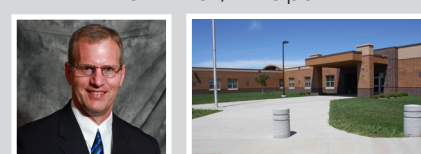
2801 Valley View Rd. • 362-2752  
Larry Larsen, Principal



Enrollment: 652  
Community Center: Kuehn

### R. F. Pettigrew

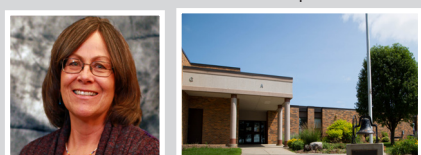
7900 W. 53rd St. • 362-3560  
Kevin Dick, Principal



Enrollment: 779

### Renberg

47260 258th St., Renner • 543-5273  
Teresa Luecke, Principal



Enrollment: 214

### Robert Frost/Challenge Ctr.

3101 S. 4th Ave. • 367-6170

Colleen Werner, Principal



Robert Frost Enrollment: 453  
Challenge Ctr. Enrollment: 175

### Rosa Parks

5701 E. Red Oak Dr. • 371-4170

Jeff Sheets, Principal



Enrollment: 380

### Terry Redlin

1721 E. Austin St. • 367-6140

Mitch Sheaffer, Principal



Enrollment: 466

### Susan B. Anthony

2000 S. Dakota Ave. • 367-4560

Marie Rickert, Principal

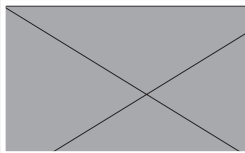


Enrollment: 747

### K-5 Spanish Immersion

Rosa Parks, Robert Frost  
East & West Campus • 367-4671

Tracy Vik, Principal



Enrollment: 425

### Edison Middle School

2101 S. West Ave. • 367-7643

Steve Griffith, Principal



Enrollment: 862

### McGovern Middle School

6221 W. Maple St. • 367-4440

LaVonna Emanuel, Principal



Enrollment: 695

### Memorial Middle School

1401 S. Sertoma Ave. • 362-2785

Carrie Aaron, Principal



Enrollment: 1,205

### Patrick Henry Middle School

2200 S. Fifth Ave. • 367-7639

Darryl Walker, Principal



Enrollment: 1,136

### Whittier Middle School

930 E. 6th St. • 367-7620

Twaine Fink, Principal

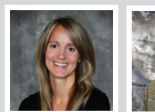


Enrollment: 929

### Axtell Park

201 N. West Ave. • 367-7647

Erika Paladino-Hazlett, Supvr. - At-Risk Programs  
Dan Pansch, Principal - Joe Foss at Axtell

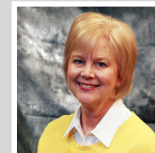


Enrollment: 120  
Joe Foss Enrollment: 395  
(includes auxiliary programs)

### Lincoln High

2900 S. Cliff Ave. • 367-7990

Valerie Fox, Principal / Jim Dorman  
Lance Lutjens, Don Ryswyk, Asst. Prin.

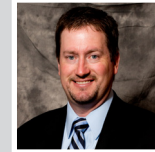


Enrollment: 1,790  
School Hours: 8:20 AM to 3:15 PM

### Roosevelt High

6600 W. 41st St. • 362-2860

Tim Hazlett, Principal / Mark Hofer,  
Preston Kooima, Casey Meile, Asst. Prin.



Enrollment: 1,978  
School Hours: 8:10 AM to 3:05 PM

### Washington High

501 N. Sycamore Ave. • 367-7970

Jamie Nold, Principal / Dan Conrad,  
Nate Malchow, Rachael Eggers, Asst. Prin.

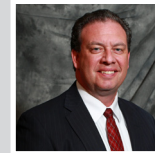


Enrollment: 1,831  
School Hours: 8:10 AM to 3:05 PM

### Career and Technical Education Academy

4700 W. Career Cir. • 367-5504

Jim Kayl, Principal

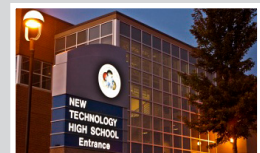


Enrollment: 875 (includes out-of-district students)  
School Hours: 7:30 AM to 3:00 PM

### New Technology High

2205 N. Career Ave. • 367-5850

Dolly Ellwein, Principal



Enrollment: 284  
School Hours: 7:40 AM to 2:40 PM



# Communication: Key to School Success!



Student safety. Content for both core and elective courses. Construction projects. Interventions for struggling readers. Education-related legislative updates. These topics should be important to all Sioux Falls taxpayers. Because education funding is primarily paid for through property tax, each of us has a vested interest in the current state of our schools and the future of each student's success.

In an effort to inform and keep the lines

of communication open, the Sioux Falls School Board invites the public to attend its public meetings held on the second and fourth Monday of every month at 5:30pm at the Instructional Planning Center, 201 E. 38th Street. If citizens wish to speak publically, they must sign in prior to the start of the meeting. If the topic is a non-agenda item, citizens speak during a segment titled Persons Wishing to Address the School Board. Those wishing to speak on an agenda item may do so after the

report is presented and before Board action is taken. Meetings are broadcast live on Midcontinent Cable Channel 20 or 595. Replays are at 7pm the following Wednesday and Friday of the same week.

Phone calls, emails, and other communications are also welcome. Any specific concerns should be first addressed with the building principal. The District believes community involvement is critical to the success of the 24,000 students it serves.

## Technology

The Sioux Falls School District maintains a three-year technology plan that guides the District in appropriating technology to teach students effectively, develop staff proficiencies, and maximize equipment usage. The current plan was updated in January 2015 and is available for viewing at [sf.k12.sd.us](http://sf.k12.sd.us).

## Curriculum

The District continually reviews curriculum to keep up with the latest information and best teaching practices. Review by subject area aligns with the State Board of Education timeline. Fine Arts and World Language are currently being reviewed with English/Language Arts following soon. Parent and community participation are requested.

## FY '16 Budget

The FY16 budget is balanced, student-focused, and staff-supporting. It increases teaching FTE to match increasing enrollment, expands the Administrative Intern program to support students at schools with large enrollments, and adds extra pay for Technology Integrationists at elementary schools, among other things, for a total budget of \$217 million.

# 2015-2016 School Calendar

September 2015						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	★8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

First Day of School  
Sept 8

October 2015						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

No School Oct 16

November 2015						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Veterans' Day Nov 11  
Nov 24 No Classes Elem/MS,  
Early Dismissal HS  
Thanksgiving Break Nov 25-27

December 2015						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Holiday Break  
Dec 23-Jan 3

January 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Semester Tests/End 1st  
Semester Jan 20-21  
No School Jan 22

February 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29				

Presidents' Day Break  
Feb 12-15

March 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Mar 7 No Classes Elem/MS,  
Early Dismissal HS  
Spring Break Mar 25-28

April 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Late Start MS Only/Early  
Dismissal Elem Only April 28  
No School April 29

May 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Memorial Day May 30  
No School

June 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Semester Tests/Last Day of  
School June 1-2  
Graduation May 5



First/Last day of school



No school for all students



No classes for Elem/MS, Early Dismissal High School



End of Semester



Late Start MS Only/Early Dismissal Elem Only



Graduation

**OFFICIAL NOTICES CAN ALSO BE FOUND AT SF.K12.SD.US  
NOTICE: FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT  
(FERPA) ANNUAL NOTIFICATION- Policy Regulation JRA/JRA-R**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) afford parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:

(1) The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the school receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The principal will make arrangements for access and notification of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

(2) The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA. This does not include the right to request a change to any specific grade.

Parents or eligible students who wish to ask the school to amend a record should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it should be changed. If the school decides not to amend the record as requested, the school will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

(3) The right to privacy of personally identifiable information (PII) in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the school as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel) or a person serving on the School Board. A school official also may include a volunteer or contractor outside of the school who performs an institutional service or function for which the school would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of PII from education records, such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist; a parent or student volunteering to serve on an official committee, a parent, student, or other volunteer assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks; or a service provider or vendor providing the District with online educational services or applications. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. Upon request, the District discloses educational records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks to enroll if the disclosure is for the purposes of the student's enrollment or transfer.

(4) The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the School to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are: Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Dept. of Education, 400 Maryland Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20202

**NOTICE: DIRECTORY INFORMATION**

FERPA requires that the District, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information (PII) from your child's education records. However, the District may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" (information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, without written consent), unless you have advised the District to the contrary in accordance with District procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the District to include this type of information in certain school publications. Directory information may also be provided to outside organizations. The District classifies and identifies directory information as follows:

**A. Directory Information for Use in School Publications:**

The District designates the following as directory information for use by the District in school publications without prior parental written consent:

1. Student's name;
2. Grade level;
3. Student's participation in officially recognized activities or sports;
4. Weight and height of athletes;
5. Honors, awards, and degrees;
6. Information which denotes accomplishments and achievements;
7. Individual and group photographs;
8. Dates of attendance;
9. School attending; and
10. Parent/Guardian name.

Examples of the use of the above information in school publications by the District include, but are not limited to: class rosters posted inside school buildings; a program showing a student's role in a music or drama production; the annual yearbook; school newspaper; honor roll or other recognition lists; graduation programs; and sports activity programs, such as for wrestling, showing weight and height of team members.

**B. Directory Information for Student Contact Lists and Public Requests (Outside Organizations):**

The District designates the following as additional directory information that may be disclosed by the District without prior written parental consent to outside organizations:

1. Student's name;
2. Address;
3. Telephone number;
4. School attending; and
5. Grade level.

Examples of the use of this additional directory information include, but are not limited to: use in a parent/student contact list (e.g. buzz book, school telephone directory, school contact list); providing

information, upon request, to individuals, groups or organizations outside of school (e.g. parent groups [booster groups, PTA], outside organizations serving youth, companies that manufacture class rings or supply graduation items, photographers).

Upon directory information from either category A or B being made public by the District (e.g. a program distributed at school event or information provided to manufacturer of class rings), that specific information, unless excluded by law, may fall within the definition of a public record and be accessible to the citizens of South Dakota in accordance with South Dakota's open record laws.

**RIGHT OF PARENT/GUARDIAN OR ELIGIBLE STUDENT TO OPT-OUT OF DISCLOSURE OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION**

The District will disclose the above identified directory information without written consent unless a parent or an eligible student "opts-out." Parents or an eligible student may elect to "opt-out" of one or both categories of directory information (Directory Information for Use in School Publications and/or Directory Information for Student Contact Lists and Public Requests (Outside Organizations)). Any such "opt-out" must be made, in writing, to the building principal within fifteen 15 days after the notice is given. Policy/Regulation JRA/JRA-R can be found on the District's website at [www.sf.k12.sd.us](http://www.sf.k12.sd.us) or can be obtained from any school office or the Instructional Planning Center.

**NOTICE: INFORMATION NOT SUBJECT TO SURVEY, ANALYSIS, OR EVALUATION WITHOUT CONSENT/ PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS AMENDMENT AND CONSENT/OPT-OUT FOR SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES ANNUAL NOTIFICATION – Policy ILD**

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) affords parents certain rights regarding our conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. South Dakota Codified Law 13-3-51.2 provides greater rights to parents. These include the right to:

• *Consent* before students are required to submit to a survey, analysis, or evaluation that concerns one or more of the following protected areas ("protected information survey"):

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent;
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;
3. Sex behavior or attitudes;
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
6. Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents
8. Personal or family gun ownership; or
9. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.

• *Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of –*

1. Certain non-emergency medical examinations required for school attendance; and
  2. Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others.
- *Inspect, upon request and before administration or use –*
1. Protected information surveys of students;
  2. Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
  3. Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.
- These rights transfer from the parents to a student who is 18 years old or an emancipated minor under State law.

The District has adopted a procedure regarding the above rights and to protect student privacy in the administration of protected information surveys and the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales or other distribution purposes. The District will notify parents at the beginning of the school year if the District has identified the specific or approximate dates of surveys for which consent is required. For surveys and activities scheduled after the school year starts, parents will be provided reasonable notification of the planned activities and surveys listed below and be provided an opportunity to consent (protected information surveys) or opt their child out (marketing activities and certain non-emergency medical examinations) as required by the PPRA and state law. Parents will also be provided an opportunity to review any pertinent surveys.

Parents who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with the Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Dept. of Education, 400 Maryland Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20202. Policy ILD can be found on the District's website at [www.sf.k12.sd.us](http://www.sf.k12.sd.us) or can be obtained from any school office or the Instructional Planning Center.

**NOTICE: SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973- Policy/Regulation KED/KED-R**

**DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION IN PROGRAMS/SERVICES**  
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504) is designed to eliminate discrimination on the basis of disability and requires that qualified individuals be provided equal access to educational programs and services. Policy AC/AC-R, Equal Opportunity/Nondiscrimination, prohibits discrimination based upon disability. A complaint relating to discrimination based on disability may be filed by a student, parent/guardian, employee or other citizen when it is felt that a violation has occurred. Complaints of disability discrimination are filed with: Section 504 Coordinator; Supervisor of Health Services, 201 East 38th St., Sioux Falls, SD 57105-5898, Ph. (605)367-7933.

Policy and Regulation AC/AC-R set forth below outlines the complaint procedures for complaints related to discrimination based upon disability and can be found on the District's website at [www.sf.k12.sd.us](http://www.sf.k12.sd.us) or can be obtained from any school office.

**ACCESS** Persons with disabilities may contact the building principal or site administrator at least 72 hours before the event to obtain reasonable accommodations needed to participate in District programs or activities. If the principal or site administrator is unable

to address the request, concerns should be referred to: "Section 504 Coordinator: (Discrimination based on Disability): Supervisor of Health Services. 201 E. 38th St., Sioux Falls, SD 57105-5898; Ph. (605)367-7933.

**STUDENTS** Policy/Regulation KED/KED-R, Concerns and Complaints about Educational Programs for Students with Disabilities or Students with Substantially Limiting Health Conditions, outlines the District's procedure relating to the identification, evaluation or educational placement of a student under Section 504. Concerns/Complaints relating to the identification, evaluation or educational placement of a student under Section 504 should be referred to the District's Section 504 Coordinator - Supervisor of Health Services, 201 East 38th St.; Sioux Falls, SD 57105-5898; Ph. (605)367-7933.

**PARENTAL RIGHTS** You have the right to: (1) Have your child take part in and receive benefits from public education programs without discrimination because of his/her disability; (2) Have your child educated in facilities and receive services comparable to those provided nondisabled students; (3) Have your child have an equal opportunity to participate in nonacademic and extracurricular activities provided by the District; (4) Receive notice with respect to the identification, evaluation or placement (including a substantial change in placement) of your child; (5) Have the identification, evaluation and placement decisions based upon a variety of information sources and by persons who know the student, the evaluation data, and placement options; (6) Have your child receive appropriate educational and related services when eligible and necessary under Section 504; (7) Examine all relevant records relating to decisions regarding your child's educational records, including records related to the identification, evaluation, educational program and placement; (8) Request a review of a Section 504 Team decision relating to the evaluation, educational program and placement (including any substantial change in placement) of your child; (9) Request an impartial due process hearing relating to the evaluation, educational and placement decisions (including any substantial change in placement); (10) Appeal the decision of the impartial hearing officer to a court of competent jurisdiction; (11) Have the District advise you of these rights under the federal law.

The Sioux Falls School District must identify and evaluate students who may be eligible for services under Section 504 due to the following conditions:

1. A physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities (which includes major bodily functions); or
2. A record of having an impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, or
3. An impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities.

The District will provide prior written notice to parents before initiating or changing or refusing to initiate or change the identification, evaluation or educational placement of a student under Section 504. Parent consent is required for all initial evaluations.

**REVIEW AND IMPARTIAL HEARING PROCEDURE**

The parent of a child with a disability who disagrees with any decision regarding the identification, evaluation or educational placement of a student by the 504 Team may request a review by the District's Section 504 Coordinator – Supervisor of Health Services or file a Due Process Complaint. If the issues are not resolved after the review by the Section 504 Coordinator, a parent may file a Due Process Complaint. Prior to the initiation of a Due Process Hearing, the Section 504 Coordinator will offer to convene a meeting with the parents and the relevant member or members of the 504 Team and a representative of the District who has decision-making authority on behalf of the District. The purpose of the meeting is for the parents to discuss their Due Process Complaint and the facts that form the basis of the Complaint so that the District has the opportunity to resolve the dispute. If the issues raised in the Due Process Complaint are not resolved to the satisfaction of the parent within 30 days of the receipt of the Due Process Complaint, a Due Process Hearing will be scheduled. An impartial Hearing Officer will be retained to conduct a hearing. Any party to a hearing has the right to:

1. Be accompanied and advised by counsel - neither party has the right to be represented by a nonattorney at a hearing;
2. Present evidence and confront, cross-examine, and compel the attendance of witnesses;
3. Introduce evidence that has been disclosed to the other party at least 5 business days before the hearing;
4. Obtain a written, or, at the option of the parent, electronic, verbatim record of the hearing; and
5. Obtain written, or, at the option of the parents, electronic findings of fact and decisions.

A complete copy of Policy/Regulation KED/KED-R can be accessed at [www.sf.k12.sd.us/schoolboard/policies](http://www.sf.k12.sd.us/schoolboard/policies) or obtained from any school office.

Concerns and inquiries regarding Section 504 may be directed to the Office of Civil Rights, U.S. Dept. of Education, Kansas City Office, 8930 Ward Parkway, Suite 2037, Kansas City, MO 64114-3302. Ph. (816)268-0550; FAX# (816)823-1404, TTY# 1(877)521-2172; email [OCR.KansasCity@ed.gov](mailto:OCR.KansasCity@ed.gov).

**INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT: CHILD IDENTIFICATION**

The District provides free, appropriate education for all children with disabilities from birth through age 21. Any eligible child within the jurisdiction of the District, including those enrolled in any public or private agency or school located in the District, should be referred to the Office of Special Services. Ph. (605)367-7689.

*Documents for Public Inspection:* The District is operating a project in compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Any funding applications, evaluation, or reports required by the state for operation of the project are available for public inspection. Documents are maintained in the Special Services Office of the Instructional Planning Center, 201 East 38th St., and are available during business hours.

**NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION – Policy/Regulation AC/AC-R**

In an effort to provide a safe, respectful educational environment, the District prohibits discrimination in its policies, employment practices and programs on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, age, gender (including pregnancy and sexual violence), sexual orientation, disability, national origin or ancestry, military/veteran status, genetic information or any other category protected by law. In addition, the District shall not discriminate in the opportunities for students on the basis of parental status, marital status, or pregnancy, nor shall such students be excluded from any program or activity, including any class or any extracurricular activity. Prohibited acts of discrimination include racial, sexual, ethnic or other types of slurs, insults, intimidation, harassment and other conduct directed toward another person in accordance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (discrimination based on disability); Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (discrimination based on national origin or race); Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (discrimination based on gender); and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (discrimination based on age.) Individuals with concerns or inquires about discrimination are encouraged to attempt to resolve the concern informally by working with the administrator most directly involved in the situation. If resolution is not achieved, the following complaint procedure is available.

**COMPLAINT PROCEDURE – RESOLUTION OF DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINTS**

A complaint may be filed by a student, parent/guardian, employee or other citizen when it is felt that a violation of Policy AC Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity has occurred. Formal complaints are filed with:

Discrimination based on disability: Section 504 Coordinator: Health Services Supervisor, 201 East 38th St., Sioux Falls, SD 57105-5898, Ph. (605)367-7933.

All other forms of discrimination: Civil Rights Officer/Title IX Coordinator (CRO/IX), In-House Counsel, 201 East 38th St., Sioux Falls, SD 57105-5898 Ph. (605)367-4670.

1. The Complaint Investigation Form should be completed by the person filing the complaint or the designated administrator. The form includes the following:

- Complainant's name and address
- Date(s) of the incident(s)
- Description of the incident(s)
- Name(s) of the person(s) involved in the incident(s)
- Name(s) of any witness(es) to the incident(s)
- What action, if any, has been taken
- Requested resolution of the complaint
- Signature of the complainant will be requested, but not required

2. An investigation will be initiated. This investigation may be conducted by District officials or by a third party designated by the District. The investigating party shall provide a written report of the status of the investigation within ten (10) working days to the Superintendent and the CRO/IX.

3. If the complainant is not satisfied with the decision rendered by the designated administrator, he/she may appeal the decision to the Superintendent within ten (10) working days following receipt of the decision. The appeal must include the original Complaint Investigation Form, a copy of the decision from the designated administrator and a written statement as to a reason for the appeal.

4. The Superintendent or designee will review the materials submitted, investigate the circumstances and respond in writing within fourteen

(14) working days from the appeal. At the Superintendent's level, the appeal process may or may not include a conference with the parties involved.

5. If the complainant is not satisfied with the decision rendered by the Superintendent, he/she may request a hearing in executive session with the School Board. The request for hearing must be submitted in writing within ten (10) working days through the Superintendent's Office. The hearing will be scheduled within thirty (30) working days from the request for hearing. The involved parties will be notified in writing of the date and time of the scheduled hearing.

6. The School Board will render a decision in writing within ten (10) working days of the hearing.

7. During the investigation all parties directly involved in the complaint may have legal or other representation. If any party elects to be represented at any step of the complaint procedure, the name of the representative must be declared in writing to the Civil Rights Officer within two (2) days of the filing of the complaint, notification of any investigation, or the filing of any appeal.

The District prohibits retaliation against any individual who reports a claim under this policy or participates in an investigation of any such claim.

Policy/Regulation AC/AC-R can be found on the District's website at [www.sf.k12.sd.us](http://www.sf.k12.sd.us) or can be obtained from any school office or the Instructional Planning Center.

Concerns and inquiries regarding discrimination rights may be directed to the Kansas City Office, Office of Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, 8930 Ward Parkway, Suite 2037, Kansas City, MO 64114-3302. Ph. (816)268-0550; FAX# (816)823-1404, email OCR.



## District Information 2015-16 • [www.sf.k12.sd.us](http://www.sf.k12.sd.us)

Most questions about the Sioux Falls Public Schools can and should be answered by your school principal. For more information about District-wide programs, please call the following offices:

General District Information	367-7900	English Language Learners/Migrant	367-4547
After School Program (Kids Inc.)	367-4424	Finance Office	367-7905
Athletics	367-7960	Fine & Performing Arts	367-7958
Attendance Area Information &		Head Start	367-7950
Bus Transportation	367-7276	Health Services	367-7926
Child Nutrition Services	367-7635	Human Resources/Employment	367-7661
Community Relations/Comm. Ed.	367-7999	Indian/Homeless Education	367-4282
Curriculum/Instruction	367-7943	KLRN-TV	367-7984
Elementary	367-7946	Relay Services for Hearing Impaired	Dial 711, then desired number
Middle School	367-7871	Special Services	367-7689
High School	367-7947		
Early Childhood Screening	367-8488		

## IMPORTANT Emergency Information

Severe weather. A fire. An unwanted school visitor. These are not pleasant thoughts. Unfortunately, they are real possibilities for which your public schools must now prepare in an effort to keep our greatest assets – our students and staff – safe.

The Sioux Falls Public Schools take proactive measures to ensure student safety by working with law enforcement, emergency management, health officials, and other key stakeholders to regularly practice the safety plans already in place.

Students know what is expected of them. Do you? During an emergency, parents and community members should

- Refrain from coming to school. Additional cars and people impede response by trained emergency workers.
- Don't call the school. Calls may not be answered as staff makes your student its highest priority.
- Not request their student leave the building. Students will not be released from school supervision until the threat has passed.
- Watch and wait. Keep phone lines open to receive instructions about how and where to reunite with your child.


A safe and comfortable learning environment is key to the academic success of students. Sioux Falls Public Schools are well-prepared to handle crisis, though we hope it is something we never have to do.

Sioux Falls School District  
 201 E. 38th St.  
 Sioux Falls, SD 57105-5898  
 605-367-7900 \* Instructional Planning Center  
 www.sf.k12.sd.us

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85,000 copies of this annual report publication were printed at a cost of \$.09 each. Tax dollars were not used. Revenue generated by the District's Enterprise Fund covers printing and mailing costs.



sf.k12.sd.us

### Our Vision:

*It is the vision of the Sioux Falls School District to provide the opportunities and challenges for each student to succeed as a lifelong learner in a changing world. The District values a highly trained and committed workforce, continually evaluating and improving their own and student performance. The District recognizes its role as a key contributor to the social, civic, and economic foundation of this community. To achieve this vision, we must IGNITE the hearts and minds of our students, staff, families, the business community, and citizens.*


**Kent Albery**  
 President  
 334-9762



**Todd Thelke**  
 Vice President  
 339-2809



**Douglas C. Morrison**  
 Member  
 371-0956



**Kate Parker**  
 Member  
 275-3497



**Carly Reiter**  
 Member  
 371-1770

### **A Message from the Board President:**

Research shows good schools cannot be maintained without good school boards. There is a proven correlation between an effective school board and increased student achievement. The Center for Public Education, an initiative of the National School Boards Association, has defined eight key traits of effective school boards.

#### *Effective school boards:*

- *commit to a vision of high expectations for student achievement and quality instruction and define clear goals toward that vision*
- *have strong shared beliefs and values about what is possible for students and their ability to learn, and of the system and its ability to teach all children at high levels.*
- *are accountability driven, spending less time on operational issues and more time focused on policies to improve student achievement.*
- *have a collaborative relationship with staff and the community and establish a strong communications structure to inform and engage both internal and external stakeholders in setting and achieving district goals.*
- *are data savvy; they embrace and monitor data, even when the information is negative, and use it to drive continuous improvement.*
- *align and sustain resources, such as professional development, to meet district goals.*
- *lead as a united team with the superintendent, each from their respective roles, with strong collaboration and mutual trust.*
- *take part in team development and training, sometimes with their superintendents, to build shared knowledge, values and commitments for their improvement effort.*

When we selected Dr. Brian Maher as our new superintendent, we noted and valued his commitment to include Board members as part of a collaborative team, working to ensure the success of every student.

We are happy to welcome Dr. Maher to Sioux Falls and look forward to working with him. We pledge that the goal of student achievement will continue to be the focus of every decision we make as members of the Sioux Falls School Board.

Kent Albery, School Board President