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CONTACT: Ruth Raveling, (605) 773-2593, ruth.raveling@state.sd.us

School libraries recognized as 21st Century School Libraries

PIERRE, S.D. – A few exemplary school libraries across the state have received rewards from the 21st Century School Library program for their efforts. The 21st Century School Library program identifies school libraries as Effective, Enhanced or Exemplary, based on performance in three areas: place, which refers to the learning environment (both physical and online), programming and professionalism.

This is the first year of the recognition program for school libraries. Applicants conduct a self-assessment and provide evidence of their ability to meet South Dakota's guidelines for school libraries. Award status is valid for a two-year period.

Effective Award Recipients:

- Agar-Blunt-Onida School, Onida, Librarian Jackie Aspelin, Administrator Kevin Pickner
- Sturgis Brown High School, Sturgis, Librarian Alissa Adams, Administrator Jeff Simmons
- South Park Elementary School, Rapid City, Librarian Melissa Thibault, Administrator Rod Haugen
- St. Elizabeth Seton Elementary School, Rapid City, Librarian Melissa Hubbell, Administrator Barb Honeycutt

Enhanced Award Recipients:

- Discovery Elementary School, Sioux Falls, Librarian Sharlene Lien, Administrator Lois Running
- Douglas Middle School, Box Elder, Librarian Mavis Schipman, Administrator Dan Baldwin
- Explorer Elementary School, Harrisburg, Librarian Amy DeNomme, Administrator Mike Munzke
- Huron High School, Huron, Librarian Dawn Coughlin, Administrator Demitria Moon
- Mickelson Middle School, Brookings, Librarian Kristen Leite, Administrator Melinda Jensen
- Newell School, Newell, Librarian Gwendolyn Kitzan, Administrator Blake Dahlberg
- Patrick Henry Middle School, Sioux Falls, Librarian Wendy Nelson, Administrator Darryl Walker

Exemplary Award Recipients:

- Brookings High School, Brookings, Librarian Jean Kirschenman, Administrator Paul vonFischer
- Harrisburg High School, Harrisburg, Librarian Emily Olson, Administrator Dr. Kevin Lein
- Horace Mann Elementary School, Rapid City, Librarian Jeffrey Cosier, Administrator Scott Phares
- Journey Elementary School, Harrisburg, Librarian Kristi Jones, Administrator Dr. Marice Highstreet
- Lincoln High School, Sioux Falls, Librarian Mary Peters, Administrator Val Fox
- Memorial Middle School, Sioux Falls, Librarian Laura Allard, Administrator Carrie Aaron



700 Governors Drive
Pierre, SD 57501-2291

T 605.773.3134
F 605.773.6139
www.doe.sd.gov

- Roosevelt High School, Sioux Falls, Librarian Jeanne Conner, Administrator Tim Hazlett
- Washington High School, Sioux Falls, Librarian Kerri Smith, Administrator James Nold
- Watertown High School, Watertown, Librarian Jean Moulton, Administrator Dr. Michael Butts