

Learning. Leadership.
Service.

Success

- South Dakota routinely outperforms other states
 - Number of students going on to postsecondary: 72.1%
 - Overall graduation rate: 89.2%
 - Test scores: Dakota STEP, ACT, NAEP

Dakota STEP

Year	Math -- % proficient and advanced	Reading -- % proficient and advanced
2010	76%	76%
2009	75%	75%* New test
2008	76%	84%

ACT Average Composite

	ACT score	ACT score
Year	SD	National
2010	21.8	21.0
2009	22.0	21.1
2008	22.0	21.1
2007	21.9	21.2
2006	21.8	21.1

NAEP Math Scores

■ 8th grade

- SD average: 291 vs. National average: 282
- Only four states scored higher; eight about the same; 39 lower

■ 4th grade

- SD average: 242 vs. National average: 239
- Ten states scored higher; 17 about the same; 24 lower

NAEP Reading Scores

- 8th grade
 - SD average: 270 vs. National average: 262
 - Only three states scored higher; nine about the same; 39 lower
- 4th grade
 - SD average: 222 vs. National average: 220
 - Fourteen states scored higher; 16 about the same; 21 lower

Backdrop: Federal Issues

- Reauthorization of Elementary and Secondary Education Act (NCLB)
 - Need for flexibility
- Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA)
 - Reauthorized in December
 - Provides additional flexibility

Backdrop: Federal Issues

- Capacity of small, rural states to meet federal requirements, policies
 - Movement to competitive grants
 - Requirements related to longitudinal data
 - Flat funding for formula grants
 - Limited administrative dollars for states

State Challenge

Preparing all South Dakota students for
postsecondary and world of work in
21st century

Long-Term Solutions

- Graduation requirements (math, science, CTE)
- High School 2025
 - Career development
 - Personal Learning Plans, SDMyLife
 - Capstone, entrepreneurships, and service learning experiences
- South Dakota Virtual School
 - 55% of public/private/BIE schools participate
 - 2,900 semester course registrations

Long-Term Solutions

- Common Core
 - Raising expectations, rigor
 - Consistency across states
- Common assessment
 - Smarter Balance Consortium
 - Cost savings
 - Possible moratorium on assessment
- South Dakota Opportunity Scholarship

Immediate Solutions

■ READING Up

- Targets specific standards
- Revise lessons, assignments to be more rigorous

■ WriteToLearn

- Online statewide assessment
- Provides immediate feedback, promotes literacy

■ SDMyLife

- Free academic and career planning system

State Challenge

Closing Native American achievement gap

- 48% proficient/advanced in math vs. 76%
- 50% proficient/advanced in reading vs. 76%
- Graduation rate: 65% vs. 89%

Solutions

- GEAR Up and College Access grants
 - Target low-income, often Native American, students
 - Focus on preparation for postsecondary – academic and access

Solutions

- Oceti Sakowin Standards Work Group
 - Core concepts important to cultural understanding
 - Weave into standards
- Native American Advisory Council

State Challenge

Attracting and retaining quality teachers

Solutions

- Revamping teacher education programs
- Dakota Corps Scholarship
- Alternative certification
- 2nd career opportunities
 - Troops to Teachers
 - Teach for America
 - Project Select
- Teachers Standards and Evaluation Work Group

Solutions

- Teacher Incentive Fund grant
 - Financial incentives to principals and instructional staff based on gains in student achievement
 - 10 districts participating in pilot

State Challenge

Meeting increasing fiscal compliance and
data requirements

Solutions

- Training for districts on fiscal and data management
- Longitudinal data system
 - One of nine states that did not receive LDS grant
 - Reviewing options and attempting to move forward using existing resources

State Challenge

Creating healthy school environments

Solutions

- Self-assessment and planning tools
- Technical assistance related to School Health Councils, school health policies
- Healthy and Hunger-Free Kids Act
 - Adds funds to school lunch program
 - USDA sets standards

Challenge

Fostering 21st century libraries for
South Dakota

Solutions

- South Dakota Libraries 2020
 - Library standards and accreditation
 - Continuing education for library professionals
 - Digital collections to expand local reach
 - Databases
 - Digitization of documents
 - Serving special-need populations
 - Offer quality service to state agencies

Technical Institutes

- Rank #1 in nation for graduation
- Operating as a system
 - Strategic plan
 - Includes renovation/construction of facilities

Technical Institutes

- Enrollment (Fall 2010)
 - 6,179 – record high
- Retention
 - 74%
- Placement (2009 graduates)
 - 93% employed
 - 81% employed in field
 - 80% employed in field in South Dakota

Water the bamboo ...



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2011 Legislative Session