

inside this issue

Free Assessment & SLO Training — 3 | Modest Increase for Public Education — 4

What's Your Best Dr. Seuss Pose? — 5 | Proposed Certification Rule Changes — 7

DATES TO REMEMBER

JAN. 10

First Day of SD
Legislative Session

JAN. 15

Last Day to Declare
Candidacy/Bylaw
Changes to President

JAN. 20-21

SDEA Board of
Directors Meeting

FEB. 15

NEA Board of
Directors meeting

FEB. 24-26

NEA National
Leadership Summit

MAR. 2

Read Across America!

Find Us On



Yankton's Kaltsulas Receives SDEA's Teacher of Excellence Award



The South Dakota Education Association (SDEA) has named Beth Kaltsulas the 2017 SDEA Teacher of Excellence. Kaltsulas will also be nominated for the NEA Foundation's Awards for Teaching Excellence. Kaltsulas is a math teacher at Yankton Middle School. Educators selected for this award have demonstrated outstanding professional practice, association advocacy, community engagement and leadership in professional development.

Kaltsulas was very surprised when unexpected guests arrived in her classroom during American Education week including SDEA President Mary McCorkle. "I really didn't understand at the time what was going on until I heard her speak. Dr. Kindle, my superintendent, Mr. Dvoracek, my principal, and Natasha Phillips, our YEA President, were there to acknowledge and support me," said Kaltsulas. "I am humbled and honored to receive the 2017 SDEA Teacher of Excellence award; I work in the company of outstanding hard-working educators in South Dakota. I have always been blessed with dedicated mentors and cooperative colleagues in Yankton; it's important I pay it forward."

President McCorkle said Kaltsulas has all of the characteristics of a Teacher of Excellence award winner. "Beth's dedication to her profession and

students is inspiring. She goes the extra mile as she runs the daily math academy, providing students extra math tutoring before and after school. She is there for her students and is a mentor to teachers new to the profession," said SDEA President Mary McCorkle.

Kaltsulas, who is also South Dakota's 2017 Teacher of the Year, has taught in the Yankton school district for the past 30 years. She has served as a cooperating teacher for 13 student teachers from the University of South Dakota. Kaltsulas has also worked to keep students who qualify for special education services in a general education setting. She is very active with the Yankton Education Association.

It's the "Ah Ha" moment that Kaltsulas strives for in the classroom especially after students put in the extra work. "Big smiles are plastered on their faces and sometimes their math attitude improves. It's especially rewarding after they've taken extra time to study or practice with me. When students are successful in any class, they work harder," said Kaltsulas.

Kaltsulas has several suggestions for those who are about to become teachers or who are new to the profession. She says the key to great teaching is to develop relationships with students and parents alike. "Get to know your students and their interests so you can personalize their instruction. Your students will be more willing to trust you and put greater effort into their learning. Make contact with parents in the first week. Answer any questions they may have about your classroom," said Kaltsulas. "Most parents support their children's education, so communicate those strengths and weaknesses often. Parents don't appreciate surprises at parent/teacher conferences; it puts them in a defensive position."

Finally, teachers should know they are not alone and if they do what's right for their students they are doing what's right. Their fellow teachers are there for them.

— Continued to page 5



president's corner

Find SDEA's President on Twitter @Mary_McCorkle

Check out Mary's Inside the Apple video on YouTube South Dakota Education Association Channel

Our Students Need Us Now... More than Ever

Last year in this edition of the *Advocate*, I wrote about the Blue Ribbon Task Force's "bold" recommendations. I asked you to become engaged in the discussion, and to write personal notes to the legislators in your district. I ended by urging you to be bold and to be involved; I asked you to use your voice on behalf of our students. I asked you to use your voice to advocate for what our students needed.

Our work during the 2016 Legislative Session is complete, and together we accomplished our goal.

Now it is January 2017. Nationwide, educators are concerned, nervous, and even afraid of what the future will bring. We are entering a new era; one where the nominee for the US Secretary of Education is a strong advocate for charter schools, vouchers, and has never worked in a public school. There is concern about the Supreme Court and upcoming nominees, concern about our future as a labor union in an anti-union climate. Much is unknown; unease is widespread. The mood is gloom, rather than hope. We are

worried about our schools and our students.

Public education is the foundation of democracy. Every day we come to school because we believe public education is the great equalizer. We work to make our public schools a safe place where our students learn to contribute to society, the economy, and to be good citizens. We believe every student deserves a great public education. We have dedicated our lives to this belief. We expect our elected leaders to value this vision for a strong and inclusive public education. They must work with us to create a system that ensures all students can succeed regardless of their zip code.

The national climate may change but our commitment to our public schools and our students cannot waiver. No matter what, we must continue hold to our values, to be bold, to be vocal and to stand up for our schools and our students and our profession. We will not be moved.

No matter what, we will continue to talk about learning environments that enable teachers to

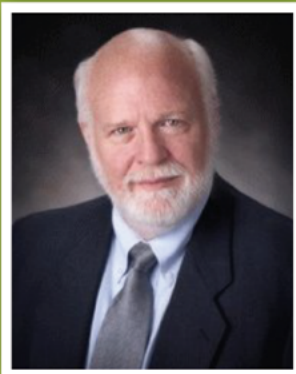
connect one on one with their students. We will talk about what works: resources, public pre-K, after school programs. We will loudly and determinedly urge investing in our public schools so that all students have opportunity, support and a positive learning environment. We will articulate our values and challenge our elected leaders to recommit to this vision of public education. We will not settle for anything less.

Our students need our voice more than ever. They need our advocacy; they need our determination; they need us to fight for them.

Be involved; use your voice loudly and with passion. If we do not speak up and out for our students and our public schools, who will?

As educators, we know what our students need to be successful; we know what works. The future of this country is entrusted in our ability to prepare students for life. This is our work; this is our challenge. We are up to it!

Mary J. McCorkle



Kern Assumes Role as Interim-Executive Director

The SDEA welcomes Richard Kern as its new interim Executive Director. Kern comes to South Dakota from NEA Alaska where he served as the Assistant Executive Director. While in Alaska he oversaw the state affiliate's Uniserv program. Kern also worked as a Uniserv Director for the Wisconsin Education Association. Prior to his work with NEA affiliates, he was a music and band teacher for the Lower Kuskokwim School District in Alaska. Kern will serve as the interim while SDEA searches for a permanent Executive Director. Please help the SDEA leadership and staff welcome Richard to South Dakota!

Free Assessment & SLO Training Available to Locals



Questions? Contact: Rich Mittelstedt

Teaching and Learning Coordinator

800-529-0090 | 605-886-4800 | richard.mittelstedt@sdea.org

Looking for professional development training to renew a certificate, assist beginning teachers, provide a benefit to your members, or just to find some time to develop materials for your class, and to receive a stipend for your time?

Funds from year three of our NEA SLO and Assessment grant are available to bring an assessment and/or SLO workshop to your local.

The ideal workshop format will take participants through all six steps shown at left. This training takes 15 hours, with ample work time, but either a graduate credit or CEU hours are available. Members receive a \$125 stipend for their time.

Shorter versions of the training can be offered, with a pro-rated stipend and CEU hours available. This is a great way to demonstrate the value of SDEA membership by inviting non-members to participate (without the stipend). It is also a great chance to get a refresher and some new tips in constructing quality assessments that actually measure what you need them to measure.

To host a training in your local, contact your UniServ Director, or Teaching and Learning Coordinator Rich Mittelstedt at rich.mittelstedt@sdea.org or at 1-800-529-0090.



An Evening of Wine & Paint With the Mobridge-Pollock Education Association. November 15, 2016. We would love to hear about your association's latest event! Send pictures and event details to rebecca.uhrig@sdea.org

The Educators' Advocate (ISSN 0013-2047) is published five times annually by SDEA/NEA, 411 East Capitol, Pierre, SD. Periodicals postage paid at Pierre, SD. Postmaster: Send address to The Educators' Advocate, 411 East Capitol, Pierre, SD 57501. Official publication of the South Dakota Education Association/NEA. President: Mary J. McCorkle Interim Executive Director: Renae Costa Communications Director: Sandra Waltman Communications Specialist: Rebecca Uhrig

Governor Proposes Modest Increase for Public Education

Questions? Contact:

Sandra Waltman

Director of Communications and Government Relations

411 E. Capitol | Pierre, SD 57501

800-529-0090 ext. 128 | 605-224-9263 ext. 128 | sandra.waltman@sdea.org

Governor Dennis Daugaard delivered the annual Budget Address in December. As expected, the proposed budget increases for K-12 education are a modest one percent. The Governor pointed to slow growth in sales tax revenue as the main reason for the minor increases to the state's budget. Fortunately, lower than expected growth in revenues did not translate into cuts for education.

Daugaard said a struggling ag economy and an increase in online sales where sellers aren't collecting and remitting sales tax to the state are the two biggest reasons for the slow growth. He did say that things could rebound as we head into the holiday season, but put forth a budget that he believes was appropriate considering the current lag in sales tax collections

SDEA President Mary McCorkle said the education community was bracing for cuts, but were relieved that the Governor wasn't willing to make that move this time. "Sales tax collections since July have been

a concern. The slow growth in the revenue could undermine the work SDEA and our members did in 2016," said McCorkle. "The good news is there won't be cuts, but we aren't moving forward as fast as we would like to and that will be a concern if slow growth continues over time."

McCorkle says SDEA and its members must remain vigilant. "We will need to all work together to make sure that funding for our public schools continues to meet the needs of our students," said McCorkle. "There is a lot of time and work to be done between now and when state legislators adopt the final budget in March. It is better to start the conversation to focus on moving ahead, even if it is ever so slight, than moving back."

Education groups, including SDEA, are expecting a relatively quiet session compared to last year. However, McCorkle said with a number of new legislators, it always best to be prepared for whatever happens. The Association hopes to build on the positive

work done last year with Governor Daugaard and legislators from both sides of the aisle. "We look forward to working with Governor Daugaard and state legislators to make sure that South Dakota students receive a great public education."

The 2017 Legislative Session begins on January 10 and concludes in March.

Become a Cyber-Lobbyist Today!

How can you help make sure education remains a priority in Pierre? Sign up for SDEA's Lobby Line to receive updates on what's happening in Pierre. Your SDEA lobbying team is at the State Capitol every day talking to lawmakers about what our schools and kids needs...but we can't do it alone. We need your voice. Become an SDEA Cyber-Lobbyist and lend your voice to the effort of providing all students a great public education. You can find that link at SDEA.org.



Through the **FREE** NEA Click & Save® Program, NEA members have collectively saved over \$10 million—you can enjoy the savings, too. It's our most popular benefit for a reason.

Don't miss out on all the savings. Sign up today, and you'll save on dining, entertainment, clothes, electronics, travel, and more in thousands of locations with:

- ▶ **Exclusive discounts** not available to the general public.
- ▶ **WOWPoints** for purchases that you can redeem like cash.
- ▶ **NEA Click & Save** benefits to share with 4 friends and family.

Register now at neamb.com/clickandsave

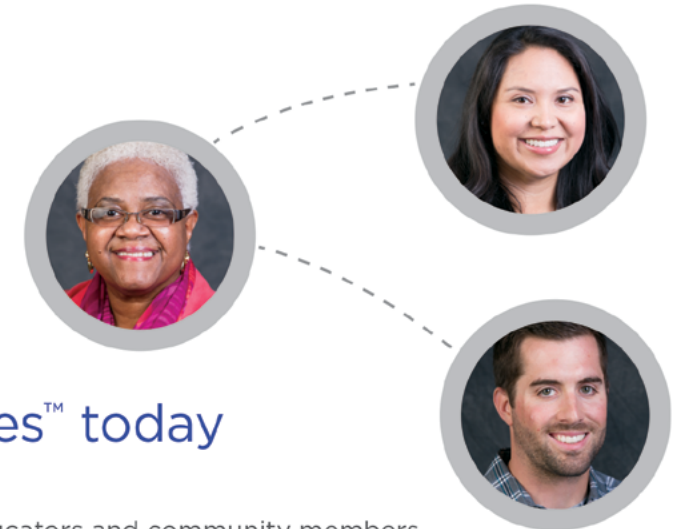


FINANCE INSURANCE DISCOUNTS TRAVEL PROFESSIONAL

NEA, NEA Member Benefits and the NEA Member Benefits logo are registered service marks of NEA's Member Benefits Corporation.

CS460117

**CONNECT
COLLABORATE
SHARE
ENGAGE**



Go to NEA edCommunities™ today
WHERE GREAT MINDS ARE INSPIRED

NEA edCommunities is **the** place online where educators and community members join forces to improve student success. Sign up today at www.mynea360.org!

Your online community for creating and sharing ideas, resources, and best practices aimed at increasing student success.

Join groups that address today's most relevant education-related topics — or start your own!

Access free, high-quality online learning events and thousands of resources to create custom learning tools.

JOIN THE OTHER GREAT MINDS ON NEA edCOMMUNITIES

This is **your** community — get inspired and inspire others! Share your strengths and exchange ideas and resources with others who share your commitment to our public schools and a student-centered education agenda.



Are You Ready for Spring Bargaining?

Is your local bargaining this spring? Are you ready? While you and your bargaining team just returned from winter break and spring seems off in the distance, it is never too early to start planning for your spring bargaining sessions.

Here are five things your local should do now to help you be more successful at bargaining:

1. **Pick your team:** Identify your team members. Make sure everyone is up to speed with bargaining. If you have new bargainers, consider asking your Uniserv Director for help with training.
2. **Survey your members:** Getting feedback from your members is a great way to see which issues are important to the majority of the members. You want to make sure your team is representing the needs and wants of your

fellow members. There are several online tools, such as Survey Monkey, that make this process easier.

3. **Do your research:** Collect data on your district. See what is happening in neighboring locals. You can never have too much information.
4. **Set Dates:** It's never too early to set dates. Schedules fill quickly, work with your district to set dates. This will help the process and ensure full participation in the bargaining sessions. Set you sessions prior to the end of the legislative session so the process can move along soon after the state's budget is complete.
5. **Finally, touch base with your Uniserv Director:** Spring is a busy season for the SDEA UniServ Team. Contacting them early and talking through your upcoming bargaining sessions can alert them to any potential needs.

Teacher of Excellence Award — Continued from page 1

"Reach out to other colleagues for support and help. Lastly, when making tough decisions, make your decision based on what's best for your students," she said. "It will always be the best decision, and it is easy to defend to parents, administration, and colleagues."

The NEA Foundation Awards for Teaching Excellence recognize,

reward, and promote excellence in teaching and advocacy for the association. The awards are jointly presented by the NEA Foundation and the NEA. As an NEA state affiliate nominee, Kaltsulas will attend the NEA Foundation's 2018 Salute to Excellence in Education Gala in Washington, DC.

2017 SDEA/NEA Candidacy & Bylaws

✓ DEADLINE Jan. 15

2017 Board of Directors Open Positions

Position	Term	Position	Term
President	(1) 3-year	Western (Unit A)	(2) 2-year
Vice President	(1) 3-year	Plains (Unit B)	(1) 2-year
NEA Director	(1) 3-year	EGL (Unit C)	(1) 2-year
COHE At-Large	(1) 2-year	Eastern Prairie (Unit D)	(1) 2-year
		SEE (Unit E)	(1) 2-year

January 15, 2017, is the last day to notify Mary McCorkle, SDEA/NEA President of your declaration to run for an SDEA Officer position, At-large Board of Director position, or as a state-funded delegate to the NEA Representative Assembly.

Note: Please include a 150-word statement of why you are running for a SDEA officer position, and a 50-word statement for the Board of Directors positions. In addition to a statement, please submit a photo.

2017 NEA RA Delegates

Position	# of delegates
Western (Unit A)	2 delegates
Plains (Unit B)	1 delegate
Educators Guiding Learners (Unit C)	1 delegate
Eastern Prairie (Unit D)	2 delegates
SouthEast Educators (Unit E)	1 delegate
Minority	1 delegate
At-Large	5 delegates.

Note: Please include a 50-word statement of why you are running for delegate to the NEA RA.

Members who wish to serve as a delegate to the 2017 NEA RA must indicate whether they want to be on the ballot as a state delegate and/or as a unit delegate. The NEA annual meeting will be held **June 30-July 5 in Boston, MA**.

Any member may submit recommended changes to the SDEA/Bylaws and Guiding Principles. Recommended changes must be submitted in writing to the SDEA President no later than **January 15, 2017**.

You may also contact the SDEA Board of Directors Election Staff Liaison, Anne Plooster at anne.plooster@sdea.org or SDEA President, Mary McCorkle at mary.mccorkle@sdea.org.

Return completed form by one of the following ways:

Mail:	OR	Scan & email:
SDEA President		mary.mccorkle@sdea.org
Attn: Elections		or
411 East Capitol Avenue		anne.plooster@sdea.org
Pierre, South Dakota 57501		

All necessary election forms and policies may be found online at www.sdea.org.

Scholarship & Grant Deadlines

Gordon Horgen Memorial Scholarship

The South Dakota Education Association/NEA is calling for applications for the Gordon Horgen Memorial Scholarship, which will be awarded to Native American students who are planning on entering the teaching profession. This scholarship was created by the 2014 Representative Assembly to honor the late Gordon Horgen from Winner.

Deadline: February 15, 2017

Ramia Boersma Memorial Scholarship

The South Dakota Education Association/NEA awards scholarships to outstanding students who are planning on entering the teaching profession. This scholarship is open to children of SDEA members. The Association may annually award up to three \$750 scholarships for each academic year.

Deadline: February 15, 2017

NEA Foundation Global Learning Fellowship

The NEA offers educators 12 months of professional development to support them as they build global competence skills and create their own lesson plans to share with educators around the world. Fellows will also experience nine days of international field study. Find more details about the program on neafoundation.org.

Deadline: February 28, 2017

SDEA/NEA Educational Innovation Grant

The SDEA/NEA Educational Innovation Grant Program provides grants to members in support of innovative educational and student-oriented projects. The grant program funds new member-led projects. It does not fund projects on an on-going basis. The SDEA/NEA Educational Innovation Grants give preference to proposals that address student achievement, cultural diversity issues, include community partnerships, and can be duplicated by others.

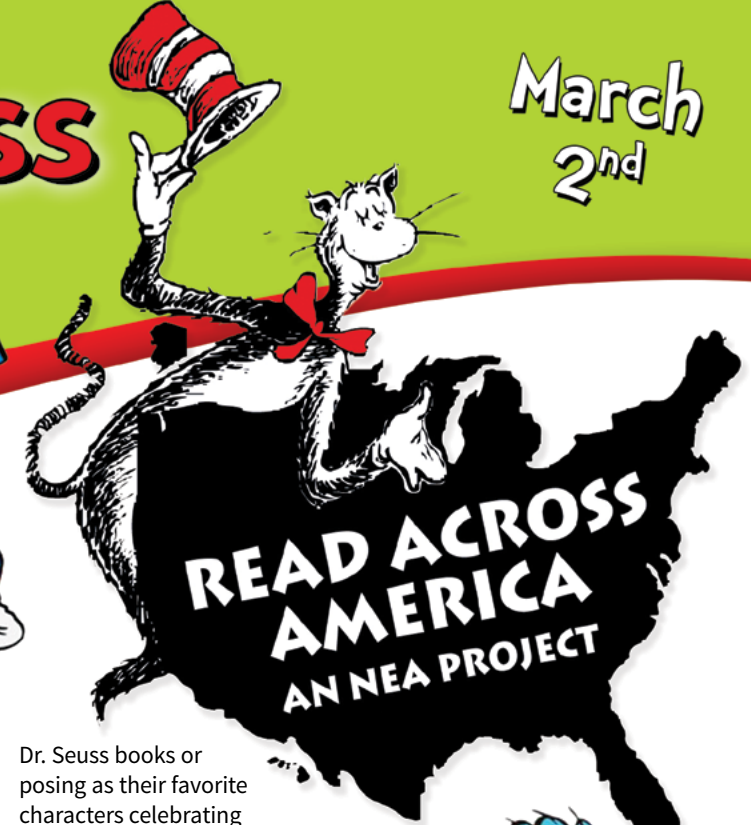
Deadline: May 1, 2017

Visit sdea.org for guidelines and application forms.



Read Across America

March 2nd



What's Your Best Dr. Seuss Pose?

Calling all Dr. Seuss lovers. SDEA is launching a Read Across America Photo Booth Contest at the end January. We are encouraging educators from across the state to create "photo booths" in their classrooms, libraries and schools for students to take photos of themselves with their favorite

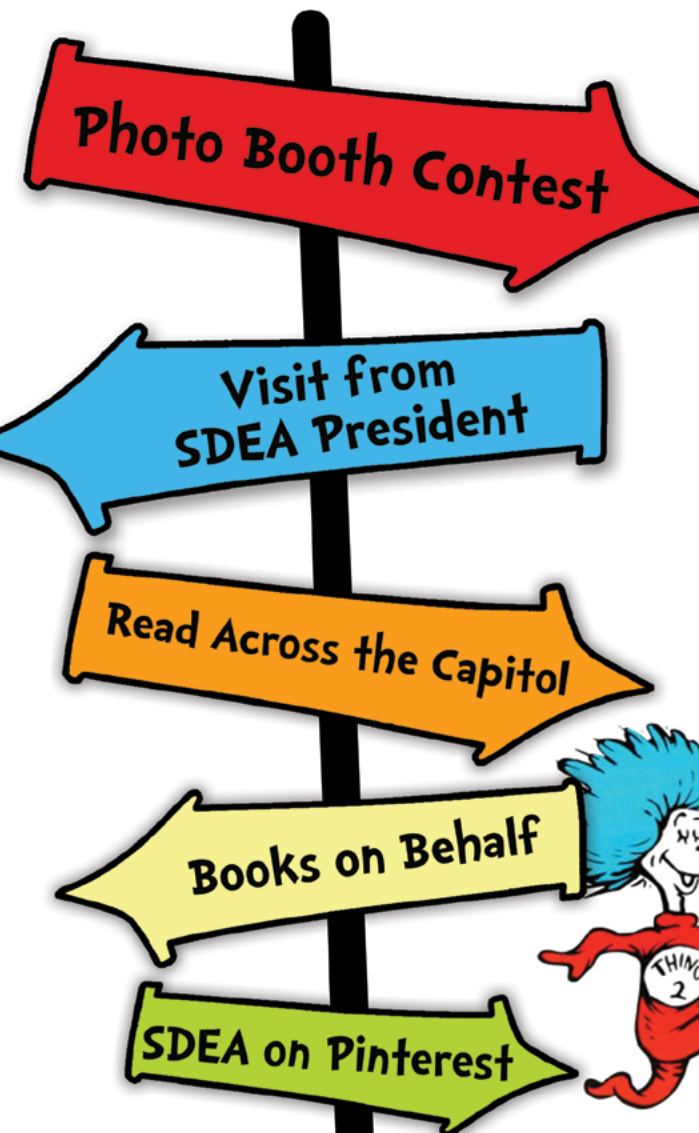
Dr. Seuss books or posing as their favorite characters celebrating the joys of reading. SDEA will select one winner from each of our five units. The winners will receive a \$100 Barnes and Nobles gift card. Winners will be announced on March 2. One classroom will also receive a visit from SDEA President Mary McCorkle and the "Cat in the Hat".

Participation in the photo booth contest will help promote the importance of reading to our state leaders. SDEA will take the "Cat" to the state capitol. Photos collected from members and students will be displayed at SDEA's first "Read Across the State Capitol" in Pierre in March. We want everyone including legislators, cabinet members and the general public to join in the fun.

SDEA is inviting Pierre area schools to bring classes to the Capitol to be read to by legislators and other state leaders and, of course, to take the Read Across America pledge. We will also have a Capitol photo booth where we will encourage lawmakers and other elected officials to take pictures posing as their favorite Seuss character.

Finally, thanks to a \$7,500 grant from the NEA, SDEA is also able to provide books to elementary schools across the state. SDEA will donate the books to the schools on behalf of legislators and other state leaders. The "Books on Behalf" project hopes to encourage reading all year long. SDEA will ask your legislators to take the time stop by the classrooms that received the books to read to students. For more information on how you can get involved, visit the SDEA webpage at sdea.org/readacross.

Make sure you are following us on Facebook, Twitter and Pinterest for contest rules and ideas...Yes, we said Pinterest! SDEA has a new Pinterest Board. Make sure you follow us!



Students Have the Right to a SAFE SCHOOL

Numerous laws provide that students have the right to be free from discrimination or harassment based on their actual or perceived race, national origin, gender (including gender identity and sexual orientation), religion, or disability.

The U.S. Constitution, as well as Title IV and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, and religion; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination; the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability. And numerous state and local laws provide similar protections.

The law requires schools to take steps to ensure that students have a safe school environment. Schools fail to meet this legal obligation when students are subject to chants, graffiti, taunts, threats, assaults, intimidation, and epithets based on their actual or perceived race, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, or disability. Anyone, including educators, can and should report harassing conduct to a school or other governmental officials.

When a school receives a complaint they must investigate and resolve the situation by:

- Immediately initiating a thorough and impartial investigation.
- Interviewing targeted students, offending individuals, and witnesses, and maintaining written documentation of investigation.

- Communicating with targeted students regarding steps taken to end harassment and following up with those students to ensure that the harassment has ceased.

When an investigation reveals that harassment has occurred, a school must take steps reasonably calculated to:

- End the harassment,
- Eliminate any hostile environment,
- Prevent harassment from recurring, and

TAKE THE PLEDGE: Safe Learning Environments for Every Student

SHOW YOU'RE STANDING UP FOR STUDENTS.

Visit www.sdea.org
Sign the Pledge:

I will stand up and I will speak up for my students, so that they all have a safe and affirming learning environment. I will take action with NEA so that EVERY student feels welcome and safe at school.

Once you sign, we'll email you with the next step for how you can ensure a safe learning environment for every student.

- Prevent retaliation against the targeted student or anyone who complained.

The appropriate remedy for harassment will depend on the situation. Resolutions often include:

- Training on identifying and addressing harassment.
- Providing additional supervision in areas where harassment occurs.
- Determining consequences and particular training needed for harassers, including whether discipline is appropriate.
- Limiting interactions between harassers and targets.
- Providing harassed student with an additional opportunity to obtain a benefit that was denied (e.g., retaking a test/class).
- Providing services to a student who was denied a benefit (e.g., academic support services).
- Developing, revising, and publicizing:
 - + Policy prohibiting harassment and discrimination.
 - + Grievance procedures for students to file harassment complaints.
 - + Contact information for Title IX/Section 504/Title VI coordinators.

Resources to assist with resolving harassment issues are currently available through the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights Equity Assistance Centers and the U.S. Department of Justice's Community Relations Service.

Proposed Certification Rule Changes

Proposed changes to certification rules will get a first reading at the state Board of Education's Nov. 15 meeting in Sioux Falls. The intent is to streamline rules and make them easier to understand. New rules are scheduled to be phased in, beginning in July 2017.

Proposed changes are extensive. Here are several highlights:

School structure would no longer dictate whether a teacher is certified to teach a subject. Endorsements would be tied to assignments, rather than school structure.

A teacher could earn an intermediate endorsement by passing a composite test in math, English language arts, science or social science. (i.e. Instead of being required to take separate tests in history, political science and geography, a teacher could take a composite social studies test to qualify to teach all three subjects in middle school and high school.)

Currently, if an educator's certificate lapses, the transcripted credit requirement increases from three to six. Under proposed changes, the requirement would remain at three, and the applicant would instead be required to pay a fee/fine.

A new category of certificates, called Educator Permits, would be created. Several of these permits could help small schools that struggle to find certified teachers in certain areas.

The Performing Artist Permit is designed for individuals who qualify to teach in specific fine arts areas. This would be a five-year non-renewable permit issued to performing artists in the fields of art, dance, drama and music. The permit would require five years of occupational experience in the performing arts field.

The Expert Lecturer Permit would be issued at the request of a school district for individuals with distinctive qualifications. It would be a one-year renewable permit, limited to the area of specialty, and would require a master's degree or higher.

The International Teacher Permit would be a five-year non-renewable permit that would require a J1 or H1B Visa.

A teacher with an early childhood



special education preparation could add a K-12 special education endorsement by passing the secondary pedagogy test and

the state special education content test.

A teacher with a K-12 special education preparation could add an early childhood special education endorsement by passing the early childhood pedagogy test and the early childhood special education test.

The South Dakota Department of Education will be sharing detailed information through a variety of avenues over coming months in an effort to reach all who will be affected. It is important to note that whatever educators are currently qualified to teach will not be affected by the rule changes. The department's certification webpage will be continually updated as rules are rolled out.

"Proposed certification rule changes to get first reading Nov. 15." *Online Zebra*, Nov. 2016, <http://doe.sd.gov/pressroom/zebra/news/16/Nov/Page1.html>.

Questions or Concerns

Contact a UniServ Director today!

Fran Linn

Western UniServ Director (Unit A)
800-529-0090 ext. 311 | 605-342-8068
frances.linn@sdea.org

Loren Paul

Plains UniServ Director (Unit B)
800-529-0090 ext. 131 | 605-224-9263
loren.paul@sdea.org

Ryan Rolfs

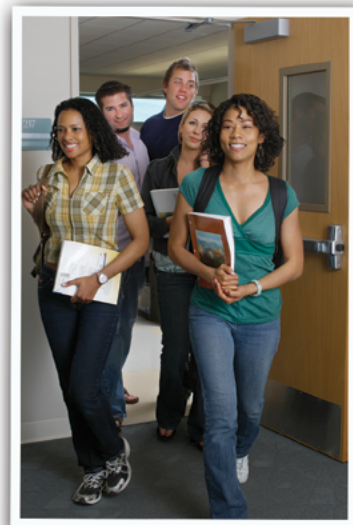
Educators Guiding Learners UniServ Director (Unit C)
800-529-0090 ext. 510 | 605-222-4291
ryan.rolfs@sdea.org

Jennifer Winter

Eastern Prairie UniServ Director (Unit D)
800-529-0090 ext. 211 | 605-339-3236
jennifer.winter@sdea.org

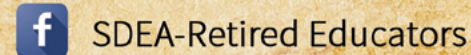
Kara Hoines

SouthEast Educators UniServ Director (Unit E)
800-529-0090 ext. 211 | 605-339-3236
kara.hoines@sdea.org





Find SDEA-Retired on Facebook



Board Minutes

SDEA/NEA Board of Directors' Meeting

June 12-13, 2016
July 22-23, 2016
September 24-25, 2016

Questions? Contact:

Loren Paul

Retired Program Coordinator

411 E. Capitol | Pierre, SD 57501

800-529-0090 ext. 131 | 605-224-9263 ext. 131 | loren.paul@sdea.org

Doesn't seem possible 2017 is upon us does it? (MMXVII for those who think in Roman numerals). Legislative session, with all that entails, will soon be upon us as well. Hopefully our past successes continue.

I mentioned in the last *Advocate* that we had applied for a grant from NEA to continue offering our hugely successful Pre-Retired Seminars. Again, this year our application was approved and we hope to offer three this year. One has been scheduled west river for Saturday April 29th at the Ramkota in Rapid City. Another will be held Saturday the 13th of May in Sioux Falls. Plans for a third Pre-Retired Seminar are still in the developmental stage — perhaps in either Aberdeen or Brookings. Please do what you can to “spread the word”; updates will follow.

September through August is our fiscal year, the same as most schools. As of this writing we have

received dues from approximately 69% of our members. Dues Reminder letters are in the mail. Remember, to keep insurance benefits and liability benefits you must be a paid-up member. You would be covered if you choose to work or volunteer ‘part-time’. Horror stories abound regarding liability without coverage — don't let it happen to you.

To those of you who have sent in their dues, THANK YOU! If you have not do so, it is not too late. 2016-2017 dues can still be sent to PO Box 62, Pierre, SD 57501. Payment of dues will not only help your organization function but extends that valuable protection to you.

A major challenge facing SDEA-R and SDEA is keeping membership records current. Please, please, please, inform us of any changes you have in addresses, names, e-mails, etc. This is particularly important if you no longer get your e-mail through your school or have changed your e-mail

address/carrier. You may contact me (john.salladay@gmail.com) with any changes.

WWW.NEAMB.COM is a great source of discounts and benefits. I was certainly surprised at some of the benefits I found. Why not check it out?

Annual meeting updates: This year, our meeting will be held at the Cultural Heritage Center at 1 pm on Friday, April 7th. It is located up the valley to the north from the Capitol here in Pierre. If you wish to wander the museum portion of the Center, just tell them you are a member of SDEA-R — we will pay the entrance fee. The it closes at 4:30, so plan to arrive early.

Thank you for your contribution to students and schools over the years; you made a difference.

Sincerely,

John R Salladay,
SDEA-Retired President

June 12-13, 2016

Present for the meeting in addition to M. McCorkle were: O'Brien, Meyer, Soldatke, Baumann, Schutte, Canet, Sieverding, McMahan, Sommers, Monson, Chase, Smallman, Aldrich, Brooks, and Salladay. Also present were, Plooster, P. McCorkle, Mickelsen and Gravatt. Hoffmann was present for the Board meeting as an observer.

Absent were: Mehlbrech, Farmer, Olsen, Jennings, Jensen, and Gorder.

Incoming board members in attendance were: Thomas, and Sokol. Lind and Wiebers were not present.

Staff present Monday and Tuesday for the retreat were: Gravatt, Frederick, Boyd, Schmitgen, Paul, Rolfes, Mittelstedt, Drewes, Winter, and Erickson. Hoines was not present.

Approved the 2016-2017 SDEA Budget. (Canet, Smallman)

Approved reaffirming Kim Soldatke as representative of the SDEA Board of Directors on EPIC. (Sieverding, Monson)

Approved UniServ grants submitted by Unit A, B, C, and E. (Brooks, Monson)

Approved the RCEA Release Time President request. (McMahan, Baumann)

Approved certifying the 2016 SDEA Election #1 results. (SDEA Election Committee)

Approved certifying the 2016 SDEA Election #2 results. (SDEA Election Committee)

Approved removing Mark Mickelsen from bank signatures. (Brooks, Monson)

Approved adding Paul McCorkle to bank signatures. (Schutte, Sieverding)

Approved campaign proposal recommendations from Media One. (Rebranding Task Force)

Approved amendments to SDEA Board Policy 2.14 Voucher for Travel Expenses to be effective immediately. (SDEA Internal Concerns Committee)

Approved amendment changing deadline to June 1 to SDEA Board Policy 8.3 Release-Time President. (SDEA Internal Concerns Committee)

Approved amendments to SDEA Board Policy 16.2 Hiring Professional Employees. (SDEA Internal Concerns Committee)

Approved awarding Educational Innovation Grants to Sarah Jensen of Sioux Falls in the amount of \$989.95, Katie Kroeze of Sioux Falls in the amount of \$1000, Kristi Moser of Mobridge in the amount of \$1000, Michelle Nelson of Sioux Falls in the amount of \$984.75, Jennifer Scheff of Sioux Falls in the amount of \$1000, Kayla Meyerhoff of Sioux Falls in the amount of \$993.80, Amanda Hotchkin of Sioux Falls in the amount of \$314, Kay Dahl Hobart of Tri Valley in the amount of \$992.46, Kindra Schneider of Sioux Falls in the amount of \$995.84, and Christina Strid of Corsica-Stickney in the amount of \$973. (SDEA Scholarship/Innovation Grant Committee)

Approved hiring Fran Linn as Unit A UniServ Director. (Salladay, Sommers)

July 22-23, 2016

Present for the meeting in addition to M. McCorkle were: O'Brien, Meyer, Soldatke, Thomas, Lind, Wiebers, Smallman, Sieverding, McMahan, Sommers, Brooks, Jensen, Sokol, Wright, Aldrich, and Salladay. Also present were, P. McCorkle, and Mickelsen.

Absent were: Canet, Monson, Chase, Plooster, and Gravatt.

Approved Unit grant submitted by Unit D. (Sommers, McMahan)

Approved the SFEA Release Time President request. (Wiebers, Thomas)

Approved that SDEA provide \$5000 of financial support to Constitutional Amendment T. (Aldrich, Sommers)

Approved supporting Initiated Measure 23. (Sommers, Salladay)

September 24-25, 2016

Present for the meeting in addition to President McCorkle were: O'Brien, Meyer, Soldatke, Thomas, Lind, Wiebers, Smallman, Canet, Sieverding, McMahan, Sommers, Chase, Brooks, Jensen, Sokol, Wright, Aldrich., Also present were, P. McCorkle, Costa, Plooster, and Bartlett.

Absent were: Monson, Lind and Salladay.

R. Curtis, K. McCorkle, Hoines were present for a short time Saturday afternoon. Hoffmann was present as an observer.

Approved recommended changes to the Educational Innovation Grant application and guidelines. (SDEA Innovation Grant Committee)

Approved opening a separate dues deposit account with American State Bank and Trust. (Meyer, Sommers)

Approved accepting revised UniServ Director job description. (O'Brien, Wiebers)

Approved adopting the Director of Professional Development/Teaching and Learning Coordinator job description. (Wiebers, Brooks)

Approved having the SDEA President write a letter of support for the Commissioner of School & Public Lands. (Smallman, Thomas) Chase, Sommers and Aldrich opposed.

Approved supporting Constitutional Amendment R. (Sommers, O'Brien)

Approved opposing Referred Law 20. (McMahan, Smallman)

Approved changes to SDEA Board Policy 5.2 SDEA/NEA Logo. (SDEA Internal Concerns Committee)

Approved changes to SDEA Board Policy 7.3 Campaign Regulations for SDEA/NEA Office to be effective immediately. (SDEA Internal Concerns Committee)

Approved changes to SDEA Board Policy 7.6 NEA Delegates to be effective immediately. (SDEA Internal Concerns Committee)

Approved changes to SDEA Board Policy 12.2 Travel Expense. (SDEA Internal Concerns Committee)

Approved changing unit names internally as they change. (SDEA Internal Concerns Committee)

Approved accepting resignation of Darby Boyd as Communications Specialist effective August 26, 2016. (Sieverding, Wiebers)

Approved hiring Rebecca Uhrig as Communication Specialist effective September 30, 2016. (Meyer, Thomas)

Election of SDEA-Retired Vice-President and Treasurer

(three year terms)

Our bylaws in Article IV Section 5 state:

Nominations of officers shall be open. A candidate for office must file a notification of candidacy with the SDEA-R president by January 15th. A 50-75 word biographical sketch for the candidate should accompany the members' filing statement. The SDEA-R president will immediately report the notification to the SDEA headquarters office and the SDEA-R Executive Board.

Notification of candidacy must be sent to SDEA-R President, PO Box 62, Pierre, SD 57501 before January 15, 2017

Terms of office begin on July 15, 2017.





411 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501


605-224-9263 ph
800-529-0090

Find Us On


www.sdea.org

www.sdea.org/lobbyline

 @sdea.org

 @SDEAEducators

 South Dakota
Education Association

 @SDEducators

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 2017

- Jan. 1 New Year's Day observed – offices closed
- Jan. 2 SDEA office reopens
- Jan. 10 SouthEast Educators meeting – Yankton
- Jan. 10 First day of SD Legislature
- Jan. 12, 19, 26 Aberdeen Assessment Workshop
- Jan. 14 Plains Meeting – Pierre
- Jan. 15 Last Day to declare candidacy for SDEA officers & At-Large BOD, NEA RA Delegate positions/changes to bylaws
- Jan. 16 BOD conference call
- Jan. 16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day – offices closed
- Jan. 17 Eastern Prairie meeting – TBD
- Jan. 20–21 SDEA BOD meeting – Pierre
- Jan. 27–28 EPIC Meeting
- Jan. 27–29 MLT/WLT West

February 2017

- Feb. 2 Groundhog Day
- Feb. 6 Educators Guiding Learning meeting – TBD
- Feb. 10 NEA Foundation GALA
- Feb. 10–11 NEA BOD meeting – Washington, D.C.
- Feb. 12 Lincoln's Birthday
- Feb. 14 Valentine's Day
- Feb. 15 Ramia Boersma & Gordon Horgen Scholarship deadline
- Feb. 15 Susan B. Anthony's Birthday
- Feb. 20 SDEA BOD conference call
- Feb. 20 President's Day – offices closed
- Feb. 22 Washington's Birthday
- Feb. 24–25 NEA National Leadership Summit

March 2017

Mar. 2 **Read Across America!**

