

State's NCLB waiver proposal is approved

South Dakota's waiver for flexibility from key provisions of No Child Left Behind has been approved by the U.S. Department of Education.

"This marks a new era in accountability for South Dakota schools," said Dr. Melody Schopp, secretary of the South Dakota Department of Education. "This model offers a balanced and meaningful approach to measuring school performance. Rather than focusing almost exclusively on a single indicator, it encompasses multiple measures that indicate how well a school is performing. It also sets goals for continuous improvement that are lofty and yet attainable."

According to Schopp, components of the model will be phased in over time, with full implementation in the 2014-15 school year. "We wanted to be thoughtful and purposeful and take our time in order to do this right, which is why we have delayed

implementation of certain pieces of the model," she said.

The model is based on a School Performance Index, or SPI, which consists of five key indicators. Each year, schools will receive an SPI score of 0 to 100, with each of the indicators worth a certain number of points. Indicators are different at the elementary, middle and high school levels.

At the elementary and middle school levels, the five indicators include: Student Achievement, which measures proficiency on statewide assessments in reading and math; Academic Growth, an indicator of student growth over a period of time; Attendance; Teacher and Principal Effectiveness; and School Climate.

At the high school level, the Academic Growth indicator is replaced by a High School Completion indicator, and the Attendance indicator is replaced by an indicator of College

and Career Readiness.

"The annual SPI score is the first lens through which we can look at schools. It's designed to be a broad picture of key indicators, and it will give school leaders, teachers, parents and the public an idea of how their schools are performing against these criteria," Schopp said.

The SPI score will be reported annually and will be used to recognize schools whose scores rank among the top 5 percent (Exemplary Schools) and to identify those Title I schools that rank among the bottom 5 percent (Priority Schools) for targeted interventions and support.

"The model also incorporates a second lens that allows us to delve more deeply into what's happening with groups of students," Schopp said.

This "second lens" focuses on the Student Achievement indicator and how subgroups of students perform on assessments. Under the new model,

South Dakota has set a goal of reducing by half the percentage of students who score below the proficient level on the state tests in reading and math within six years. The 2012-13 school year will be the baseline year.

Within each school, each subgroup of students will have unique annual targets to get them to that point.

"This approach continues to shine a spotlight on student groups that need extra attention and support, but it also recognizes that all of our students and student groups have different starting points," Schopp said.

South Dakota's model includes the use of what is referred to as a "Gap Group," which is an aggregate of student subgroups that have historically experienced achievement gaps. It also uses an unduplicated count of students. Under the old system, a single student may have been counted multiple times depending upon the number of subgroups he or

she belonged to. The new system will count each student only once.

Schools that make their annual targets in reading and math will be able to earn additional SPI points for that accomplishment.

South Dakota also will use student achievement, attendance and graduation rate data to identify additional Title I schools (Focus Schools) for targeted assistance and support.

"This model sets high but realistic goals for continuous improvement. It relies on multiple indicators, and recognizes schools that are high performing as well as those making significant academic gains," Schopp said. "While we have much more work to do, it's a huge step in the right direction."

USD med school is one of nation's most popular

The University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine (SSOM) is one of the top-ten most-popular medical schools in the nation, according to U.S. News & World Report. Schools appearing on the list were recognized for enrolling the highest percentage of accepted students - 74 percent or greater.

SSOM ranked seventh, ahead of the University of Nevada-Reno School of Medicine and Harvard Medical School. Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences and the University of Kansas Medical Center topped the list.

"The USD Sanford School of Medicine is proud of our medical students and pleased that they in turn think so highly of us. The School's accomplishments and high national standing are a direct result of having great students," said Mary Nettleman, M.D., M.S., M.A.C.P., dean of the Sanford School of Medicine and vice president of health affairs at USD.

This is the third time in recent months that the Sanford School of Medicine has been ranked nationally. In May, the American Academy of Family Physicians named the School to its top-10 list for producing family physicians, and in March, U.S. News & World Report ranked the med school in its top-10 list for rural medicine.

For more information, visit www.usnews.com/education/best-graduate-schools/the-short-list-graduate-school/articles/2012/06/19/10-most-popular-medical-schools-2.

Volunteer receives JA USA Leadership Award

The JA USA® Headquarters in Colorado Springs, CO has honored Ric Rasmussen of Rasmussen Motors in Vermillion for his outstanding service and support to Junior Achievement of Vermillion's economic education efforts. Ric was recently presented with the JA USA Bronze Leadership Award at the JA Vermillion Planning Meeting.

The Bronze Leadership Award recognizes superior leadership and outstanding support for Junior Achievement. Ric will be serving as Chair for the JA Vermillion Board for a second consecutive year in 2012-13. Ric has been a JA volunteer in the classroom since 2004 and has been on the JA Vermillion Board since 2005.

"We are proud to have Ric as part of our team and appreciate his energy, dedication, and guidance. His commitment and leadership to JA of Vermillion has been

invaluable," said Kayla Eitreim, President of Junior Achievement of South Dakota.

During the 2011-12 school year, Junior Achievement of Vermillion provided 275 students in 14 classrooms traditional programming. An additional 400 Vermillion High School students in 13 classrooms were taught the importance of Ethics in the work place through the JA Excelling through Ethics event. Across South Dakota, JA volunteers will impact over 44,800 students in the 2011-12 school year. These classroom volunteers serve as role models and use hands-on activities to teach young people about financial literacy, entrepreneurship, and work readiness.

For questions on how to partner with Junior Achievement in Vermillion, contact JA at 605-336-7318 or jasd@ja.org.



Ric Rasmussen, Rasmussen Motors, accepts the JA USA Bronze Leadership Award from JA of South Dakota State Board Member, Dr. Mark Froke.

USD names Kimberly Grieve dean of students

The University of South Dakota announced today that Kimberly A. Grieve, Ph.D., has been named dean of students. Grieve, who will begin her duties at USD on July 30, most recently served as assistant vice president, dean of students and retention at Lourdes University in Sylvania, OH.

"I am looking forward to joining a student centered, liberal arts focused university which provides students with rich academic and student engagement opportunities," Grieve stated. "Preparing students to be productive citizens, leaders and lifelong learners in a global society relies on an excellent liberal arts foundation and student engagement in campus activities allows students to be actively involved in their learning and be challenged on



GRIEVE

diverse perspectives in a safe, supportive environment."

Grieve joined Lourdes University in 1992 as the Learning Resource Center

Coordinator as well as an adjunct faculty in the department of Language and Literature.

The following year she began serving as director of Accessibility Services and has held several positions at Lourdes since 1994, including director of Academic Services, director of TRiO programs, assistant vice president for student services, interim and acting vice president for student services, director of Diversity and Multicultural Services, the Title IX compliance officer and Faculty Coordinator for Service Learning.

Additionally, Grieve has served on more than a dozen committees during her tenure

at Lourdes where she is a graduate adjunct professor and Capstone advisor for the Master of Organizational Leadership program.

"We are very excited to have Kim at the University of South Dakota as we continue to move forward and implement programs that will ensure success for all of our students," said Jeff Baylor, vice president for marketing, enrollment and student services at USD. "Her knowledge and experience in higher education along with her leadership skills make Kim an ideal fit for the university community."

Before Lourdes University, Grieve was an English instructor at Monroe County

Community College and presented developmental learning materials workshops and seminars for directors, supervisors, teachers and parents.

Additionally, she is very active in her community serving on several boards and is a member of the Association on Higher Education and Disability as well as the Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education. Grieve received a Ph.D in leadership in higher education and master's degree in education from the University of Toledo and a Bachelor of Arts degree in education from Michigan State University.

•Commercial •Residential •Industrial

Professional Grade Service 605-624-7000 • 1-877-695-0247
Please call us today to discuss your upcoming project.

THE REGION'S MOST COMPREHENSIVE ORTHOPEDIC CARE

Our Commitment Is To Keep You Active.

Specialists will be available in the following communities on these dates.

Vermillion	Dr. Adler	July 12, 26
Freeman	Dr. Watson	July 17
Yankton	Dr. Mitchell Johnson	July 10, 24
	Dr. Suga	July 13
	Dr. Watson	July 17
	Dr. Dan Johnson	Every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday

SPECIALISTS IN:
General Orthopedics, Spine Surgery, Sports Medicine, Hand & Upper Extremity, Joint Replacement, Arthroscopic Surgery, Foot & Ankle, Pediatric Orthopedics, Microsurgery

Olson Medical Clinic • Vermillion • 624-5666
Rural Medical Clinic • Freeman • 925-4219
Orthopedic Institute • Yankton • 665-0077
www.orthopedicinstitutesf.com
No physician referral is needed unless required by your insurance.

ORTHOPEDIC INSTITUTE
The One To Trust

Sign up today for ongoing discounts from your favorite local merchants - for free!
Get lots of great ongoing deals you'll actually use...for free!

What is ForkFly?
Forkfly is a free website and a mobile app that gives you access to local deals! Dozens of our most popular local merchants are posting deals daily on ForkFly. By simply signing up for free, you have access to all these great local deals.

Subscribe Today! Call 624-4429