SD-STARS
SD-STARS for beginners

August 25, 2020 – 10:30 a.m. CT

Brad Steckelberg, SD-STARS Support Lead

Google doc:
Questions for the team

Use our Parking Lot to ask questions during the webinar!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Questions</th>
<th>Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How can I reach the SD-STARS team?</td>
<td><a href="mailto:STARSHelp@state.sd.us">STARSHelp@state.sd.us</a>&lt;br&gt;Mailing list for newsletters, notices: &lt;br&gt;<a href="https://www.k12.sd.us/MailingList/DataSTARS">https://www.k12.sd.us/MailingList/DataSTARS</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How can I change my permissions in SD-STARS?</td>
<td>Contact your district’s STARS Account Manager (SAM) All SAMs are listed in the SDDOE Education Directory at <a href="https://doe.sd.gov/ofm/edudir.aspx">https://doe.sd.gov/ofm/edudir.aspx</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When will the reports be ready for these?</td>
<td>These reports will be made available in</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Objectives

• What is SD-STARS?
• How do I log in to SD-STARS?
• How do I find & request reports?
• What other resources are available in SD-STARS?
• How do I find help if I have questions?

For this session, we will discuss the following Objectives

• What is SD-STARS?
• How do I log in to SD-STARS?
• How do I find & request reports?
• What other resources are available in SD-STARS?
• How do I find help if I have questions?
What is SD-STARS?

- State Longitudinal Data System (SLDS)
  - Collects and maintains student- and staff-level data
  - Links data across entities and over time
  - Makes data accessible through reporting and analysis tools

SD-STARS is South Dakota’s version of a Statewide Longitudinal Data System. What is a SLDS? A SLDS pulls already available data from different sources (e.g., Infinite Campus, assessments), dumps data into a centralized system, and securely links data together. The power of the system comes from its ability to link student or staff-level data at multiple levels (classroom, school, district) and over multiple years. SLDS also makes this data available to stakeholders.

Animation: Ask them to describe the picture once it appears. The should describe the green and red soccer ball and should at some point say that it is in mid-air against a blue sky. Tell them that we can see that the ball is in mid-air but we can’t determine the direction of the ball. We don’t know if it is going up, down, left, right, spinning, fast slow, etc. It probably isn’t floating in mid-air and not responding to gravity, if it were, we would certainly want to know that too. But if we show several pictures over time, we can see these characteristics about the motion and direction of the soccer ball. Click so the ball moves. SD-STARS is able to show data not only across systems but over time so we can see the movement, direction, and speed of our students.

Think about photography – current systems provide just a snapshot of the student, but SD-STARS will put those snapshots into a video as he/she advances from grade to grade. If you combine students’ videos together into a montage, then you could spot trends in students with different types of experiences.
SD-STARS Vision

AID: Educators have the ability to access and use high quality data to aid in informing instruction and decision-making.

MEASURE: Students’ outcomes will be measured so educators can identify at-risk students, examine achievement gaps, evaluate programs, recognize strengths, and address areas for improvement.

INFORM: Stakeholders will develop a more holistic view of our education system and use that picture to inform systemic change.

Schools are often data-rich but information-poor, meaning they collect data but no one is using data other than for required reporting. SD-STARS is like a flashlight, making data available to shine a light on different aspects of education. SD-STARS provides data to identify what we are doing well and what we can do better as well as help stakeholders, including students, teachers, principals, superintendents, school board members, and policy makers, make data-informed decisions. In short, schools will be data-rich AND information-rich.

SD-STARS has three purposes as part of its Vision.

The first purpose is to aid teachers and administrators. Educators have the ability to access and use high quality data to aid in informing instruction and decision-making. Part of this is for the data to be displayed in an easily understood format and educators to be trained so they are able to identify trends and conduct thorough analyses.

The second purpose is to measure student outcomes so that we can examine what it means to educate South Dakota’s students and what we can do to improve.

The final piece is to inform by pulling everything together so that a holistic picture of South Dakota’s education system is developed.
### Sources – Raw Ingredients

**Data Warehouse – Mixing Ingredients**

**Portal – Transform into Cake-like substance**

**Reports – Finished Cake, accessible to all with forks**

**Training – Professional decorator, signage about allergies, etc.**

**Sources:**

In order to make a cake, every cook must start out with ingredients. Normally we wouldn’t enjoy most of these ingredients separately, such as raw eggs, flour (especially gluten-free flour substitutes), baking powder, etc. but they are essential in the cake-making process.

Similarly, Sources look different and may not look very useful on their own. Information is collected about student demographics, assessments, career and college readiness, and other information. Used in the right way this data is useful, but as separate sources, it doesn’t provide much help to anyone.

**Data Warehouse (First Component):**

In the cake-making process, the ingredients must be mixed together. Sometimes the cake batter is tasty, but it still doesn’t resemble the end product.

The Data Warehouse is the first component of SD-STARS, otherwise known as a Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS). It takes all of the data from the Sources and makes them make more sense. It starts to look more organized, but it’s still not ready for users to see.
Portal (Second Component):
As a cake sits in a hot oven, it transforms into a more spongy substance. The cake’s consistency starts to hold together. The baker has access to poke the cake and test for doneness, or may authorize other people to check for the same.

The Portal is the secure link which enables users to ultimately access the data they need. In SD-STARS, the first step for users is to get a login and password to the Portal. Once access is granted, users will be able to see News, Upcoming events, the SD-STARS Content Library, and other content which is geared for each person’s role. Every user has the opportunity to make a customized page through the MySTARS menu item, where they can flag events and see recommended content, based on the user’s role.

Reports (Third Component):
Once the cake is removed from the oven, it looks much like the final product. Everyone with a fork or knife has access to it. Some only need a small slice, while others require large pieces.

Similarly, educators use reports to identify trends and conduct thorough analyses, depending on their role. Some only need to access the Accountability Report Card and one or two other reports throughout the year. Others require a much closer look, in order to make informed data-driven decisions for individual students, the classroom, school, or district. The report categories include: Enrollment, Assessment, Attendance, CTE, Special Ed, Early Warning, Accountability, and Other Reports.

Training (Fourth Component):
A plain piece of cake won’t sell in a restaurant’s dessert showcase. But when a professional decorates the cake with icing, flowers, candy, or fruit, customers begin to see the value of buying the same cake. If a gluten-free cake was made (some would call this a cake without fun), it’s up to professionals to educate customers on the ingredients and processes that were used in making the dessert.

Similarly, the reports are only useful if the end-users such as teachers and administrators know how to access and interpret the reports. SD-STARS has a Training Center menu item with many opportunities to learn. The Training Center includes useful guides and videos to help users understand the Accountability Report Card and reports relating to Enrollment, Assessments, Attendance, CTE, Special Ed, Early Warnings, Student Outcomes, Accountability, and more. The Training Center also provides information for each district’s STARS Account Manager and STARS trainers. Information for districts, and STARS publications are listed, as well as the process for requesting a new report to be made in the system.
SD-STARS Security

Security is set by each district!

Permissions are tied to job titles

- District staff decides which job titles receive which permissions
- **STARS Account Manager** (SAM) assigns access and permissions for each user
- List of SAMs is available at DOE website’s Educational Directory

https://doe.sd.gov/ofm/edudir.aspx
SD-STAR Security

Teacher-level permissions

School: Teacher

- Limited selection of reports
- Student details – names are included
- Student lists – limited to students in the teacher’s classroom or case load.
SD-STARS Security

Principal-level permissions

School: Principal

- Same permissions as School: Management (Counselors, SPED Teachers, etc.)
- Access includes a larger list of reports
- Aggregate & Student details – names are included
- Student lists – limited to students in the school
SD-STS Security
Superintendent permissions

District: Superintendent

- Same permissions as District: Management (Curriculum Director, SPED Coordinator, etc.)
- Access includes a larger list of reports
- Aggregate & Student details – names are included
- Student lists – includes all students in district
Objectives

• What is SD-STARS?
• How do I log in to SD-STARS?
• How do I find & request reports?
• What other resources are available in SD-STARS?
• How do I find help if I have questions?
Logging Into SD-STARS

- Website: https://doestars.sd.gov
- User ID: Email Address
- Password Assistance: Help@k12.sd.us

For users with an @k12.sd.us email address, SD-STARS passwords are the same password used to log in to email and other K12 Data Center resources.

If users forget passwords, they will need to contact their district’s technology coordinator or the K12 Data Center (Help@k12.sd.us). The SD-STARS team and their district’s STARS Account Managers may not be able to assist with forgotten passwords.

For those users without an @k12.sd.us email address, the password was given to each user by their district’s STARS Account Manager.
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enrollment</th>
<th>How many English learners are in my school? What percentage of students are mobile? Which students may be considered homeless?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessment</td>
<td>What indicators/claims do students consistently do well on or struggle with? Are EL students passing the ACCESS test?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>What students are chronically absent? Are there certain grades that have high number of chronically absent?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Ed</td>
<td>What are the most prevalent primary disabilities? What primary disability has grown over the years?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Other**

How many students are participating in the dual credit program? What are the most popular dual credit classes? Are different students disproportionately participating in CTE programs? What trends are present in ACT scores?

SD-STARS is more than the report card. These questions can be answered using STARS Reports.
A list of all current data sources within SD-STARS as well as reports available is available on the DOE website.

Option 1: Go to http://doe.sd.gov/sdstars/documents/DataSources.pdf
Option 2: Search for SD-STARS on the DOE site

Once the page comes up, select the Data Sources and Reports link in the sidebar.
Demonstration:
SD-STARS Webpage
https://doe.sd.gov/sdstars
Every report has a Data Interpretation Guide, or DIG for short. These report DIGs start with a one-page summary of the report, followed by several pages of detailed information, resources and instructions. Report DIGs are the best resource to use if your report includes unexpected results. The report DIGs feature detailed explanations which explain any business rules or other reasons the data may seem “off” in comparison to expected data.
Most reports have a Data Interpretation Guide (DIG)
Found in SD-STARS, link at footer of report

1st Page – stand alone document
Subsequent pages
- Instructions – prompts, analysis, features
- Essential Questions – what questions can be answered
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Report Details
- Security
Now we will use the SD-STARS Training Environment to provide a demonstration of navigation through the SD-STARS portal. If you have any questions about the menus shown, please contact the SD-STARS team.
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Reports are found in the Reports menu in SD-STARS.

1. Select Reports. Each user will have access to different reports so this screen may look a little different for you.

2. If you think you are missing any reports on this menu, please contact the SD-STARS team. You may not have the right permissions set up in your account.
Demonstration:
Navigating the SD-STARS Portal

Now we will use the SD-STARS Training Environment to provide a demonstration of navigation through the SD-STARS portal. If you have any questions about the menus shown, please contact the SD-STARS team.
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The Training Center includes many useful resources!
Navigation guides, calculation guides and more are also found in the Training Center menu on the SD-STARS portal.
Timeline for 2019-20 Accountability Report Card

Aug 20-Sept 3 – Appeal window open for districts
Sept 3 – Appeal window closes at 5 p.m., CT
Oct 7 – DOE shares state-level data from 2019-20
Oct 7 – DOE announces final release of public report card
Oct 7 – DOE goes “live” with state-, district- and school-level data

Accountability Teams
• Accountability teams review the Accountability Report Card at a district level or school level.
• Accountability team members must have permissions within SD-STARS.
• Accountability permissions are given by the district’s STARS Account Manager.
Private Report Card

- Found in SD-STARS
- Contains results for subgroups with less than 10 students
- Contains student level reports
- For internal school/district purposes
  - School improvement
  - Data validation

Public Report Card

- https://sdschools.sd.gov
- Results for subgroups with less than 10 students are suppressed
- Does not contain student level reports
- For external/public purposes
  - Parents
  - School Boards

Navigating to the Accountability Report Card

Now we will use the SD-STARS Training Environment to provide a demonstration of navigation through the SD-STARS portal. If you have any questions about the menus shown, please contact the SD-STARS team.
To find help understanding the report card’s results, email DOE.Accountability@state.sd.us
Navigation guides, calculation guides and more are found on the DOE’s web page at:

https://doe.sd.gov/reportcard/
The SD-STARS team is providing online training opportunities this year, both for STARS Account Managers (SAMs) and for district or school users of SD-STARS. To register for any of our webinars, visit https://southdakota.gosignmeup.com/ and search for “STARS.”
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The SD-STARS team provides several ways to stay in contact and to learn about the program through the year. There is a listserv and periodic newsletters that are produced by SD-STARS Team. You can find them online or, if you are a part of our listserv, you will get it in your email.
Thank you for attending today’s webinar!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brad Steckelberg</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Brad.Steckelberg@state.sd.us">Brad.Steckelberg@state.sd.us</a></td>
<td>605-295-7260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Lead</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sara Kock</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Sara.Kock@state.sd.us">Sara.Kock@state.sd.us</a></td>
<td>605-220-6548</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD-STARS Team Lead</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kim Carlson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Kim.Carlson@state.sd.us">Kim.Carlson@state.sd.us</a></td>
<td>605-773-8062</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Manager</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD-STARS Help Desk</td>
<td><a href="mailto:STARSHelp@state.sd.us">STARSHelp@state.sd.us</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD-STARS Website</td>
<td><a href="https://doe.sd.gov/SDSTARS/">https://doe.sd.gov/SDSTARS/</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Apply what you’ve learned**

**How do you plan on applying what you learned today?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What are your main takeaways? What did you learn today?</th>
<th>What do you plan to implement? What are your next steps?</th>
<th>What are you still wondering?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• A little more about STARS</td>
<td>• Get in and pull some of the reports</td>
<td>• My responsibility to my district</td>
</tr>
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<td>•</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Full link is here:
Apply what you’ve learned

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What did you learn today?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What prior knowledge was reinforced today?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What do you plan to implement? What are your next steps?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What are you still wondering?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ideas for next steps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Read the STARS Connection newsletter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share trainings/resources with other users in my school or district</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explore SD-STARS reports at regular staff meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Request a new SD-STARS report or an enhancement to existing reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tell our SAM about Fall training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Register for webinar series</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• Take our online poll!

The online poll will pop up on your screen and is anonymous. Afterward, you will see this screen with ideas for next steps!