

Contact Information

Kim Wadsworth (Superintendent)
Phone: 605.275.7540
Email: kim.wadsworth@sdsd.sdbor.edu

Angela Bechtold (Sioux Falls Area)
Phone: 605.275.7530
Email: angela.bechtold@sdsd.sdbor.edu

Denika Boomsma (Rapid City Area)
Phone: 605.791.7834
Email: denika.boomsma@sdsd.sdbor.edu

Julie Delfs (Madison Area)
Phone: 605.275.7523
Email: julie.delfs@sdsd.sdbor.edu

Alissa Hutchinson (Sioux Falls Area)
Phone: 605.275.7546
Email: alissa.hutchinson@sdsd.sdbor.edu

Katie Janssen (Sioux Falls Area)
Phone: 605.275.7528
Email: katie.magera@sdsd.sdbor.edu

Sharon Jones (Aberdeen Area)
Phone: 605.626.3164
Email: sharon.jones@sdsd.sdbor.edu

Sarah Lingle (Pierre Area)
Phone: 605.773.2224
Email: sarah.lingle@sdsd.sdbor.edu

Julie Luke (Sioux Falls Area)
Phone: 605.275.7532
Email: julie.luke@sdsd.sdbor.edu

Candice Mohn (Aberdeen Area)
Phone: 605.626.2583
Email: candice.mohn@sdsd.sdbor.edu

Nina Ringstmeyer (Hot Springs Area)
Phone: 605.275.7535
Email: nina.ringstmeyer@sdsd.sdbor.edu

Kerry Ruth (Deadwood Area)
Phone: 605.275.7536
Email: kerry.ruth@sdsd.sdbor.edu

Jodi Schnider (Sioux Falls Area)
Phone: 605.275.7537
Email: jodi.schnider@sdsd.sdbor.edu

Laura Scholten (Sioux Falls Area)
Phone: 605.275.7538
Email: laura.scholten@sdsd.sdbor.edu

Kami Van Sickle (Sioux Falls Area)
Phone: 605.275.7539
Email: kami.vansickle@sdsd.sdbor.edu

Mission Statement

South Dakota School for the Deaf was established in 1880 to serve children with hearing loss. Since that time, SDSD has worked to provide quality educational programs and support services for children who are deaf and hard of hearing and their families. The school's mission includes consultation to families and educational teams statewide and comprehensive student evaluations including audiology and hearing screening. SDSD serves as a resource for families and local schools by providing a specialist in the education of deaf and hard of hearing children as a member of the educational team.

Sioux Falls Clinic
4101 W. 38th St.,
Suite 101
Sioux Falls, SD 57106
Phone: 605.367.5200



Rapid City Clinic
2138 Jackson Blvd
Rapid City, SD
57702 Phone:
605.791.7839

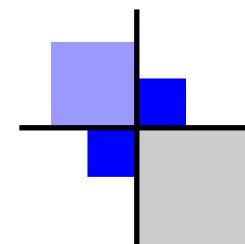
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Person Centered Transition Assessment (PCTA)



SDSD

South Dakota School for the Deaf



WWW.SDDEAF.ORG

Transition Planning

Transition is a time in life filled with change, growth and excitement. Transition planning can also be a stressful and anxious time for students and families as they prepare for their futures. With support, using person centered thinking tools, and a good plan, transition can be a rewarding and successful journey to a good life.

What is PCTA?

A Person Centered Transition Assessment (PCTA) is a facilitated conversation about what is important to and for the student now and in the future, who is in their life, and how to support them as goals are developed that reflect the student's aspirations for living, learning, and working in the community as an adult. The conversation helps us determine the student's interests and what their vision is for the future. This discussion is focused on the student but we also like to include the parents and anyone else who is close to the student such as teachers, school staff, or other outside providers (Vocational Rehabilitation counselors, Family Support, etc.)

The PCTA can identify:

- ◆ A vision for the future
- ◆ Achievable post-school outcomes for employment, independent living, and education.
- ◆ An action plan with steps to help the student achieve their desired post-school goals.



Roles and Expectations

Students & Families

- ◆ Determine who you would like to invite
- ◆ Communicate hopes and dreams for the future
- ◆ Communicate likes, dislikes, interests, skills, accommodations, and supports needed
- ◆ Actively engage as equal partners in all aspects of the PCTA discussion and decision-making

Teachers & School Personnel

- ◆ Determine a date and time with the student and family
- ◆ Find a location for the meeting
- ◆ Provide information about the student's strengths and progress
- ◆ Suggest courses of study and educational experiences to help the student achieve his or her desired post-school goals.

Providers and Others

- ◆ Provide information about services and eligibility criteria for community or adult services and supports (e.g., college support services and financial aid, vocational rehabilitation services, family services, social security work incentives)
- ◆ Assist in identifying services that may assist the student in achieving his or her post school goals.
- ◆ As appropriate, provide services to the student prior to exiting the school system



External Evaluations

External evaluations are available for educational agencies who serve children who are deaf or hard of hearing. SDSD team members have kept abreast of the many changes in the field of Deaf education and are able to serve children with any type of varied hearing level, listening technology, and/or communication methodology (e.g., ASL, Spoken English). The evaluation team is comprised of a group of highly qualified professionals who have decades of experience working with children who are deaf and hard of hearing and those with additional disabilities.

For information on scheduling external evaluations, contact Kami Van Sickle, SDSD Service Coordinator, kami.vansickle@sdsd.sdbor.edu.



Audiological Testing

SDSD has licensed and certified pediatric audiologists. Audiology services are provided as a state-funded program, at no cost to families and school districts. Any child from birth through high school graduation that resides in South Dakota has access to SDSD audiology services. Services are provided at the SDSD on-site clinics in Sioux Falls and Rapid City or off-site with the use of the mobile hearing lab.

For additional information, contact 605.367.5200.

To schedule the mobile lab, email: hearingtest@sdsd.sdbor.edu.