

March 13, 2016

Mrs. Linda Daugaard, First Lady of South Dakota
Office of the Governor
500 E. Capitol Ave
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear Mrs. Daugaard,

I originally wrote to you in August 2014 to thank you for facilitating a connection between Dr. Melody Schopp, South Dakota Secretary of Education, and State Librarian, Dr. Daria Bossman. That networking effort resulted in a TPS regional grant awarded to the South Dakota State Library, the first of its kind to be implemented in the state of South Dakota. Upon the completion of this highly successful grant, I'd like to take this opportunity to share some outcomes with you and thank you again for being a catalyst in this effort.

The South Dakota grant, "Digging Deeper into Primary Sources", has been one of the most successful and cost-effective in the TPS Western Region. The original proposal called for one full-day webinar to highlight the multiple uses of primary sources from the Library of Congress and South Dakota state resources. This webinar was delivered to multiple online audiences throughout the state on March 6, 2015. The South Dakota State Library team was so efficient in their use of time and funding, they had funding left over to host a second half-day webinar day on November 20, 2015. The TPS Western Region was pleased to assist with the online learning platform and technical issues. The webinars were expertly planned and facilitated by Julie Erickson, Jane Healy and Joan Upell from the South Dakota State Library. Together, the webinars directly reached a total of 198 participants consisting of librarians, teachers, and administrators. Both webinars were highly rated on post-workshop surveys. Results indicated that over 90% of attendees would download resources from the Library of Congress and a vast majority planned to share what they learned with colleagues.

The SDSL provided an outstanding example of how to disseminate TPS and create awareness about the digital resources of the Library of Congress. Including the webinars, promotional outreach, and online postings, the SDSL estimated that they reached 24,381 educators in the last quarter of 2015 and a total of 51,020 over their entire grant period. Follow-up surveys indicated that over 100 lesson plans have been created and 82% of participants have utilized the Library of Congress website. All this for an initial investment of \$8,500!

We have shared these outcomes with the Library of Congress Educational Outreach through periodic reports. We are pleased to share them with you and express our admiration for the outstanding educators in your state. The TPS Western Region looks forward to working with other exciting initiatives in South Dakota.

Thank you for your continuing leadership on behalf of education and literacy in your state.

Sincerely,



Peggy O'Neill-Jones, Ed.D.

Professor and Director, Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Sources Western Region
Metropolitan State University of Denver

cc:

Ms. Melody Schoop, South Dakota Department of Education

Ms. Daria Bossman, South Dakota State Librarian

Ms. Jane Healy, South Dakota State Library

Dr. Sandra Haynes, Metropolitan State University of Denver

Ms. Vivian Awumay, Library of Congress