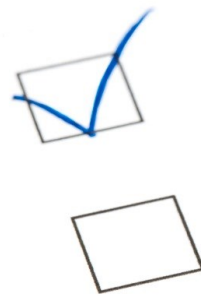




SDRS Outlook



Election Newsletter • 2020

Four SDRS Board Positions Open for This Election

State employees will choose their representative to the SDRS Board of Trustees in this year's election. The candidates for school boards (Kathryn Greeneway) and Board of Regents employees (Douglas Wermedal) are unopposed. No nominating petitions were received for the county employees representative position, so that vacancy will be filled in accordance with established procedures that are described below.

Each group within SDRS elects its own representative; therefore, only state employees will receive ballots this year. Elections for

representatives to the SDRS board are held each spring. The representatives' terms begin July 1 and are four years in length.

This special election issue of *Outlook* is intended to provide members with basic information on the candidates seeking election to the board of trustees. All biographical information is printed as submitted by the candidates.

Additional questions on qualifications or philosophy should be directed to the candidates.

Votes Must Be Received by May 26, 2020

The 2020 SDRS Board of Trustees' election and balloting processes are being managed through a third-party election services provider, YesElections. Only state employees will receive ballots in this year's election as the candidates for school boards and Board of Regents employees are running unopposed. No county employee candidates are running in this election.

State employees: You may cast your vote for your representative by mail or online. Each ballot contains a unique code which allows a member to vote only once. If you are voting by mail, do not vote online as the first vote received is the vote that is counted.

Voting by Mail

Included with this newsletter is a paper ballot. To vote by mail, mark your selection for ONE candidate, detach the ballot portion, and place it in the enclosed return envelope. Do not put any

other materials in the envelope. To be counted, envelopes must be received no later than 5:00 PM CT on May 26, 2020.

Voting Online

If you prefer to vote electronically, you may access the secure SDRS election login page at: <https://vote.yeselections.com/sdrs/>

To login and vote online, you must enter your Election Code and PIN, as marked on the enclosure. Votes can be cast online beginning April 29, 2020, at 9:00 AM CT and may be cast through 5:00 PM CT on May 26, 2020.

If you need voter assistance or a replacement ballot, please contact YesElections by emailing Help+SDRS@yeselections.com or calling toll-free 1-866-384-9978.

County Employees

No nominating petitions were received for the county employees representative position, so no election can be held for that vacancy. Procedures for filling the county employees representative vacancy will be followed as outlined in the Administrative Rules of South Dakota (ARSD) 62:01:07:05.

The provisions of ARSD 62:01:07:05 provide that if the vacancy is for a trustee to serve on behalf of an employee represented group, the executive director shall notify all authorized agents for the group affected by the vacancy and request that all employees be advised of the vacancy. Any interested member of the represented group may submit his or her résumé to the executive director. If a state-wide association exists that is made up of members of the employee represented group, the executive

director shall notify the association of the vacancy and request the association's input in seeking a qualified candidate.

The provisions of the rule further provide that the executive director shall provide to each board member a copy of each résumé received. At its next meeting, the board, by secret ballot, shall select a trustee from among those persons who submitted résumés.

Interested general county employees (Class A) may submit résumés to the office of the executive director by 5:00 PM CT on May 19, 2020, for the Board of Trustees' consideration at their June meeting.

Upcoming SDRS Board of Trustee Elections

2020

- Board of Regent Employees
- County Employees
- School Boards
- State Employees

2021

- Elected Municipal Officials
- Retirees
- State Employees
- Teachers

2022

- Classified Employees
- Public Safety Employees
- Teachers

South Dakota Retirement System • 1-888-605-SDRS (7377) • www.sdrs.sd.gov

This special issue of Outlook is produced to communicate information about candidates seeking a position on the SDRS Board of Trustees. It is published with funds provided through the contributions of teachers, school boards, state government, state employees, county commissions, county employees, municipal governments, and municipal employees. 19,750 copies of this document were printed on recycled paper by SDRS at a cost of \$0.15 per document.

State Employees



Jill Lenards

Hello, my name is Jill Lenards. I grew up on a dairy farm near Kranzburg, SD and graduated from Waverly High School. I graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree with majors in Accounting and Finance from Northern State University. I have served as an Auditor for the South Dakota Department of Revenue for the last 21 years. I have had the privilege to work with many wonderful business people throughout the United States! I am a member of the SDSEO (South Dakota State Employees Organization). I have completed the STAR leadership program offered by the Department of Revenue. I am currently enrolled in the Governors Leadership Program. I am an active volunteer with the Optimist Club, 4-H (local and state), finance council at church, Terry Redlin summer celebrations, SDHSAA (local and state) and Final Four activities.

As a vested member of SDRS, I am eager to help maintain the sustainability of the system for many years and ensure all governmental employees understand all the benefits of SDRS. I wish I had known more about some of the benefits earlier in my career!

Thanks for your consideration of my candidacy. I would be honored to serve as your representative.



Chad Meirose

I'm currently an Engineer for the Department of Health and my church treasurer. I grew up in Sioux Falls and graduated from SDSU in '06. At 40 I'm at the age where you're no longer young but not yet old. I'm the son and grandson of (retired) state workers who are reliant on the South Dakota Retirement System (SDRS) for income. When my Grandfather retired, I saw firsthand the importance of the state pension. I started managing my finances and created my investment portfolio at 18, knowing even at a young age the importance of future financial stability. The SDRS is one of the best funded pensions in the country (2nd only to Wisconsin), and it is imperative we keep it that way. My personal financial advisor often points out that those who jump off a roller coaster are the ones that get hurt. Much the same, I'm a stay the course type for investment strategies, especially for one that's been proven to work. I've also had additional experience teaching Dave Ramsey classes in the past. If you select me as an employee representative to the SDRS board of trustees expect more of what's worked so well in the past.



Eric Stroeder
Incumbent

Eric Stroeder has represented state employees on the Retirement Board for 16 years and the last 1.5 years as the Vice-Chair. During his tenure, SDRS has become a national leader and model of how pension systems should be run. He would continue to push SDRS to be a sound system that will be here for us throughout our lifetimes and beyond.

Eric is the DOT Engineering Supervisor in Mobridge and has worked for the SDDOT since 1991. He earned a B.A. from Bethel University, a B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Minnesota and is a Registered Professional Engineer. He has served on the SDRS Board since 2004 and is the current Vice-Chair. Eric is a member of the Department of Education School Finance Accountability Board and the Professional Administrators Practices & Standards Commission. He also serves as the Vice President of the Associated School Boards of South Dakota and President of the Mobridge-Pollock School Board. Previously Eric served on the Governor's Blue-Ribbon Task Force on education and the Governor's Capital Outlay workgroup. He served three terms on the executive board of the South Dakota State Employees Organization (SDSEO) and two terms on the Governor's Personnel Management Advisory Board. He has served on the National Committee of the National Conference on Public Retirement Systems and has completed numerous hours of pension trustee continuing education.

Board of Regents Employees: No Ballot Issued



Douglas Wermedal

Dr. Douglas R. Wermedal has worked in higher education since 1985. Dr. Wermedal's 35+ year career has included time at five different institutions (Eastern Illinois, University of North Dakota, University of Nebraska—Kearney, Emporia State University) and the last 22 at South Dakota State University. Dr. Wermedal currently serves as Associate Vice President for Student Affairs at South Dakota State University.

Dr. Wermedal has had supervisory responsibility for various departments on campus including the counseling center, food service, student discipline, student health clinic, and the wellness center.

Dr. Wermedal lives in Volga, South Dakota where he has previously served on the Sioux Valley School Board for nine years. He is currently in his second term on the City Council. Dr. Wermedal holds a B.S. in Agricultural Journalism, an M.S. in Guidance and Counseling and a PhD in Sociology. Wermedal and his wife have two adult children and one Cocker Spaniel with a bad attitude.

School Boards: No Ballot Issued



Kathryn Greeneway
Incumbent

Kathy Greeneway, Vice President of First Dakota Brokerage Services, Inc., is a Certified Financial Planner with Raymond James Financial Services, Inc. at First Dakota National Bank in Yankton. She has over 30 years of banking and securities experience. Her current FINRA licenses are General Securities Representative, General Security Sales Supervisor, and SD Investment Advisor Representative. She has completed her Series 6, 7, 9, 10, 63, 65 and is also SD and NE insurance licensed.

Kathy knows the importance of being involved in community activities. She is in her fourth term on the Yankton School Board, and currently serves as Board President. She also represents the SD Southeast Region to serve as a Director for Associated School Boards of South Dakota. Other current boards served include Avera Sacred Heart Hospital Board, Avera Sacred Heart Finance Committee, Avera Pooled Investments Committee, Avera Board of Consultants along with several school and general community groups.

In her free time, Kathy enjoys spending time with her husband, Dave, on their houseboat on Lewis & Clark Lake, playing golf, traveling and volleyball. They also have two children, Katelyn (25) and Evan (23).