

Upcoming Events

March

20 – Board of Education Meeting
– Aberdeen

April

2-4 – State FCCLA Conference
– Sioux Falls
6-8 – Region V ACTE Conference
– Rapid City
6-7 – State HOSA Conference
– Sioux Falls
6-7 – SkillsUSA State Conference
– Watertown
10-11 FBLA Spring Conference
– Aberdeen
23-25 State FFA Convention
– Brookings



SB65 Signed by Governor

Gov. Dennis Daugaard signs into law Senate Bill 65, An Act to establish the South Dakota Board of Technical Education and to revise certain provisions regarding career and technical education and postsecondary technical institutes..

Lake Area Technical Institute - 2017 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence Winner

Lake Area Technical Institute (LATI) was just named the Aspen Institute's Community College Excellence award winner! The prize is \$1 million. They've been a finalist with distinction the last few award cycles, so it's exciting to see them win the crown for their top-notch work for students.

They have the highest 2-year graduation rate in the country, more than 99% of their students go to work or continue their education following graduation, and their partnerships with business and industry provide students excellent opportunities throughout their education.

President Cartney was in DC to accept the prize.

Teacher Shares Method Test Prep Demonstration Experience

Joe Dalton, NTHS exploration instructor, held a demonstration about Method Test Prep at Watertown High School parent teacher conferences on February 23, 2017.

"I choose to have a meet and greet atmosphere with the parents to show them the power this test preparation tool has to offer to their children. I talked to eight parents that evening that are currently enrolled in a Working with People course.

I answered multiple questions from the parents after I navigated through the site, showing the parents what their children are doing with this site in my classroom.

My students have performed the first two weeks of the program to get a small feel of what the questions and format will be like at the end of the 20 week trial period.



My students also took one of the full length ACT tests to see what, how, and why certain criteria are asked about on an ACT test.

All of the parents I demonstrated this website tool to were impressed. Many parents thanked me for taking the time during class to show how this tool is available their children to prepare accordingly for the ACT test. I wasn't expecting the positive feedback but I am sure glad they told me their opinions."

Western Dakota Tech's Have Your Pick Program a Win-Win for Employers, Students



Aaron Jacobs is excited about Western Dakota Tech's new Have Your Pick Workforce Development Program and the positive impact he believes it will have on employers and college students.

Jacobs, Western Dakota Tech Foundation Development Director, said the Have Your Pick industry partner program will help employers fill their future employment needs. It will also aid students in paying for their college education and having jobs upon graduation.

Western Dakota Tech developed the program with input from western South Dakota employers and it kicked off in fall 2016. Have Your Pick is designed to supplement and grow the Build Dakota Scholarship fund. Build Dakota was established to award all-expense paid scholarships to students entering high need workforce programs at technical colleges in South Dakota. Businesses participating in the Have Your Pick program help stretch Build Dakota funds, so more scholarships can be awarded, while developing relationships with students who have a high level of commitment to their businesses.

Jacobs has been meeting with area business leaders about the Have Your Pick program and has received favorable response.

There are two Have Your Pick industry partner sponsorship options at Western Dakota Tech. In Option 1, an employer sponsors a Build Dakota Scholarship recipient by contributing \$8,000 to the tuition and fees of a student of their choice. The student is then obligated to fulfill the requirements of the Build Dakota Scholarship and the employer. It is encouraged that there is a part-time internship, preferably paid, between the business and student to make sure the agreement and commitment are favorable.

In Option 2, industry partners sponsor students who did not receive a Build Dakota Scholarship for an investment of \$5,000. Of that amount, \$1,000 goes to the Western Dakota Tech Foundation to provide scholarships. The remaining \$4,000 goes directly to a student of the industry partner's choice. Western Dakota Tech facilitates meetings and interviews to help ensure a good "match" can be obtained for the benefit of both the sponsoring partner and student.

"In essence, industry partners will be selecting a student to sponsor who, if the fit is right for both, will go to work for them once their education is complete. The benefits of this program will be numerous. Students will have their college education paid for and a job upon completion of their program. Employers will be creating a pipeline of skilled, committed talent for their company," Jacobs said. "I think this program will be a great success," Jacobs said.

For more information about Western Dakota Tech's Have Your Pick Workforce Development Program, contact Aaron Jacobs at (605) 718-3061 or by email at aaron.jacobs@wdt.edu.

TRAC Training Opportunity Available

The TRansportation And Civil Engineering Program is a hands-on educational outreach program.

This math and science program is designed to expose 7-12th grade students to the work world of the transportation industry and the Civil Engineering discipline. The TRAC modules are gifted to the school by the South Dakota Department of Transportation (DOT) for the duration of time they are actively using the material.

Training will be offered to educators on April 5-6, June 5-6, and June 7-8, 2017. [Contact us](#) if you are interested in attending one of the training sessions.

The SDTRAC Training is a two day training held in the Becker-Hanson Building Training Center in Pierre.

A program goal is to align the TRAC resources with classrooms that would benefit the most. There are limited seats available in each training session and a limit to the number of classrooms added to the program each year. In order to help the selection committee prioritize applications, please complete the application and questions, which can be found here: <http://trac.sddot.com/get-involved/educators>.

Reminder: Update Course Codes in PRF and Infinite Campus

The PRF database has been reopened, so districts can now access the database and make changes and updates to the system. It's also a great time to ensure course codes in Infinite Campus and the PRF are updated and correct. When Perkins data entry rolls around, having accurate course codes in these systems will help that process run much more smoothly. If you have any questions about updates, please contact your regional representative.

- Community of Brookings, LATI Develop Partnership
- Belle Fourche HS Students' House Building Project on Track
- Students Participate in Career Expo
- Middle School Students Get Hands On Engineering Experience
- National FFA Week Provides Opportunities for Education, Experience
- Middle, High School Students Compete in State Robotics Competition
- Students 'Test Drive' Medical Careers at BHSU Scrubs Camp
- DSU Hosts CTE Show & Tell for Area High School Students
- Getting Girls Interested in Construction



HOT CAREERS: EMT/Paramedic

Emergency medical technicians (EMTs) and paramedics care for the sick or injured in emergency medical settings. People's lives often depend on the quick reaction and competent care provided by these workers. EMTs and paramedics respond to emergency calls, performing medical services and transporting patients to medical facilities. Most EMTs and paramedics work full time. Their work is physically strenuous and can be stressful, sometimes involving life-or-death situations. All emergency medical technicians (EMTs) and paramedics must complete a postsecondary educational program. All states require EMTs and paramedics to be licensed; requirements vary by state.

The employment outlook for the career is much faster than the average, with an expected growth of 24% by 2024. The median annual wage for an EMT paramedic is \$31,980. For more information, including state and area data and how to become an EMT or paramedic, visit <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/emts-and-paramedics.htm#tab-1>.

SAVE THE DATE



2017
South Dakota
Indian Education Summit

Unity for Youth

Sept. 24-26 - Ramkota Conference Center, Pierre

Strands include:

- Achievement
- Culture and Language
- Success from Within
- Building Future Leaders

For more information, contact Marta.Neuman@state.sd.us or 605-773-8194

"Let us put our minds together and see what life we can make for our children." –Sitting Bull

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