It’s hard to believe that 2019 is coming to an end. I think that time speeds up with each passing year. Now is the time for us to review the progress on our goals and make new ones for 2020. We continue to focus on three of our strategic planning goals:

- To promote the model school at NDSD.
- To expand the Adult Outreach Program.
- To expand the Parent Infant Program and School Age Outreach.

These are parts of our overall goal to promote NDSD as a Resource Center for all deaf and hard-of-hearing North Dakotans. As of November 30th, we have had 556 visitors on campus in 2019. This number continues to increase each year.

We have technology, educational practices/services, and media resources to share with the public. Our media center houses books, periodicals and videos for loan; our librarian can assist in locating information from electronic sources.

The superintendent’s house is a showcase for adaptive technology that may be used in homes to assist deaf or hard of hearing individuals. We welcome all visitors to the resource center and would love to share the expertise and services we have available.
NDSD Celebrates Native American Day

Teachers and Students made Indian fry bread in the shape of buffalo.

Students were proud to demonstrate the Native American artwork they made in class.

Kitchen staff cooked buffalo meat and made delicious Indian tacos for lunch (with pumpkin pie for dessert).

NDSD alumni (Robbie, Bryce and Corene) visited with students and shared their own personal experiences with Native American Culture.

Pre-school teacher, Lacey, displayed beautiful bead work that her grandmother made.

On Friday, December 6th, the students enjoyed a STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) lesson in their math classes utilizing the Hess Toy Trucks. We measured length, height, and distance. The kids really enjoyed racing their vehicles!
David Zimmerman, NDSD teacher, is one of the Assistant Coaches for the 2019 Winter Deaflympics USA Ice Hockey team. This year the event is in Chiavenna, Italy, December 12-21, 2019.

Good luck to the hockey team and all the other USA participants!

Cornucopias decorated the tables for the dorm Thanksgiving Party.

Craft project closely related to Cousin It

Rolling in the Winter Wonderland!

A sigh of relief from this girl after performing for the Ultimate Cheer Program

Treats at McDonalds

Good Luck!

2019 WINTER DEAFLYMPIC TEAM

Congratulations to NDSD’s David Zimmerman, Assistant Coach on the USA National Deaf Ice Hockey Team for the 2019 Winter Deaflympics

Follow the event at: http://www.2019deaflympics.com/
NDSD/RCDHH SOCK TREE

One of the items at the top of any homeless shelter’s needs list is NEW SOCKS.

To celebrate the culture of kindness this holiday season, NDSD/RCDHH staff, students, and families were invited to contribute these gifts of warmth, which will be donated to the Lake Region Community Shelter, located in downtown Devils Lake.

The generosity has been overwhelming!

Flashback—100 Years Ago

Winter activity at the ND School for the Deaf on December, 1919

Since we have had snow and ice, the toboggan slide has been frequented daily. The slide furnishes the momentum to the sleds which are sent across the ice and onto the frozen pond below. The older boys used scrap lumber to build the toboggan slide. The slide’s framework: ten feet high and seventeen feet long with a slant of about fifty feet.

Good times!
HELPFUL HOLIDAY HEARING TIPS

The holidays are a time for celebrating with family and friends. With large gatherings, laughter and conversation, noises tend to elevate, making it difficult for someone with a hearing loss to understand speech and follow conversations. Below are some simple hearing tips that can help you and your guests fully enjoy this holiday season;

1. Use a round dinner table. It’s easier to understand people when you can see their lips. (lip reading)
2. Offer multiple gathering rooms: People with hearing loss may want to gather in a quieter room with less background noise and fewer people. It is difficult to follow the conversation in large groups.
3. Lower the holiday music. It’s a distraction for those that are trying to hear and understand others.
4. Use paper and plastic instead of china and silverware that clanks and causes high pitch noise.
5. Increase the lighting so that people can more readily see each other’s faces, making it easier to lip read.
6. If you know one of your guests has a “good side,” seat them accordingly with other dinner guests.

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ONLINE SHOPPING SAFETY TIPS

- Be sure the website starts with “https” (the ‘s’ stands for secure) and look for the padlock in the address bar.
- Always have a strong password with a combination of letters, symbols and numbers.
- Make sure your computer is updated with current patches and anti-malware software.
- Avoid shopping on public computers or using public Wi-fi.
- Shop at familiar and trusted websites.
- Use a credit card, not a debit card.
- Don’t provide more personal information than is needed for the purchase.
- Check your statements regularly and look for any fraudulent charges. If you see anything wrong or suspicious, call your financial institution to report it.
Christmas carols are a traditional highlight of the holiday season, no more so than for those with a hearing loss. Give your child access to these songs by pre-teaching and/or learning them in sign.

**We Wish You A Merry Christmas!**

We wish you a Merry Christmas, we wish you a Merry Christmas, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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Palm on dominant shoulder, circles to other shoulder.

WISH
W-hand (SEE) or C-hand (ASL), palm-in down chest.

YOU
Index finger points at person addressed.

WE

AND
Palm-in horizontal 5-hand pulls towards dominant side, closing to a flat O-hand.

MERRY
M-hand (SEE) or flat hand (ASL) brushes up chest, repeat.

CHRISTMAS
Twist dominant, palm-out, C-hand inward.

A
Palm-out A-hand moves out to the side.

HAPPY
Flat-hand brushes up chest, repeat.

NEW
Back of dominant, palm-up slides across top of other palm-up hand and arcs up slightly.

YEAR
Dominant horizontal S-hand on other S-hand; Dominant S-hand circles up and around other S-hand.
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**Upcoming events that we are excited about:**

- **Spice for Life Training**
  from Central Institute for the Deaf
  at North Dakota School for the Deaf
  Thursday, December 19, 2019

- **North Dakota School for the Deaf**
  Family Ice Fishing Event
  Devils Lake, March 7, 2020

- **Early Hearing, Detection & Intervention Meeting**
  March 8-10, 2020
  Kansas City, MO

For more information, contact Carol Lybeck at (701) 665-4400 or Carol.Lybeck@k12.nd.us