

School libraries recognized for efforts to support 21st century learning

South Dakota Secretary of Education Melody Schopp and State Librarian Daria Bossman recognized twenty school libraries as 21st Century School Libraries at the Systems Change Friday breakfast event on Oct. 18 in Oacoma.

The recognition 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
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