

Deal Reached on S.D. Teacher Bonuses

PIERRE (AP) — Gov. Dennis Daugaard and legislative leaders say they have agreed on some changes to the governor’s plan to give bonuses to some South Dakota teachers.

The governor had proposed annual bonuses of \$3,500 for math and science teachers. The revised plan would give new math and science and teachers \$8,000 annual bonuses for their first five years of teaching, as long as they teach at a South Dakota public school.

Daugaard also has proposed giving \$5,000 annual bonuses to the top 20 percent of teachers in each school district, based on evaluations and student performance. The new proposal allows school districts to follow the governor’s original plan, create their own teacher reward plans or not take part at all.

The House Education committee hears testimony on the issue Wednesday.

USD To Allow Alcohol In Some Residence Halls

VERMILLION (AP) — The University of South Dakota will soon become the first campus in the state to allow alcohol in certain residence halls for students 21 and older.

KELO-TV reports that starting in the fall, students of legal age will be able to bring alcohol in Coyote Village and McFadden.

Associate Dean of Students Phil Covington says the student population is made up of more than undergraduate students. He says he took their requests to change the policy seriously.

Covington says he doesn’t think the policy will encourage partying because students know the policy can be revoked.

Student Emily Anderson says easing the restrictions on alcohol may help retain more students 21 and older to live on campus.

Strangulation Bill Passes S.D. Senate

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota’s Senate will move a bill to the House that adds a definition of strangulation to the state’s aggravated assault law.

Prosecutors and domestic violence advocates say prosecuting cases of strangulation can be difficult because South Dakota’s aggravated assault statute lacks a specific reference and definition for the act.

Under the proposed legislation, strangulation would fit the felony charge of aggravated assault in South Dakota and define it as causing bodily harm by reducing breathing through pressure on the neck and blocking the nose and mouth.

S.D. House Advances Budget Amendment

PIERRE (AP) — The South Dakota House has approved Gov. Dennis Daugaard’s plan to amend the state constitution to make it clear that the state budget must be balanced.

The House voted 66-3 to endorse the measure. If the Senate also approves it, the proposed constitutional change will be put on the November ballot for a statewide public vote.

Supporters say language in the constitution now only implies that the state budget must be balanced. The proposed amendment says the governor must propose and the Legislature must pass a balanced budget each year. Reserve funds could be used to balance the budget.

Bill On Cremation For S.D. Residents Passes

PIERRE (AP) — South Dakota counties could choose to cremate deceased indigents if an amended House bill becomes law.

In South Dakota, counties pay funeral expenses when a destitute resident dies. Local Government Committee members have passed a bill that allows county commissioners to choose cremation over burials in the absence of family or personal funds.

The bill also allows commissioners to decide each year how much a county will pay for each casket burial or cremation.

Last week, the panel delayed voting until the South Dakota Funeral Directors Association and the South Dakota Association of County Commissioners could meet to iron out details.

Lawmakers on Tuesday voted unanimously in favor of the bill. It now goes to the full House.

South Dakota

Lawmakers Reject Drug Tests In Welfare Program

BY CHET BROKAW  
Associated Press

PIERRE — A South Dakota House committee killed a pair of bills Monday that would have required people in the welfare and Medicaid programs to be tested for illegal drug use.

The Health and Human Services Committee rejected the measures after opponents said the testing would be costly, fail to reduce illegal drug use, hurt children whose families lose benefits and, in some cases, violate federal regulations.

State Social Services Secretary Kim Malsam-Rysdon said federal regulations prohibit drug testing for people in Medicaid, the state-federal program that provides health care for poor people. Drug testing is allowed for the welfare program, but it has not saved any money in states that have tried it, she said.

If people suspect welfare recipients are using illegal drugs, they should call law enforcement or contact state officials so that steps can be taken to protect children in those homes or prevent fraud in the programs, Malsam-Rysdon said.

“There are other systems to deal with illegal

drug use,” Malsam-Rysdon said.

Supporters of the bill argued that drug testing would help people overcome drug addiction and be better parents. It also would stop people who receive state aid from using the money to buy illegal drugs, they said.

“Our society will always be there to help those in need,” said Rep. Mark Kirkeby, R-Rapid City, sponsor of one of the bills. “If we are going to be that compassionate, giving society, heaven forbid that we make sure our support goes to people truly in need and certainly not to people on drugs.”

Kirkeby’s measure, rejected on a 9-4 vote, would have required the state Department of Social Services to set up a pilot program in three counties to give drug tests to people in the Medicaid program. The department would have reported the results of the testing and costs back to the Legislature. In the meantime, anyone refusing to take a drug test or testing positive for illegal drugs would have lost benefits.

A bill sponsored by Rep. Mark Venner, R-Pierre, would have required the Social Service Department to test anyone suspected of using drugs while receiving help in the welfare program, known as Temporary Assistance to Needy

Families, and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly known as food stamps. The committee changed the bill so it only dealt with the welfare program and those failing drug tests would not have lost benefits if they entered treatment programs.

The committee voted 8-5 to kill Venner’s bill.

Malsam-Rysdon said federal regulations clearly prohibit states from requiring drug testing for people in the Medicaid program, which currently spends \$591 million a year in South Dakota.

“If this passes, Medicaid in South Dakota would not exist,” she said, referring to Kirkeby’s bill.

Two-thirds of the people in the welfare program are children who mostly live with relatives other than their parents, and they would be in more costly programs if removed from those homes, she said. The average person is on welfare for only four months and must work while in the program, Malsam-Rysdon said.

Nine states currently give drug tests for people receiving welfare benefits, but many do it only for people convicted of drug felonies, Malsam-Rysdon said. Such convicts already cannot get welfare benefits in South Dakota, she said.

Nebraska Student Vows To Help Make Patriotism ‘Cool’

BY MICHAEL AVOK  
Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Kids today don’t respect the American flag or the Pledge of Allegiance, a 12-year-old student from Lincoln told Nebraska lawmakers on Tuesday.

Not only that, he said, it’s just not considered cool.

“Did any of you watch the Super Bowl on Sunday?” Andrew Shelburn asked members of the Legislature’s Education Committee.

“I was very disappointed with the number of people I saw without their hand over their heart during the national anthem,” Shelburn, who recently completed a school report on the flag and patriotism, testified Tuesday in favor of a bill that would make sure Nebraska public school students recite the Pledge of Allegiance first thing in the morning, every morning.

Sen. Tony Fulton of Lincoln introduced the bill, which also requires that a U.S. flag be posted in every public school classroom.

Under the measure, all K-12 classrooms would have a flag and pupils would be led in a group recitation of the pledge, starting this fall. No one

would be forced to recite the pledge, and deciding who leads the pledge would be left to individual schools.

Opponents on Tuesday said they were concerned about the cost of buying flags and said compulsory patriotism doesn’t create love of country.

“There is something problematic about compulsory patriotism,” said David Moshman, an education psychology professor at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and an author who writes on intellectual freedom.

“To require someone to be patriotic just doesn’t make sense.”

Supporters said the bill will help boost national pride.

Bob Evmen, a member of the Nebraska State Board of Education, said the bill promotes patriotism and students would realize a love of country and feel emotional and connected to the flag, the pledge and the nation.

“We are in the midst of revising our social studies standards (in Nebraska schools),” he said. “This fits quite well into our objectives.”

Several veterans’ groups also turned out to support the measure and pledged financial support if necessary.

Jackley Wants S.D. Lawmakers To Urge Bullying Policy

BY VERONICA ZARAGOVIA  
Associated Press

PIERRE — Schools would be urged but not required to provide counseling to bullying victims and inform parents about alleged harassment under a measure being advocated by South Dakota’s attorney general.

Attorney General Marty Jackley said Tuesday that his amended bill aims to provide “encouragement language” toward establishing a model bullying policy without asking the government to micromanage school districts.

“The local control is why I feel strongly about it,” Jackley said.

Under Jackley’s proposal, schools would be urged to counsel victims, report aggressors, inform parents about bullying or harassment and provide instruction to students. It would include a variety of threats under the definition of student aggression, including intimidation and physical violence.

The Senate Education Committee delayed action until Thursday, when Dakota Dunes Republican Sen. Dan Lederman will testify on his version of a bullying bill that would enforce prohibitive policies by the boards of all school districts.

Supporters of Jackley’s bill said the aim is to keep government involvement at a minimum.

“It’s too bad we’re at the point we have to do this for the school systems,” Sen. Bruce Rampelberg, R-Rapid City, said. “I think less government would be better, but we must move forward.”

Twelve districts in South Dakota lack a process for handling cases of student aggression.

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## WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH

# Maya Angelou

Maya Angelou was born Marguerite Ann Johnson on April 4, 1928 in St. Louis, Missouri. Today she is one of the most honored women in the world, recognized as a poet, memoirist, novelist, educator, dramatist, producer, actress, historian, filmmaker and civil rights activist. She has won three Grammys for her spoken-word albums, and in 2011, President Obama awarded her the Presidential Medal of Freedom for inspiring young people with her words.

Maya’s life didn’t have an easy start. After her parents’ divorce, she was moved from home to home for many years, living in turn with her mother, her grandmother and her father. For a while she was homeless.

But she didn’t let the poverty, pain or suffering of her childhood destroy her. In response, she created works of art.

Look at the list of art forms. Circle the ones with even numbers. These are art forms that helped Maya become famous.

<b>16 + 16 = Feature film</b>	<b>18 + 9 + 3 = Acting</b>
<b>6 + 2 + 14 = Poetry</b>	<b>14 + 8 + 6 = Singing</b>
<b>6 + 8 + 10 = The novel</b>	<b>13 + 13 = Spoken word</b>
<b>9 + 9 + 6 = Dance</b>	

**Standards Links:** History: Students understand that specific individuals can have a great impact on history.

### Cable Car Conductor

As a young woman, Maya was San Francisco’s first African-American female cable car conductor. She worked hard to support herself and her son.

Find the two identical cable cars.

**Standards Link:** Art: Know that ideas are used to communicate meaning.

### Singer and Dancer

Maya loved to perform. She started singing and dancing in nightclubs and changed her name to Maya Angelou. “Maya” came from her brother’s nickname for her, “my-a-sister.” *Angelou* came from her first husband’s name, *Angelos*.

After Maya was cast in the opera *Porgy and Bess*, she traveled throughout Europe performing in the show. While on tour, she learned the languages of the countries she visited. Follow the maze to see which languages she learned.

SPANISH, ITALIAN, ARABIC, FANTI\* FRENCH

GERMAN, RUSSIAN, ARABIC, FANTI\* GREEK

\* A West African language

**Standards Links:** Behavioral Studies: Understand that people learn about each other in different ways.

### Writer

To date, Maya has published more than 30 bestselling books. She wrote a series of books about her life. To discover the name of her first book, hold this page up to a mirror.

**Extra! Extra!**  
**Create a Maya Angelou Poster**

From the newspaper, select images and words that represent Maya Angelou. Use these to make a poster about her.

**Standards Links:** Visual Art: Know a range of subject matter in the arts.

### Let’s Talk About It

Maya’s first book was an autobiography. Based upon what you know of Maya’s life, what do you think the title means to her?

**Standards Links:** Comprehension: Respond to questions citing evidence.

### JOURNALIST

In 1960, Maya moved to Cairo, Egypt and became the editor of an English language weekly newspaper.

What was the name of the newspaper that hired Maya as an editor? Use the code to find out!

■ = A	■ = O
■ = B	■ = R
■ = E	■ = S
■ = H	■ = T
■ = I	■ = V

### Kid Scoop Puzzler

Maya is one of only three poets in U.S. history to read a poem at a presidential inauguration (the others being Robert Frost and Elizabeth Alexander). The poem Maya read is “On the Pulse of Morning.” Here is the last stanza. Can you replace the missing vowels?

**Here \_ n the p\_lse of th\_s new d\_y**  
**You m\_y have the gr\_ce to look \_p and o\_t**  
**And int\_yo\_r s\_ster’s \_yes, int\_**  
**Y\_r br\_ther’s f\_ce, your c\_ntry**  
**And s\_y s\_mply**  
**V\_ry s\_mply**  
**With h\_pe—**  
**G\_d m\_rning.**

Source: www.america.gov

**Standards Link:** Art: Know that ideas are used to communicate meaning.

### Online Scoop

Hear Maya Angelou recite part of the text of the poem she read at President Clinton’s inauguration: [www.kidscoop.com/kids](http://www.kidscoop.com/kids)

### Double Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle, then in this week’s Kid Scoop stories and activities.

JOURNALIST	T S I L A N R U O J
LANGUAGES	W E D I T O R O R D
CONDUCTOR	M A X Y T R E V O P
PERFORM	R R S T R I A E N C
POVERTY	O E Y R O T S I H A
HISTORY	F P C A B L E S P G
POETRY	R O T C U D N O C E
EDITOR	E I R P E N I A P D
PULSE	P L A N G U A G E S
OPERA	
CAGED	
CABLE	
TEXT	
PAIN	
ART	

**Standards Link:** Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

### FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

[www.kidscoop.com](http://www.kidscoop.com)

### Picture Details

Good writing includes lots of interesting details. Practice being a detail detective by carefully studying a photograph from the newspaper. Then, make a list of all of the details you observe. Can you list 25 or more?

**Standards Links:** Investigation: Know that understanding comes from detailed investigation.

### Write On!

**Big Bunny News**

The Easter Bunny has been spotted and you’re the reporter covering the story. Be sure to tell *who, what, when, where* and *why*.

**Deadline:** March 4 **Published:** Week of April 1  
Please include your school and grade.

Send your story to:

Press & Dakotan  
C/o Noelle Schlechter  
319 Walnut Street  
Yankton, SD 57078  
605-665-7811, ext 112

### Weekly Writing Corner

## Future Hope

What would you like to happen in your future?

Erin, 4th grade

My dream job is to be an archeologist. I love looking for things like shards and bones. One time my sister and I found a rusty knife in our creek, but our dad said that it wasn’t old. My dream is to work in a really old historical place. I love hard work; it makes me feel good about myself.

**Caeleigh, 3rd grade**

In my future I see myself becoming an author. I will write children’s books and grown-up books. I want to be married and I won’t have any kids. I will live with my two best friends — Jenna and Taylor. I will write my books with a computer. I will write picture books and ghost stories. I am inspired by the books of Mary Downing Hahn.

**John, Kindergarten**

I would like to be a fireman in the future. That is my great hope.

**Kaelee, 4th grade**

My future hopes are to go to college and get a degree, so I can get a good salary. I want a job as a dolphin trainer because I really love dolphins. When I get a job, I will get money. When I get money, I have the opportunity to start a family, and the opportunity to get a house to live in to show my parents I am responsible. Responsibility is a big thing in my family. Being a dolphin trainer is my goal.

**Paul, 4th grade**

In my future I want to work my way up to president. I want to help other people in my life while being the president. I also want to publish my invention. Also, I want my friend to be vice president. I even want to climb Mount Everest. Also, I want to be Governor of Virginia. Last, I want to become an Eagle Scout at 20 years old.