

**MINUTES OF THE
SOUTH DAKOTA ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF
BOARD MEETING
July 25, 2020**

The South Dakota Association of the Deaf Board met on July 25, 2020 via Zoom Webinar, due to COVID-19. Present were Kevin Barber, President, Patty Kuglitsch, Secretary, Sonny Rasmussen, Treasurer, Board at Large: Dave Dahle, Angela Ellman, Steve Janecek, and Mark Johnson. Rick Norris interpreted during the meeting.

Twenty members watched the Zoom Webinar.

Kevin Barber, President called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM.

Agenda:

Sonny Rasmussen (Angela Ellman) moved to accept the meeting agenda as read. Carried

Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

Dave Dahle (Angela Ellman) moved to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2020 meeting. Carried

Sonny Rasmussen (Steve Janecek) moved to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2020 email meeting. Carried

Sonny Rasmussen (Dave Dahle) moved to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2020 special board meeting. Carried

Treasurer's Report:

The treasurer's report that covered the month of April, May and June were provided for the board review. Due to COVID- 19 the three auditors were not able to meet in person to go through the financials. All reports are "unaudited" and the board will approve them at the next board meeting.

Public Comments:

There were no comments.

Officers and Board Reports:

The officers gave their reports. (Attachments of the reports can be found at the end of the minutes)

President: See Attachment 1

Board-at-Large Report:

There were no reports

Committee Reports:

(The President and/or Chairs gave a summary of their reports. **Attachments** of the committee reports can be found at the end of the minutes.

Deaf Cultural Heritage Center: See Attachment 2

Education Committee: See Attachment 3

Finance Committee: See Attachment 4

Governance Committee: See Attachment 5

Hall of Fame Committee: See Attachment 6

Public Relations Committee: See Attachment 7

Technology Committee: See Attachment 8

2020 SDAD Conference: See Attachment 9

Special Committee: See Attachment 10

Unfinished Business:

There was no unfinished business

New Business:

Patty Kuglitsch (Dave Dahle) moved that SDAD look into a grant that will provide tablets with video interpreters in police vehicles, ambulance vehicles and fire department vehicles and refer to Technology Committee. Carried

Mark Johnson () amended that we should look into the grant to make it available statewide. Dead as no one seconded.

Sonny Rasmussen (Steve Janecek) moved to approve the President's appointments of Callista Cline as SDAD Vice President and Jeff Panek as Board Member at Large. Carried.

Angela Ellman (Dave Dahle) moved that SDAD approve the Finance Committee's recommendation to have PastPerfect Web Edition for a one-time fee for \$1,245; the annual subscription fee for \$870 and the total amount is \$2,115. Mark Johnson abstained from the vote. Carried.

Dave Dahle (Mark Johnson) moved that SDAD approve the Finance Committee's recommendation to take out \$10,000 from the General Fund for the 2021 SDAD Conference. Angela Ellman and Patty Kuglitsch abstained from the vote. Carried.

Angela Ellman (Steve Janecek) moved that SDAD order clear masks and provide to SDAD members. Failed.

Patty Kuglitsch () amended that SDAD send a letter to the Department of Human Services asking the possibility to give out free clear masks to deaf and hard of hearing users. Dead as no one seconded.

Patty Kuglitsch () amended that SDAD buy clear masks and sell to non-members for \$5.00 for the purpose of fundraising. Dead as no one seconded.

Patty Kuglitsch (Angela Ellman) moved that SDAD set up a committee to explore different kinds of clear masks and make a recommendation to the Board. Carried.

Mark Johnson (Dave Dahle) amended to refer to Technology Committee.

Restatement: SDAD explore different kinds of clear masks and make a recommendation to the Board and refer to Technology Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Patty Kuglitsch, Secretary

SDAD President's Report

July 25, 2020

1. Sioux Falls City Council Meeting
 - a. Live closed captioning – There is live closed captioning on TV each time they have their council meeting.
 - b. On-site interpreting – The City is not able to provide on-site interpreting at the council meeting. The deaf people will have to make a request for an interpreter 48 hours in advance. SDAD doesn't agree with the City's decision. SDAD will continue working on it.
2. CSD of SD
 - a. Summer Youth Camp – CSD will not host the summer youth camp at Joy Ranch on August 10-12 due to COVID-19. It will be postponed to sometime in October. It may be virtual.
3. SDSA Advisory Council – SDSA asked me to serve on SDSA Advisory Council as SDAD representative. I accepted.
4. SDSA All Classes Reunion Chairperson – We had two co-chairs but they resigned. SDAD will need to find someone who will be willing to be a chair. The reunion will not take place at the same time as 2021 SDAD Conference. SDAD will find a different date for the All Class Reunion.
5. ADA 30th Anniversary – The ADA 30th Anniversary began yesterday (Friday) and I was on the panel along with the other people with disabilities. The panel took place on the webinar. Approximately 100 people participated in the webinar. There are different activities, i.e., Oh My Cupcakes will have ADA Cupcake Day today (Saturday) and tomorrow (Sunday) there will be ADA Day Beer Release at Obscure Brewing Company. Also there will be Arc of Dreams Lit up in Celebration from 8:00 PM to 6:00 AM. On Friday, August 7th at 5:00- 10:00 PM there will have ADA interactive Booth at 8th and RR Block Party. The
6. Suggestions Box
 - a. Teresa Nold suggested that SDAD should consider a grant for clear masks to be given out to deaf and hard of hearing people and interpreters. The Arizona Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing did that.
 - b. Callista Cline suggested that SDAD should consider a grant for tablets with video interpreters in police vehicles, ambulance vehicles and fire department vehicles for the purposes of better communication accessibility.

7. NAD

- a. 2020 Council of Representatives on October 1-4, 2020
 - i. Has four parts
 - 1. Official Meeting
 - a. Submit a resolution by August 1, 2020
 - b. Submit a priority for 2020-2022 by August 1st
 - 2. Bylaw amendments
 - a. Submit a Bylaw Amendment by August 1st
 - 3. Elections
 - a. Run for a position on the Board by August 15
 - 4. The Forum
8. SDAD Board Vacant Positions
 - a. Vice President – Callista Cline
 - b. Board at Large – Jeff Panek

SDAD Deaf Cultural Heritage Center Report

Board Reports

Date: 07-08-2020

Chair: Scott Miller

Committee members: Brian Burr, Mark Johnson and James Still

Summary:

1. Continue to do some research works and archiving files.
2. Continue to gather history for SDAD News and media.
3. Still waiting for the decision by the SDAD on the software
4. Gathered and submitted history of protest/rally/legislatives.

Action Plan:

SDAD Education Committee Board Report

Date: 7/8/2020

Chair: Anne Land

Committee Members: Patty Kuglitsch, Teresa Nold, Ben Soukup, Callista Powell, Patricia O'Neill, Kevin Barber (ex-officio)

Summary:

1. SDSD Advisory Council is in place. More information coming.
2. LEAD-K milestones outcome data is being addressed now by SD DOE.
3. Consideration of an ad hoc committee to facilitate communication and partnership with state agencies.
4. Meeting with Secretary Jones, Special Education Director Linda Turner and SDAD Education Committee discuss DOE use of funds from 2020 legislation for deaf education, constitutional language as to which agency has authority over deaf education, the Special Schools Interagency Agreement and the need for families to follow the state complaint process when there are issues in deaf education so DOE can take action.

Action Plan for Committee:

1. SDAD Education Committee to followup with Secretary Jones and Director Turner with suggestions for upgrading the Interagency Agreement (which expires May 2021).
2. Further discussions about details to create ad hoc committee.
3. SDAD Education Committee to review the Interagency Agreement as well as the SD State Constitution regarding deaf education.

Action Plan:

None.

SDAD Education Committee Summary of Meeting with SD DOE July 2, 2020

The following is intended for SDAD members. This is a summary of the SDAD Education Committee's beginning discussions with DOE regarding the improvement of educational services for SD deaf children. We look forward to more collaboration with DOE and other agencies.

Questions or comments? Please contact Anne Land, Chair of Education Committee at land.anne@gmail.com.

SDAD Education Committee:

Anne Land, Ben Soukup, Patty Kuglitsch, Callista Powell, Teresa Nold; absent Patricia O'Neal

SD DOE:

Ben Jones, Linda Turner, Ann Larsen, Holly Robling

Interpreter:

Rick Norris

The meeting was held via Zoom, starting at 10:30 am ending at approximately 11:40 am.

DOE Legislative update:

- End of legislative session, 3/12.
- Passed budget included \$250,000 appropriation for deaf ed and dyslexia. \$250,000 was taken out from the TRS Fund (excess balance).
- Two legislators advocated for deaf education and dyslexia professional training.

The statutory role of DOE:

- DOE says what education is and the LEA is charged with providing the education.

DOE update:

- March to the end of school year, DOE working full time with schools going to e-learning because of COVID-19.
- In the beginning stages of engagement with new leadership at SDSD and BOR.
- Regarding opening of schools this fall, many LEAs gave PPE to hospitals to help the community. Getting clear face masks will be a challenge.

DOE's consideration on how to use appropriated funds:

- Prior ideas included preparing printed materials, flyers, setting up conference calls and workshops, including communication to both the special education and general education audience.
- DOE is interested in learning from SDAD on how to use the \$250,000 funding.
- May consider the creation of a DOE staff position (possibly with someone who has a deaf education background and who is able to advocate and/or advise DOE and any agencies on behalf of deaf and hard of hearing children). But DOE must first offer to the governor evidence of due diligence that other programs and agencies cannot fill the gap.

DOE possible goals/perspectives:

- Improve communication & collaboration among DOE, BOR, SDSD and SDAD to better serve the children.

- Include stronger advocacy for deaf children by widely informing LEA administrators that support is available to help with educating deaf students.
- Remind school districts that there are often surplus funds in local school budgets as well as the Extraordinary Cost Fund budget.
- Inspire principals to focus on addressing the students' needs and not to manage IEPs from a "keep costs down" attitude.
- Consider ways to include deaf education as a more consistent topic among DOE staff.
- Help raise awareness among the general educators about the importance of early language acquisition, which can include ASL.
- Address the confusion regarding the SD Constitution as to which agency is responsible. Changes to the wording in the Constitution may be necessary.
- LEADK: DOE is prepared to submit reports on language development, Birth to 3.
- Regarding 2020 legislation, DOE will begin collecting data this school year, but will be collated and reported in the December 2021 count.

Interagency Agreement:

- Begin review of the Interagency Agreement.
- It is reviewed in 3 years.
- The agreements don't expire; but has a review process so recommendations can be sent in now.

DOE's perspective on parents' roles:

- Help DOE understand expectations for their children. Wide range of viewpoints on the issue.
- Exercise their rights by utilizing the state complaint process. Parents currently underuse this necessary process.
- DOE takes questions from parents on the complaint process. Assists by sharing the federal law and state statutes so parents can advocate for themselves.

DOE future discussions with SDAD Education Committee:

- The SDAD Education Committee will provide suggestions and recommendations about the Interagency Agreement wording.
- After DOE and SDAD Education Committee do a thorough review of the Interagency Agreement, it may be necessary to work on changing the constitution.
- The SDAD Education Committee will keep in touch with DOE on a regular basis.

SDAD Education Committee Input:

About Service Delivery, Complaint Process and Language Access:

- Visual language acquisition is essential: it's acceptable to teach hearing babies ASL and is well supported, but a deaf child who needs the visual language even more so is too often denied. (Dr Jones agreed that this is concerning).
- Deaf Child Bill of Rights (DCBR) pertains to issues of communication rights and language access.
- SDCL 13-33-7, ASL is recognized as a language and is encouraged at the elementary level, yet nearly impossible for deaf and hard of hearing students to get the needed instruction.
- Too often, LEAs put the brakes on ASL access because of not wanting to pay for interpreters. Amplification is much cheaper.
- Most LEAs aren't staffed with deaf educators or with people who have understanding & experience pertaining to deaf education.
- A child may or may not receive services, depending upon LEA's decisions, which are not always based upon student needs but are often the result of cost calculations.
- Too often parents aren't fully informed and/or are unfamiliar with deafness, and this is where the deaf school comes in to help to provide some expertise. Need well-rounded, quality information to help parents know what services to request.
- It can be a struggle to obtain the progress monitoring data from schools.
- Goals and expectations can be set too low which reinforces negative stereotyping.
- Often parents are fearful that their kids will suffer if a state complaint is filed. (To this, Dr Jones said something to the effect that *courage is better than fear.*)
- For students on a 504 Plan, dispute resolution goes through the US Department of Education Office of Civil Rights.
- Some students are not on an IEP or 504.
- No dispute resolution process in place regarding the SD special schools.
- Many LEAs have primary focus on extra-curricular, but limited focus for special ed student post high school success (such as scholarships, employment training, and transition planning).
- Harrisburg is a positive example. The special education team looks at all the needs of the identified students, regardless of their primary IEP disability.

About Agency Challenges & Offices:

- No one single agency/entity holds or takes responsibility.
- Recommendation that BOR, DOE and legislature consider a centralized office or lead person on deaf issues.
- Based upon decades of advocacy, with each new administration, a pendulum of change happens.
- Expertise of deafness is lacking at the state and local levels.
- Confident that getting the right people at the table will help to get things done.
- Many groups and agencies have completed studies, yet the information is not utilized. Following the findings and recommendations would help to address how to focus on the best interests of the children.
- There are many stories of kids left without services and the deaf children suffer for it.

- In the current arrangement, an LEA may refuse SDSD and ultimately the LEA picks, chooses and sometimes rejects, what's professionally recommended/suggested by SDSD. We want to make sure kids get the appropriate services and that LEAs would honor SDSD guidance.
- Years ago, Gov Daugaard gave his opinion that SDSD is responsible for advocating for deaf children.
- In other states, deaf schools have their own board, which are often under the state DOE. Very few special schools are under a regental system like South Dakota.
- Consider looking at system change in how things are structured. BOR has a primary focus on higher education, very little in BOR agendas focused on special schools; regents lack expertise in special school administration.
- Would like to see South Dakota be a national leader to showcase well run deaf education programs and services across the state.

About Start of School Year:

- With more E-learning (Eg, Zoom) there will likely be further challenges with captioning and accessible interpreting as well as lacking enough in-person signing opportunities.
- In classrooms settings with masks and social distancing, this will add difficulty for those who rely on visual communication – signing or speaking – have to see facial expressions. Clear masks should be considered.

SDAD Role:

- Work with legislators regarding education bills to address educational shortcomings (goal to strengthen support for the kids).
- Paula Souhrada will take over LEADK and is working out the schedule for future meetings.
- The deaf community gets marginalized and not seen as experts. While not everyone has the same expertise, each can provide a lot of helpful information from lived experiences.
- SDAD can offer help to improve collaboration and partnerships.
- Encourage DOE to partner and collaborate with other agencies as there are some overlapping services.

**SDAD Finance Committee
Board Reports
March 8, 2020**

Chair: Sam Whittle

Committee members: Deb Brozik and Leland Larson

Summary:

On March 8, 2020 at 12 noon, the South Dakota Association of the Deaf (SDAD) Finance Committees met at the Denny's restaurant on 400 I E I 0th St, Sioux Falls, SD 5 7103. Present at the meeting were Sam Whittle, SDAD Finance Chairperson, Deborah Brozik, SDAD Finance Committee, and Leland Larson, SDAD Finance Committee. We stayed in the meeting for about 90 minutes. We had a lot of good discussions about some negatives and positives of the costs and supports between the PastPerfect version 5.0 software and the PastPerfect Web Edition including their cloud network.

In a conclusion, the Finance committees agreed and voted to accept Mr. Scott Miller's recommendation of the PastPerfect Web Edition. The one-time setup fee would be \$1245.00, and the annual subscription fee would also be \$870.00 a year. The total for both of the software and setup fees would be \$2,115.00. After that, the subscription fee would be \$870.00 a year. With understanding, they will also provide consultations to help us with the start-up.

Action Plan:

1. Recommend to approve on PastPerfect Web Edition for one-time setup fee at \$1,245 and the annual subscription fee at \$870 per year in a total of \$2,115

SDAD Finance Committee

Report

July 21, 2020

Dear Mr. Kevin Barber, the SDAD President

On July 21, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., the South Dakota Association of the Deaf (SDAD) Finance Committees met through the Zoom video conferencing suite. Present at the meeting were Sam Whittle, SDAD Finance Chairperson, Deborah Brozik, SDAD Finance Committee, and Leland Larson, SDAD Finance Committee. The SDAD Finance Chairperson can host the video conferences on remote with the

SDAD Finance committees anytime. We stayed in the meeting for about 30 minutes. We had a lot of good discussions about some negatives and positives of the costs and supports. We simply wanted to keep our meetings short and sweet.

In a conclusion, the Finance committees agreed, and also voted to accept the request of \$10,000 for 2021 SDAD Conference being approved by the SDAD Special Board meeting.

SDAD Governance Committee

Board Reports

July 8, 2020

Chair: Tom Kober

Committee members: Larry Puthoff, David Soukup, Tanya Miller and Kevin Barber, Ex Officio

Summary:

There is no report from the Governance as there was no issues that needed our attention at this time.

We will begin our meeting soon to prepare some changes in our bylaws before the conference next year.

Action Plan:

SDAD Hall of Fame Committee

Board Reports

Date: 07-08-2020

Chair: Scott Miller

Committee members: Kevin Barber, James Still, Angela Ellman, Pat Anderson, Stanley Brozik and Curt Anderson

Summary:

- No action since Hall of Fame Luncheon
- Plan to send out the nomination forms this month

Action Plan:

SDAD Public Relations Committee Report

Date: July, 2020

Chair: Deb Kuglitsch

Committee members: Scott Miller, Angela Ellman, Teresa Nold and Patty Kuglitsch

Summary:

- Continuing to update the SDAD website with new information; minutes; videos; pictures
- Currently revisiting the SDAD brochure
- Reviewing the upcoming SDAD News
- Created the half-page SDAD Conference volunteer needed advertisement
- Posted several info and ads in SDAD's social media

Action Plan:

**SDAD Technology Committee
Board Reports
July 8, 2020**

Chair: Tom Kober

Committee members: Callista Powell, Lance Sigdestad, Patty Kuglitsch, Ben Soukup, Mark Johnson, Angela Ellman and Kevin Barber, Ex Officio

Summary:

We had our technology meeting on Wednesday July 1 at noon. The agenda was focused on two items: DMV and License certification for interpreters

We discussed various topics related to DMV and decided to do survey to see if members want SDAD to pursue legislation or not. So, we brainstormed with questions and narrowed to four questions (subjective). Will send out very soon.

Related to interpreters' certifications. We continue on dialogue with SDIA/RID to get more information.

Related to PC. Kevin is addressing with Julie Paluch from DHS on PC certified being expired and what they will do with this. We will know when we get updated information

No actions from the Board at this time.

Future action for committee will be distributing the survey and video explaining about the survey. Deadline for gathering is on July 30.

Action Plan:

**2021 SDAD Conference Committee Report
July 21, 2020**

Committee:

Tanya Miller, Chair
Angela Ellman
Carmen Steen
Jaimie Feltman
Patty Kuglitsch
Deb Kuglitsch

The Conference Committee and I have been communicating through emails.

We have chosen our official Conference Theme: Inspiring Change, Making an Impact!

We are working to finalize the budget before we decide the costs for the registration (combo).

The contract with Holiday Inn City Centre was reviewed sent back for slight revisions, but we expect to have it signed by President Barber and returned asap.

We plan to send letters to businesses and VRS providers asking for sponsorship soon.

Action Plan:

None

Signed Videos Project Committee Report July 16, 2020

Chair: Tanya Miller

Committee members: Angela Ellman and Patty Kuglitsch

The committee members noticed that many deaf individuals, even hearing individuals, have a difficult time understanding information listed on voting ballots. The committee liked the idea of developing videos to educate deaf South Dakotans on issues relating to voting.

Project Justification: Often deaf people do not have a direct way to learn about issues in ASL, their preferred mode of communication. This project will empower deaf individuals to learn about each issue from a neutral standpoint and then make their own decisions without any bias.

Because of Patty's long-standing relationship with Eric Weiss, Division Director of Rehabilitation Services, Patty was asked to contact Eric to inquire whether the state would be interested in collaborating with SDAD to provide signed videos to the deaf community. She contacted Eric Weiss and shared the concept. He liked it and he suggested that he contacted the Secretary of State. The Secretary liked the concept. Eric asked us for more details how it worked. (See below). We responded and are waiting for a reply.

Video Description: Three deaf individuals will use ASL to explain various initiatives and measures that will be voted upon in November. There will be no opinions or discussion regarding political groups.

- The first person will introduce and explain the measure or initiative.
- The second person will explain one view, such as the pros of supporting FOR the measure or initiative to pass.
- The third person will explain the opposing view, such as the cons of voting for the measure or initiative to fail.

If funds are provided for this purpose, the committee will need the following:

- Consultant to assist with preparing / interpreting the information
- Videographer to produce, edit and add captions
- 3 deaf signers
- an interpreter (for voice-over)