

North Dakota School for the Deaf



Carmen Grove Suminski, Superintendent

2009-2011 BIENNIAL REPORT

“Looking back with pride, looking forward with confidence.”



*Celebrating
120 years*

1890 - 2010

www.nd.gov/ndsd



“A Division of the Department of Public Instruction
Dr. Wayne G. Sanstead State Superintendent”

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**NORTH DAKOTA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF
AGENCY FUNCTIONS AND ORGANIZATION**

*North Dakota
School for the Deaf*

Purpose:

- *To develop, coordinate, and maintain a comprehensive continuum of services for all citizens who are deaf or hard of hearing (infants through senior citizens).*

Mission:

- *To provide an environment in which individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing can access the services and support that they need to become and remain integrated, productive citizens of the state.*

Future Services Plan July 20, 2010

*“Looking Back With Pride,
Looking Forward With Confidence.”*

North Dakota School for the Deaf

Chronological History 1890 - 2011

Prepared by Lilia Bakken
Communications Coordinator

1. Superintendent name and years of service
2. Average number students during tenure at NDSD
3. Communication mode used during tenure
4. Major initiatives during tenure
5. Photos of campus scenes during tenure

(Note: information herein was compiled from *NDSD Biennial Reports*)

History of the North Dakota School for the Deaf

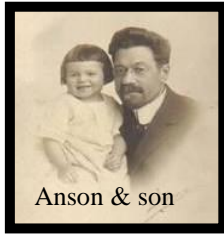


Superintendent Anson Spear 1890-1895



Average number of pupils during Spear tenure: **28**

Communication: **Combined method** - use of signs and manual alphabet
Use of oral methods with pupils who showed ability



Spear tenure

- Only deaf superintendent - 1890 helped establish North Dakota School for the Deaf
- Oversaw construction of main building ready for occupancy-1893
- Implemented trade programs: farm, dairy, garden, printing, sewing and housekeeping
- Established the *Banner*, a semi-monthly newspaper printed by students
- Law passed - \$50 penalty for parents who refused to send their deaf child to school

Superintendent Dwight Bangs 1895-1912



Average number of pupils during Bangs tenure: **66**

Communication: **Combined Method**: use of signs, finger spelling, writing, and speech, adapting their uses with pupils as needed

Bangs tenure

- School awarded first prize medal at 1904 *World Fair* in St. Louis for excellent exhibit of school work
 - Power plant, steam heat, sewers, electricity and fire escapes
 - Construction of infirmary, barn and new school building (construction of school was not completed until 26 years later)
 - Implemented carpentry class
 - First class of graduates – 1900
- Lobbied for:
 - stricter laws regarding school attendance for deaf children
 - procedures for reporting deaf children from tax assessor's office to school census
 - change school name from *Deaf & Dumb Asylum* to *ND School for the Deaf and Dumb*

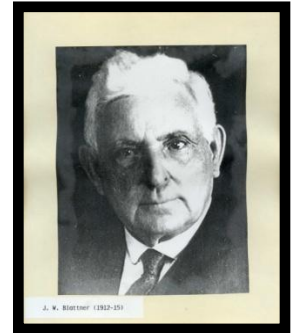
Superintendent J.W. Blattner 1912-1915

Average number of pupils during Blattner tenure: **111**

Communication: **Combined method** - emphasis on oral method – if pupils did not show benefit, transferred to manual department

Blattner tenure

- Construction of:
 - concrete silo
 - coal storage shed
 - Pupils won state merits for art work
- Lobbied for:
 - funds for additional trade programs
 - construction of Trades building (failed)
 - source of clean drinking water



Superintendent Frank Read 1915-1920

Average number of pupils during Read tenure: **118**

Communication: **Combined method** – upon entry into school pupils placed in oral method and instructed in speech. If progress was not successful pupils transferred to manual department (1916: seven oral classes and three manual classes)

Read tenure

- Lobbied for Trades building (failed)
- Purchased new printing equipment
- Implemented cabinet making and china painting
- Initiated *lawn fete*, an elaborate outdoor program performed by pupils
- Requested funds for additional trade courses: shoe repair and cooking
- North Dakota Association of the Deaf was established (1916)
(Note: Mr. Read died during his tenure - his wife assumed duties until a new superintendent was hired)



Superintendent M.C. McClure 1920-1921

Average number of pupils during McClure tenure: **120**

Communication: **Oral method** however if pupils were unsuccessful they transferred to manual department

McClure tenure

- Main building reshingled by carpentry pupils and instructor
- Lobbied and obtained funds to build new boys' dormitory



Superintendent Burton Driggs 1921-1937

Average number of pupils during Driggs tenure: **123**

Communication: **Oral method**; pupils were taught speech and lip reading; **aural method**; pupils were reached through medium of the ear; **manual method**; use of signs and finger spelling

Driggs tenure

- Implemented new programs: barbering, nursing, beauty culture, typing, shoe repair, bookbinding, home economics, rug weaving
- Lobbied for completion of unfinished school building and need for new gymnasium
- Construction of Trades building and boys' dormitory
- Secured better farm stock
- Employed trained nurse to provide health care
- Established campus pond and bridge
- Built fire proof vault to protect school records
- The *Banner* elicited high praise nation wide
- Implemented spring pageants performed for the public



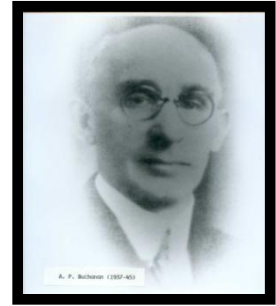
Superintendent A. P. Buchanan 1937-1945

Average number of pupils during Buchanan tenure: **119**

Communication: **Combined method** - all pupils began in oral department and transferred to manual department as necessary

Buchanan tenure

- 1937-1939 highest enrollment in history, 140 pupils
- Purchased school bus
- Installation of two tennis courts
- Pupils presented popular outdoor revues
- Lobbied for increase in size of school and need for new gymnasium



Superintendent Carl Smith 1945-1969

Average number of pupils during Smith tenure: **89**

Communication:

1945 pupils taught orally until 7th grade - if progress was not made then manual communication used

1951 pupils taught orally until 5th grade

1963 *Rochester* method adopted – oral and speech reading supplemented with finger spelling

Smith tenure

- Discontinued farming operation
- Discontinued shoe repair program
- Construction of buildings: administration/girls' dormitory, gymnasium and completion of school
- Connected campus to city water and sewer lines
- Implemented new programs: driver training, maintenance, baking, painting, upholstery
- Lobbied to increase teacher salaries
- Sold 70 acres of land to city of Devils Lake for construction of junior college (1961)
- Cooperated with *Minot State University* to provide onsite training for teachers of the deaf
- Captioned Films for the Deaf
- Recommended *Old Main* be razed and new superintendent's house built
- Lobbied to change name from *ND School for the Deaf and Dumb* to *ND School for the Deaf*



Superintendent Alan Hayek 1969-1981

Average number of pupils during Hayek tenure: **101**

Communication: **oral supplemented** by use of sign language and finger spelling



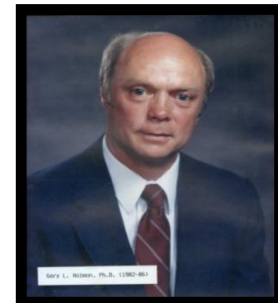
Hayek tenure

- NDSD fully accredited
- Implemented:
 - Audiology Department
 - Captioned Video Lending Library
 - Parent-Infant Program
- Initiated idea of NDSD as *state resource center*
- PL 42-142 *Education for All Handicapped Children Act*
- Media Resource Center-High School and superintendent's house constructed
- North Dakota Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf established
- Sold 30 acres of land for construction of Vo-Tech Center
- Students enroll in trade classes at Vo-Tech Center
- Jr. Association of the Deaf established at NDSD (1971)
- Students participate in World Games for the Deaf

Superintendent Dr. Gary Holman 1982-1986

Average number of pupils during Holman tenure: **67**

Communication: **Signing Exact English** – signs devised to represent English, accompanied by spoken language, the SEE system provided simultaneous representations of visual and oral English



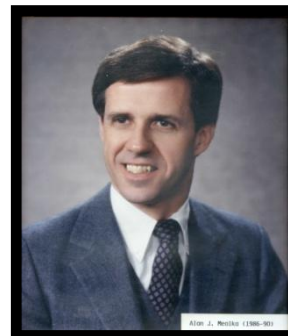
Holman tenure

- Implemented
 - Psychology Department
 - Close-Up Program
 - Communications Department (interpreters provided for mainstream students)
 - Reverse mainstream programs
 - Weekend flight transportation
 - Sports coops
- Construction of swimming pool
- Pool open to community coops

Superintendent Alan Mealka 1986-1990

Average number of pupils during Mealka tenure: **48**

Communication: **Total communication** – used combination of communication modes including sign language, finger spelling, speech, speech reading, amplification and writing



Mealka tenure

- Implemented
 - Summer camps for deaf and hard of hearing children
 - Family Learning Vacation
 - NDSO Outreach Program (1988)
 - Parent Hotline
 - Volunteer Program
 - NDSO's first promotional video
- Collaborated with special education units to form the *ND Coalition of Service Providers for Hearing-Impaired*
- NDSO *Heritage Center* established
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) enacted

Superintendent Jaime Galloway 1990-1998

Average number of pupils during Galloway tenure: **55**

Communication: **bilingual-bicultural** - affirmed role of *American Sign Language* as natural language of deaf persons and fostered competency in both English and *American Sign Language*



Galloway tenure

- Celebrated NDSO Centennial (1990)
- Revised NDSO mission statement to include outreach services to deaf and hard of hearing children in North Dakota
- Caption-ready televisions (1993)
- FCC enacts captioning law (1996)
- Internet service
- Telephone relay service
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act reauthorized (direct communication)

Superintendent Rocklyn Cofer 1998–2005

Average number of pupils during Cofer tenure: **36**

Communication: **bilingual-bicultural** - affirmed role of *American Sign Language* as the natural language of deaf persons and fostered competency in both English and *American Sign Language*



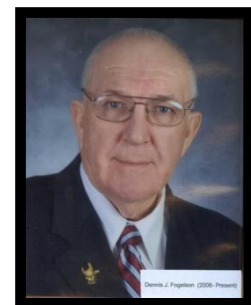
Cofer tenure

- Hearing screenings for infants
- Discontinued Trades program
- Blue Ribbon Task Force established
- ND Interpreter Law passed
(Collaboration with ND Association for the Deaf)
- Implemented ASL & Interpreter Training Program (Collaboration with Lake Region State College)
- Implemented ND Captioning Center (Collaboration with ND Friends of Deaf Children Foundation)
- Offered Interactive Television Network classes
(Collaboration with Lake Region State College)
- ND Deaf/Blind Services housed at NDS
- Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) amended (2004)
- Down-sized - school building leased to Head Start

Superintendent Dennis Fogelson 2006-2009

Average number of pupils during Fogelson tenure: **26**

Communication: Endorse use of visual communication and promote an environment in which *American Sign Language* and English mutually co-exist – communication must be direct, comprehensible and accessible



Fogelson tenure

- Legislature authorized expansion of services to adults
- Legislature passed Interpreter bill – NDS delegated to distribute financial reimbursements to state institutions of higher learning for interpreters and real-time captioning costs incurred
- *American Sign Language* approved as vocational course by ND Department of Career & Technology Education
- Legislature mandated formation of transition team to review future role of NDS

Superintendent Carmen Grove Suminski 2009 – present

Average number of pupils during Suminski tenure: 23

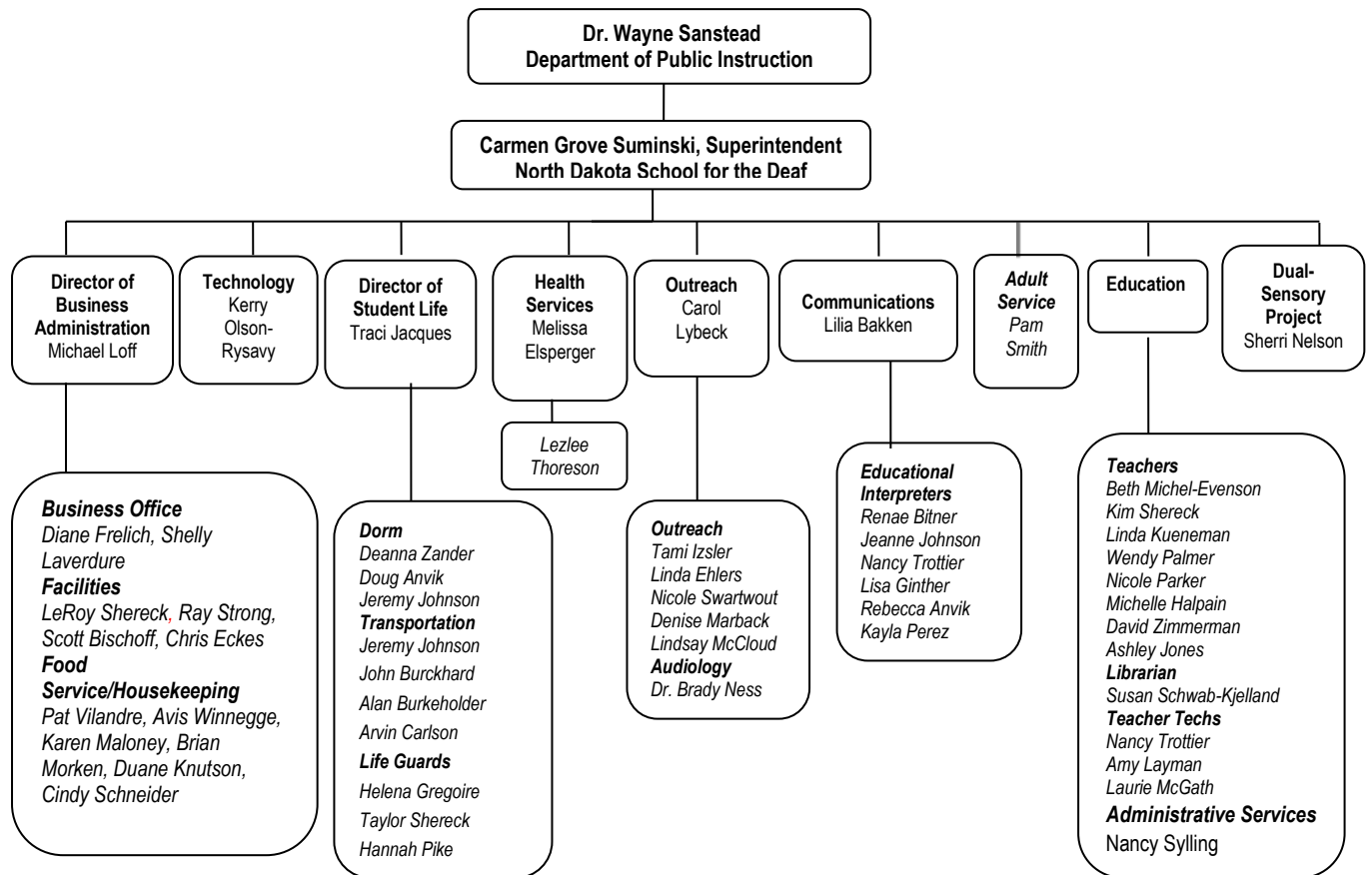
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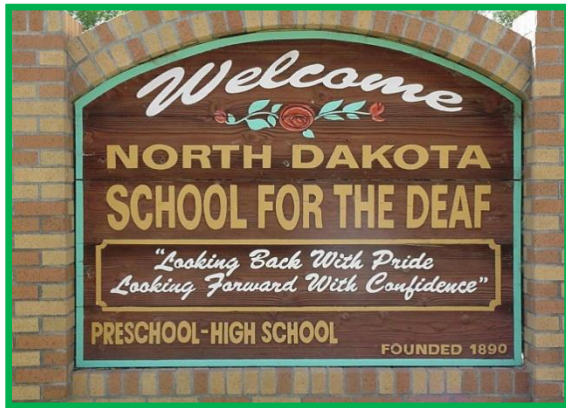
Suminski tenure

- Installation of elevator
- Implemented Power School
- Instituted a Memo of Agreement between Devils Lake Public Schools and NDSB. High school students enrolled at DLPS with educational and interpreter services from NDSB
- Demolished the infirmary building
- Completed Facility Master Plan by EAPC Architects, Grand Forks
- Shared superintendent position with North Dakota Vision Services/School for the Blind
- Installed public access videophones on campus
- Completion of Future Services Plan as per Legislative mandate statewide
- Adult and Outreach Services enhanced

North Dakota School for the Deaf Organizational Chart Revised 6/30/2011



STATUTORY/CONSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES



25-07-01. School for the Deaf – Maintained – Location – Purpose.

There must be maintained at Devils Lake, in Ramsey County, a school for the deaf, which may provide education and training and serve as a resource and referral center for individuals who are deaf or hearing-impaired.

15-07-01.1. School for the Deaf – Appointment of superintendent, budget, staff, and reporting structure.

The superintendent of the school for the deaf is appointed by and reports to the superintendent of public instruction. The school for the deaf must have a separate budget and separate staff from the department of public instruction.

25-07-02. Superintendent – Special duties. The superintendent of the school for the deaf may also act as superintendent of the North Dakota vision services – school for the blind.

25-07-03. Matron – Duties. Repealed by S.L. 1971. ch. 274, § 3.

25-07-04. Qualifications for admission to school for the deaf – Residents of state entitled to free education.

1. A child who is a resident of this state and who, because of deafness or a hearing impairment, is unable to receive an education in the public schools, is entitled to attend the school for the deaf at the expense of the state. A child is entitled to attend the school at any age up to twenty-one.

2. The school for the deaf shall provide application forms upon request. A child may not be admitted to the school until the child's application is completed and approved.

3. The school for the deaf shall provide transportation to any child who has been admitted, in accordance with the child's individual education plan.

4. Any child who is a resident of this state and who is deaf or hearing-impaired is entitled to receive special education and related services in accordance with the child's individual education program. Each individual education program must address the child's academic, recreational, and leisure needs, as well as the acquisition of independent living skills and career and technical education opportunities.

25-07-05. Admission of nonresidents. A child who is deaf or hearing-impaired but who is not a resident of this state may be admitted to the school for the deaf, provided the annual cost of the

child's education, as determined by the superintendent of public instruction, is paid on behalf of the child in advance of the child's admission and on a yearly basis thereafter. The school may not admit a child who is not a resident of this state to the exclusion of a child who is a resident of this state.

25-07-06. Instruction at school for the deaf. The superintendent of the school for the deaf shall provide special education and related services designed to meet the unique needs of each child who is deaf or hearing-impaired, in accordance with the child's individual education program.

25-07-07. Transportation of indigent children to and from school for deaf. Repealed by S.L. 1979, ch. 336, § 3.

25-07-08. Clothing may be furnished when necessary – Accounts for clothing. The school for the deaf shall provide clothing to a child who is enrolled in the school if the child does not have suitable clothing. If the child is a minor, the school shall charge the child's parent or legal guardian for any clothing provided to the child under this section and shall charge the individual for any clothing provided to the individual under this section if the individual has reached the age of maturity. If the superintendent certifies any charges under this section as being correct, the charges are presumed correct in all courts.

25-07-09. Collection of clothing account. Repealed by S.L. 1999, ch. 106, § 18.

15-07-10. Deaf persons – Duty to report. It is the duty of every public school superintendent, physician, otologist, audiologist, nurse, clinic, hospital, and social and welfare agency in this state to report in writing to the superintendent of the North Dakota school for the deaf the name, age, and residence of persons under the age of twenty-one years who are deaf or hard of hearing, and in such cases to furnish such additional pertinent information as the superintendent of the North Dakota school for the deaf may request. All reports must be forwarded to said superintendent of the school for the deaf within thirty days after diagnosis, examination, or discovery.

25-07-11. Home intervention program. The school for the deaf may provide a home intervention program for children who are under the age of five and who are deaf or hearing-impaired. The program must include information, counseling services, auditory training, and basic language development instruction for the parents of such children. This home intervention program must be carried out by college or university trained teachers of the deaf, speech pathologists, or audiologists.

25-07-12. Provision of services – Collaboration – Competition. The school for the deaf may collaborate with public and private entities for the provision of services to individuals who are deaf or hearing-impaired. The school for the deaf may not compete with any public or private entity offering the same services within a region.

MAJOR PROGRAMS and ACTIVITIES

Educational Programs

The North Dakota School for the Deaf provides students with a broad spectrum of disciplines including traditional academic offerings and special studies. Teachers of the Deaf utilize specialized methods of instruction that address the unique educational needs of children who are deaf or hard of hearing. Based upon each child's Individualized Education Plan (IEP), programming emphasizes the development of functional language including: expressive and receptive skills in speech, speech reading, manual communication (sign language and fingerspelling), reading, writing and audition. NDSB endorses the use of direct visual communication as well as oral and auditory skills to support education and to foster social and learning environments that nurture the development of positive self-image and respect among students who are deaf or hard of hearing. Emphasis is placed upon the development of positive social and emotional attitudes, achievement in academic areas, vocational exploration and development of lifelong independent living skills.



Students participate in mainstream educational or extracurricular programs in the Devils Lake Public School system. Support services are provided to students as needed.



Health care services, administered by professional health care staff, are available twenty-four hours per day. Attention is focused on the total wellness of the student by monitoring each student's medical, dental, audio logical and optometric needs. Residential staff members provide supervision in a secure, nurturing communicative environment that fosters positive values, good health and community involvement. Extracurricular, recreational activities and athletic opportunities are available to all students.

Outreach Services

The North Dakota School for the Deaf established in 1890 by the North Dakota constitution, is a division of the department of Public Instruction. Currently, as the state's center on

hearing loss, it provides services through its Parent-Infant Program serving infants, ages 0 to 3, and their families in the home; services for school-aged students, both on and off campus, age 3 to 21; and a resource center for adults with hearing loss whether life-long or later acquired.

Consultation services are provided to education programs, state agencies and businesses to meet the needs of individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing and their families.



Material Resources: brochures, books, audio-visual resources

Public Information: speaker's bureau, tours of NDSB in-services, Deaf awareness programs

Sign Language/Interpreting: interpreter referral, statewide sign language classes (on-site & remote). Audio-visual resources; workshops for interpreters

Consultations/Assessments: audiology, social-emotional, speech and language, sign language, classroom & teacher modification, developing appropriate IEP/IFSPs

Alerting & Communication Devices: devices for demonstrative purposes;

resources on companies & products; general information brochures

Summer Camp Program: Week one: 7 to 12 years old Week two: 13 to 18 years old

Family Support: NDSB hosts regional support groups, family learning vacation and provides an assortment of printed and audiovisual resources for parents.

Adult Services

The Adult Services Program at the North Dakota School for the Deaf (NDSB) advocates on behalf of people who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing to promote opportunity and independence. NDSB shall strive to:

- ensure that communication and services are accessible
- increase awareness of needs of people who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing to the general public

Adult Services serve North Dakotans who are:

- Deaf
- Hard of Hearing
- Late-deafened
- Seniors with hearing loss
- Family members of those with hearing loss
- Public and private service providers
- Employers and Businesses
- Individuals and Community groups

Information and Consultation

NDSB maintains a central location for resources on hearing loss that include:

- lists of community, state and national organizations that provide services

to people with hearing loss including: assistive technology providers, information regarding sign language interpreters and captioning providers

- general information about deafness, self-advocacy and communication needs
- information on compliance regarding the *Americans with Disabilities Act* (ADA); rights of individuals who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing as well as responsibilities of service providers

Educational Presentations

NDSO conducts training sessions to increase the public's awareness of hearing loss, the availability of assistive technology devices and the importance of communicative accessibility for people who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing.

Presentation topics may include:

- speech reading (lip reading) strategies
- communication rights of individuals who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing
- how to obtain and work with a sign language interpreter
- types of assistive technologies including use of videophones and relay services
- impact of hearing loss and communication tips
- overview of the Americans with Disabilities Act and compliance
- American Sign Language and Deaf Culture
- how to make a home 'visually' accessible
- job seeking and retention skills

Assistive Technology

NDSO maintains an assistive technology center to demonstrate the following devices: amplified or text telephones, amplified ringers, phone flashers, baby monitor systems, fire and smoke alarms, F-M systems, doorbell flashers as well as other alerting devices for the home or work environment.



Library Resources

The library/media center at the North Dakota School for the Deaf offers a comprehensive collection of books, magazines and audio-visuals on an array of deafness-related topics including: Deaf Culture, ADA law and civil rights, deaf education, American Sign Language stories and interpreting literature. These resources are available for loan through the NDSO library. The librarian may be contacted at: 701-665-4433.

Communications Department

The Communications Department at the North Dakota School for the Deaf ensures that individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing (students and staff)

have access to all forms of communication and provides sign language interpreter services and captioning services as needed. In addition, the following services are provided by the Communications Department:

- Schedule and provide educational interpreter services for deaf and hard of hearing students enrolled in elementary, middle school, and high schools in the Lake Region area.
- Schedule and provide educational interpreter services to high schools, universities and college (per contract/agreement).
- Provide interpreter referral services for individuals and agencies .
- Schedule and provide interpreter services for students involved in extra-curricular, community or work related activities after school.
- Promote and provide American Sign Language instruction to students enrolled in ND high schools (on campus and via Interactive Television Network – IVN).
- Promote and provide American Sign Language instruction to students enrolled in ND colleges and universities (on campus and via Interactive Television Network – IVN)



- Promote and provide community education sign language instruction to various towns/cities in ND (on campus and via Interactive Television Network).
- Promote and provide Baby Sign Language workshops statewide for parents and families.
- Collaborate with interpreter training program coordinator at Lake Region State College to provide pre-requisite sign language courses for prospective interpreting students.
- Provide internship and mentor services to interpreters-in-training.
- Promote and provide professional development training opportunities for North Dakota interpreters, interpreters-in-training, and students enrolled in the Interpreter Training Program at Lake Region State College (twice yearly).
- Promote and provide opportunities for professionally certified interpreters to earn CEU's in order to maintain their professional credentials.
- Promote and provide statewide awareness workshops on various deafness-related topics including: appropriate use of interpreters, communication strategies, and support services for individuals who are deaf.
- Promote and provide captioning services for educational videos in order to make the information accessible to students with hearing loss.

- Promote and provide real-time captioning services per request for students who are deaf or hard of hearing (contract/agreement).
- Assist in design and development of brochures and public relations materials.
- Encourage adherence to and support of the communication policy in order to provide visual accessibility to all on campus at the North Dakota School for the Deaf. Collaborate with officials at Minot State University and Lake Region State College to establish and implement a four-year bachelor's degree Interpreter Training program for the state of North Dakota (in progress).

Technology

Each biennium NDSB submits a technology plan in alignment with the Statewide Information Technology Plan. As part of the K-12 state network NDSB is also required to submit a technology plan every three years to the ND Educational Technology Council (ETC). NDSB integrated technology throughout the entire campus including the educational, residential, business, and outreach areas. NDSB continues to upgrade software and equipment as needed to maintain an up-to-date technology system. Various technologies have been utilized on campus to serve deaf and hard of hearing students and to provide information pertaining to deafness to the public. Provisions include:

- Educational software programs used to integrate technology into the

classrooms (curriculum) as well as into the dormitory setting.

- Web-based programs utilized for grading and reporting (Powerschool, STARS, Tienet) and for notifying families/staff of emergencies and pertinent information (Instant Alert for Schools).
- Smartboards installed in classrooms and utilized as an educational tool.



- Interactive Videoconference Network (IVN) used to provide class offerings, including American Sign Language courses, meetings, professional development, training opportunities, and virtual field trips for students.
- Videophones including Public Access Videophones (PAVs) designed for persons who are deaf and hard of hearing have been installed in various locations on campus.
- NDSB's website, hosted by the Information Technology Department (ITD), provides information about the school, its program and the availability of outreach services. The technology coordinator continues to work with ITD personnel to update information.

- Internet access and email services are accessible and required safety measures implemented. NDSW works continually to maintain a secure system by keeping critical computer updates and patches current.
- Wireless Access Points installed throughout campus as a means to provide added availability in all areas.

North Dakota Dual Sensory Project

The ND Dual Sensory Project is a federally funded free resource designed to enhance the provision of services for children and young adults, birth through age twenty-one, with vision and hearing impairments. The mission of the Project is to promote academic achievement and to improve results for children with disabilities by providing technical assistance (TA), supporting model demonstration projects, disseminating useful information, and implementing activities that are supported by scientifically based research. This project is the sole statewide entity in ND that has been funded to build state and local capacity to serve children who are deaf-blind and their families, and currently serves about 40 students and their families and staff.

Professionals, individuals who are deaf-blind, and their parents have collaborated to make progress in identifying research based practices for children, developing high quality training materials and resources, and establishing networks across ND to share information as a result of this project. The priority of this project is to create and strengthen the partnerships among the families, Local Education Units (LEAs), and state and private agencies, to enhance these services and improve the outcomes for all children and youth who are deaf-blind. This project assists the above agencies to ensure that the children served under Part C of IDEA who are deaf-blind receive services, to the maximum extent possible, in their natural environments. Additionally, the children under Part B of IDEA who are deaf-blind have access to, and are included, and make progress, in the general education curriculum in their least restrictive environment. The North Dakota School for the Deaf is the fiscal agent for this project. Sustainability of services and significant statewide capacity building are ensured through embedding this project within the existing structure of an agency with statutory mandates.



LEGISLATION PASSED DURING THE BIENNIUM

2009-2011 BIENNIUM LEGISLATION AND ADDED RESPONSIBILITIES

- HB 1013 – Section 19 Future Services Plan and Implementation
HB 1013, passed during the 2009 legislative session, states in pertinent part that:
“... The department of public instruction and school for the deaf shall develop a plan for future services to be offered by the school for the deaf and begin implementing the plan for the biennium beginning July 1, 2009, and ending June 30, 2011.”

The section goes on to identify 6 specific tasks/goals.

Task/Goal #1:

“Review the needs of all deaf and hearing-impaired persons throughout the state and develop a plan to provide comprehensive outreach services to all North Dakota citizens who are deaf or hearing-impaired.”

Transition Team identified age group profiles, current services, identified gaps, and recommendations/action steps.

- Provide additional outreach services
- Provide additional adult services with a position with job responsibility specific to adults effective January 18, 2011
- Maintain and continue to provide an accredited K – 8 program for students who are deaf and hard of hearing in compliance with their IEP’s
- Provide services for grades 9 through graduation as determined by the IEP in partnership with the district of residence, Devils Lake Public Schools and various other accredited distance education options
- Establish a “Case Statement” by the NDSD Advisory Council which states the following:

“North Dakota School for the Deaf
State Center

The NDSD Advisory Council Recommends:

Establishing the NDSD Center to develop innovative approaches and access technologies to promote deaf education, both on and off campus; pursue research for effective strategies; and provide needs-based programs and services for adult clients which will greatly benefit North Dakota citizens, of any age, who are deaf and hard of hearing.”

Task/Goal #2:

“Explore the development of partnerships with other states relating to the provision of residential and educational services to individuals who are deaf or hearing-impaired.”

NDSO is a member of Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools and Programs for the Deaf (CEASD) and has ongoing communication and support from this organization. NDSO staff has attended regional and national conferences on an ongoing basis.

NDSO State Center is open to creating “partnerships” with other states and within the state of ND.

A partnership has been developed with the Devils Lake Public Schools whereby all NDSO high school students are enrolled in classes there. Interpreters and teachers of the deaf who are employed by NDSO provide services to these seven students as per the Individualized Educational Plan (IEP).

Task/Goal #3

“Review current research and national trends in the provision of services to students who are deaf or hearing-impaired.”

The recommendation of the Transition Team is that the NDSO State Center be of **“highest quality”** and **“that ND be seen as a leader in the field.”** With the expertise and collaboration that does exist in ND, this can be a reality. Collaboration currently exists with Minot State University, all ND higher education facilities, Lake Region State College, local education agencies, dual sensory project, vocational rehabilitation, aging services, alumni, families and parents and ND Vision Services/School for the Blind, and will continue to be enhanced.

Task/Goal #4

“Meet regularly with a transition team appointed by the superintendent of public instruction consisting of representatives from the legislative assembly, parents of school for the deaf student, school for the deaf employees, member of the Devils Lake community, school for the deaf alumni and others.”

Thirteen team members as appointed by the Department of Public Instruction met a total of 10 times from October, 2009 to June, 2010.

As recommended by the Transition Team, the NDSO State Center Advisory Council has been established. Membership includes the Transition Team plus representation from NDVS/SB, Aging Services, Dual Sensory Project, and Lake Region College.

Task/ Goal #5

“Explore the feasibility of implementing revenue generating activities at the school for the deaf.”

Current revenue generating activities include the following:

- Rental of Education Building to Head Start
- Rental of Office Space to EduTech, Department of Commerce, and Protection and Advocacy
- Rental of portion of Trades Building to Martial Arts Program
- Interpreter Services
- Tuition for ASL (American Sign Language) IVN classes from participating ND high schools through the Northeast Education Services Cooperative

Task/ Goal #6

“Develop a long-range plan for the school for the deaf campus.”

A Master Facility Plan was completed by EAPC, Grand Forks. This plan revealed a urgent need to bring used facilities up to code, ADA compliance and also recommends demolition of unused buildings. The Infirmary was demolished, and the apartment house and garages are scheduled to be demolished in August, 2011. Used facilities will be updated during the 2011-2013 biennium as per budget allocation.

The campus is used not only by the School for the Deaf but also the following community and state entities:

- Rental of space to Headstart, Department of Commerce, EduTech, and Protection and Advocacy
- Classrooms in areas once used as a dorm
- Superintendent's house as my residence and is available for meetings both by NDSB, NDVS/SB, and the Dual Sensory Project
- Indoor Play Area used by Tiny Tots (Park Board)
- Swimming pool used by local Park Board, Camp Grafton, JROTC, Lake Region Search and Rescue, New Outlooks, Harmony House, Therapeutic/Medical Referrals, Senior Citizens and others
- Football field used by Devils Lake High School
- Instructional space used by Lake Region Special Education and Devils Lake Public Schools
- Gym utilized by community, Park Board, Headstart, and Devils Lake Public Schools
- Lake Region State College Interpreting classes
- IVN sites available upon requests
- Blackhurst Dorm lobby used by community and Deaf Alumni for meetings and trainings
- Trades Buildings used for Martial Arts Classes

2009-2011 RESPONSIBILITY ADDITIONS/DELETIONS

None

EVALUATION

NDSB is accredited with the North Central Accreditation Association and with K-8 with the Department of Public Instruction

ACCOMPLISHMENTS and ACTIVITIES

- Establishment of new teams; namely, Professional Development, Buildings and Grounds, Data, Public Awareness, and Future Services
- Enhanced communication via electronic calendar, in/out board and minutes of all team meetings on the public drive
- Implementation of Power School
- Agreement with Devils Lake Public Schools to provide services to high school students
- Continued partnership between NDSB and Devils Lake Public Schools with instruction in Physical Education
- Training by HRMS on Performance Appraisals
- Music therapy with auditory training



- Continuation of enhancement of the NDSB website to provide statewide awareness
- Completion of Future Services Plan in compliance with State Legislative mandate
- Completion of Facility Master Plan Hands and Voices Parent Organization established statewide
- Demolished the former Infirmary and scheduled demolition of the Apartment House

Dual Sensory Project

- Increased participation of collaborative efforts and partnerships with regional, state, and interstate service agencies, federal projects, and organizations that are involved with Deaf-Blindness such as the Department of Public Instruction (*Early Childhood Outcomes trainings and OSEP Director's meetings*), Transition Community of Practice meetings in Region IV and V, Early Intervention/KIDS Programs (*trainings/presentations*), Anne Carlsen Center (*on-site coaching/consultations/trainings*), Family Voices (*trainings and parent groups*), Interagency Council Committees in both Devils Lake and Grand Forks regions, Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and VI (*state conferences*), ND

Vision Services/School for the Blind (*Vision Forums Advisory Board, Professional Development Team, Pre-Literacy Task Force, Wellness Team, and Family Team*), ND School for the Deaf (*Future Services Planning Committee, Data Team, Professional Development Team, Advisory Board*), Vocational Rehabilitation (*workshops/booth displays*), the ND Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program (*Advisory Board*), *Hands & Voices ND Chapter*, Regional meetings for Part C staff (*trainings*), University of ND and Minot State University (*presentations*), Title I meetings (*SPED modules*), the National Consortium for Deaf-Blindness (*Native American Task Force, co-sponsor workshops, Technical Assistance meetings, Area 2 trainings, workshops in Ohio & Washington D.C., Intervener Task Force, and the NCDB Literacy Task Force*), and Helen Keller National Center (*training and Usher Syndrome screenings*). We partnered with the above agencies to hold collaborative trainings, share information, and work together to complete grant activities.

- Provided the following state-wide trainings: “*Between Best Practices and Reality: How We All Learn*”, in Fargo with Mark Campano (from Delaware) in September, 2009. Thirty individuals attended the training, with two days of on-site coaching at the Anne Carlsen Center in Jamestown; “*Relationship Based Communication Strategies*” with Jennifer White (Seattle) on June 18-19, 2010, in Fargo. Twelve individuals attended this training.

and “*Intervention Strategies For Children Who are Deaf-Blind and/or have Significant Disabilities*”, held September 28-30, 2011, in Fargo with Linda Alsop from Utah State University. Thirty-four individuals from ND and SD attended this training.

- Participated in the planning, implementation, and financial support for the 2009, 2010, and 2011 Family Retreat weekends for families with children who are Deaf-Blind and/or Visually Impaired: Tom Sullivan was the featured speaker for the Family Retreat held in Fargo in April, 2009; “*Families United Again in 2010*” was held in Minot in April, 2010. Featured speaker was Kevin O’Conner. Eighteen families attended this event. “*Building Connections*” was the focus in April, 2011, in Grand Forks. Featured speaker was Dr. Sacks from California. Eleven families and their children attended this event. The Project also participated in the planning, implementation and financial support for the AER conferences held in 2009 in Fargo, with Tom Sullivan and the April, 2011 conference with Dr. Flener from the Kentucky School for the Blind held in Grand Forks.
- Identified 40 students on the 2009 Deaf-Blind Census and 39 students on the 2010 Census, with three additional children/youth with Deaf-Blindness referred for services. In 2008, there were 373 documented technical assistance consults for students with vision and hearing impairments; in 2009 there were 418; in 2010 there were 509

consultations. At this time, there are recorded for 2011.

- Supported one family and two staff to attend the SD Charge workshop in Sioux Falls, SD, with David Brown sponsored by the SD Deaf-Blind Project in October, 2010. In addition, two families were supported to attend the CHARGE International Conference in Orlando, Florida, in July, 2011. The trainings for professionals that were supported by the Project included the following: Cultural Shifting in Grand Forks; CSUN conference in CA in 3/09; Western Regional Early Intervention Conference in CO in 4/09; “Every Move Counts” in Jamestown, ND in 6/09; DB Topical meeting in Cincinnati, OH in 5/09; Project Directors Meetings in Washington D.C. in July, 2009, 2010, 2011; Fall DB Leadership meeting in Washington DC in 11/10; TX Symposium for the Deaf-Blind in 2/11 (two staff); Distance Technology conference in Salt Lake City, UT in 6/11(two staff).
- The screenings for Usher Syndrome were completed in 4/07, 10/09 and 5/11 at the North Dakota School for the Deaf by the NDSD Health Director, the Dual Sensory Project Coordinator, and assistance by Maureen McGowan from Helen Keller National Center (10/09). Three referrals were made to the local ophthalmologists at this last screening. No students were identified with US. Currently three students on the Dual Sensory Census have Usher Syndrome.
- Increased communication statewide through the use of multi-media including the project website (updated semi-annually), newsletters sent twice/year to almost 600 patrons, emails, TA meetings, Advisory Board meetings held annually, workshops sponsored statewide or reimbursed, webinars held nationally on topics such as *Interveners, Routines, Assistive Technology, the Annual Performance Reports, Transition, Customized Employment* are publicized as a way to continue support key stakeholders throughout the state. In addition, information is disseminated to parents, families, and educational staff/service providers throughout the state on an ongoing basis. The Deaf-Blind resource lending library, which is housed at the ND School for the Deaf, has books, curricula, video-tapes, journals and other educational material specific to Deaf-Blindness that can be checked out by anyone throughout the state. All resources are available on the ODIN library system.
- During this biennial time frame approximately 250 calls were received for the Dual Sensory Project, 3300 newsletters were mailed, over 2000 pieces of information were disseminated, and 40 resources were requested from the Deaf-Blind Library.
- The current grant was approved for funding for the years 2008-2013. Annual performance reports were written and submitted in 2009, 2010, and 2011.

DIRECTIONAL TRENDS and GOALS

Directional Trends

- Current trends indicate enhanced outreach services statewide; i.e. parent infant, school age and adults
- Medical advances related to the cochlear implant involve education and instruction in communication and language by deaf educators
- Based on increased population of persons over 80 and prevalence of hearing loss, persons will require assistive technology and education to live independently
- The following data is from the 2005 Report of "Hearing Impairment Among North Dakotans, 2005 Report" authored by: North Dakota State Data Center, NDSU, Fargo, ND "In the year 2000, 70,433 North Dakotans age 15 and older had a hearing impairment. This number was expected to increase by 19.6% by 2010, and to reach 84,235 by 2015.
- In 2000, 17,215 residents aged 15 and older had a severe to profound hearing loss. That is expected to increase to 21,495 by the year 2015.
- For the age group 75+, however, since this is the fast growing age group in North Dakota it is expected that the hearing loss for this group will increase 37% from 2000 to 2015. This means an additional 18,000 will be in this age group in 2015 as compared to 2000. (19,141 in 2000 to 26,232 by 2015)."

Short and Long Term Goals (As per Strategic Plan)

- To increase the number of infants and their families, students and adults served
- To improve stakeholder awareness of the services and future direction of NDSD
- Educate all stakeholders of the fact that deaf and hard of hearing people of all ages are at risk if appropriate intervention is not provided
- Dispel any negative perceptions of NDSD. Inform stakeholders of the scope and quality of services provided who utilize "best practices" in serving deaf and hard of hearing persons
- Inform all significant stakeholders of the Century Code statute (25-07-10) Deaf Persons-Duty to Report
- Collect all relevant data that specifically captures the persons being served
- Provide support and professional development of all educational interpreters in the state through the partnership of NDSD and Lake Region College
- Develop a client search system for locating deaf and hard of hearing adults in need of service and resources. Partner with all adult service agencies in ND to provide assistance/accessibility for the deaf/hard of hearing clients

Dual Sensory Project Goals

- Continue to facilitate collaborative partnerships with regional, state, and national service agencies, federal projects and organizations that are involved with disability-related issues.
- Continue to provide information and technical assistance, including distance learning activities and ongoing professional development opportunities in combination with on-site coaching to families, and all personnel working with children who are Deaf-Blind. Share information statewide on Interveners for children who are Deaf-Blind. Encourage professionals to receive further training in Deaf-Blindness.
- Continue to communicate and collaborate with the National Consortium on Deaf-Blindness and other OSEP funded projects that are sources of expertise on Deaf-Blindness.
- Continue to work with the families, LEAs, state and private agencies, and other state-wide agencies, to develop a shared understanding among stakeholder groups on how to support children who are Deaf-Blind within local systems and communities.
- Employ the system of identification for children/youth with Deaf-Blindness and report Census data to NCDB. Continue to work with Part C and the EHDI programs.
- Continue to communicate statewide on an ongoing basis through the use of multi-media including the project website, email, TA meetings and events, Advisory Boards, workshops, webinars, as a way to support collaboration among the key stakeholders throughout North Dakota.

STATISTICAL INFORMATION

Services Provided

7/1/09-6/30/11

Outreach Services

Parent Infant	
Consultations	2,766
Evaluations	105
Direct Service	1,225
Persons served (unduplicated)	55
School Age	
Consultations	2,091
Evaluations	42
Direct Service	888
Persons served (unduplicated)	90
Adults	
Consultations	413
Evaluations	5
Direct Service	76
Presentations/In-services Attendees	1,492
Family Learning Vacation	85
Summer Camps	33

Communications

ND Captioning Center	
Transcription	140 hours
Edit/Encode	203 hours
Teaching of Sign Language	
American Sign Language (Daily Classes)	504 students
Basic Conversational Sign	244 students
Interpreter Services	
On Campus	192 persons
Off Campus	1,743 persons

Library Circulation

3,663 items

On Campus Education Services (2009-2010 School Term)

Preschool – 6 (1 with cochlear implant and 1 with secondary disability)
 Elementary – 5 (4 with cochlear implants and 5 with secondary disabilities)
 Middle – 9 (3 with cochlear implants and 6 with secondary disabilities)
 Secondary – 4 (1 with cochlear implant and 1 with secondary disabilities)

On Campus Education Services (2010-2011 School Term)

Preschool – 7 (2 with cochlear implants and 1 with secondary disability)
 Elementary – 6 (3 with cochlear implants and 1 with secondary disability)
 Middle – 5 (3 with cochlear implants and 2 with secondary disabilities)
 Secondary – 7 (1 with cochlear implant and 1 with secondary disability)
 Enrolled at Devils Lake Public School

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES

Revenues by Source:

Lease rent	\$	188,299.00
Transfer from Federal Programs	\$	294,375.00
Transfer from Land Commission	\$	360,000.00
Sales and Meals-Prepared Food	\$	212,403.00
Miscellaneous Sales and Services	\$	114,709.00
Insurance Refunds	\$	1,823.00
Total Revenue for 2009-2011		\$ 1,171,609.00

Expenditures by Program	General Fund	Federal Fund	Special Fund	Total
Capital Improvements	\$ 429,413.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 429,413.00
Grants to Colleges	\$ 173,066.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 173,066.00
Auxiliary Services (Plant, Custodial, Food Service)	\$ 1,488,426.00	\$ 27,096.00	\$ 11,302.00	\$ 1,526,824.00
Administration	\$ 585,347.00	\$ -	\$ 82,919.00	\$ 668,266.00
Resident Living	\$ 593,698.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 593,698.00
Student Weekend Transportation	\$ 70,209.00	\$ -	\$ 206,188.00	\$ 276,397.00
Education (Ed., Library, Tech., Interpreter)	\$ 2,352,095.00	\$ 90,249.00	\$ 33.00	\$ 2,442,377.00
Outreach Services (Parent Infant, Dual Sensory)	\$ 724,539.00	\$ 177,025.00	\$ -	\$ 901,564.00
Total Expenditures	\$ 6,416,793.00	\$ 294,370.00	\$ 300,442.00	\$ 7,011,605.00

Breakdown of Expenditures by Line Item

Salaries and Wages

Salaries and Wages	\$	3,308,724.00
Temporary Salaries	\$	165,188.00
Fringe Benefits	\$	<u>1,506,529.00</u>

Total Salaries and Wages

\$ 4,980,441.00

Operating

IT Data Processing	\$	84,828.00
IT Communications	\$	51,690.00
Travel	\$	395,631.00
IT Software/Supplies	\$	10,150.00
Utilities		
Water/Sewer/Gar	\$	21,818.00
Coal	\$	72,242.00
Natural Gas	\$	34,080.00
Electricity	\$	56,656.00
Postage	\$	6,212.00
Lease/Rent Equipment	\$	9,895.00
Lease/Rent Bldg/Land	\$	18,277.00
Professional Development	\$	15,212.00
Operating Fees & Services	\$	89,394.00
Repairs	\$	31,642.00
Professional Services	\$	123,047.00
Insurance	\$	21,040.00
Office Supplies	\$	5,490.00
Printing	\$	13,001.00
Professional Supplies & Materials	\$	38,572.00
Food and Dry Goods	\$	120,477.00
Bldg. Grnds. Vehicle Supplies	\$	72,795.00
Dishes/Laundry/Rec	\$	5,473.00
Equip. Under \$ 750	\$	18,730.00
Supp. Not Classified	\$	45,414.00
IT- Equipment Under \$ 5000	\$	44,013.00
Other Equipment Under \$ 5000	\$	<u>22,906.00</u>

Total operating Expenses

\$ 1,428,685.00

Capital Assets		
Land and Buildings	\$	299,509.00
Equipment	\$	129,904.00
		<u>\$ 429,413.00</u>
Grants		
Grants To Colleges	\$	173,066.00
		<u>\$ 173,066.00</u>
Total Expenditures	\$	<u>7,011,605.00</u>

RESOURCES AND PUBLICATIONS

- NDSD Banner
- The Dual Sensory Informer
- The Connections (Outreach Newsletter)

CONCLUSION

NDSD has had a biennium of change and transition. Collaboration has been enhanced with related entities. Teams have been established to focus on data, public awareness, buildings and grounds and professional development plus have enhanced outreach staffing to include a position allocated to adults. A Future Services Transition Plan and a Facility Master Plan were completed. These documents will be utilized as NDSD moves forward in the planning process adhering to the mission to serve all persons who are deaf and hard of hearing residing in the state of North Dakota.

Carmen Grove Suminski,
Superintendent