



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow SDES Members,

Welcome back, Black Hills Chapter members! I'd like to express my gratitude to all those who joined us for our September social gathering at the Woodland Republic. We had a great time with plenty of fun and games.

For those of you who couldn't make it to the September event, don't worry. We have another exciting social event lined up for you. Join us on October 11th at Cohort Brewing after our tour of the City of Rapid City Water Reclamation Facility, 3:30pm-5:00pm. The tour will be worth 1.5 PDHs. We look forward to seeing you there!

This year, the Black Hills Chapter is proud to host the Fall Conference at the Box Elder Events Center on October 12th, running from 8:00 am to 5:30 pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to accrue PDHs. We've lined up a diverse range of captivating presentations, and we'll be sharing the final Fall Conference schedule with you soon.

I'd like to take a moment to acknowledge the dedicated members who have taken on important roles within our chapter this year. Special thanks to Sam Irwin, Daniel Egan, and Maggie Sebert for assuming the positions of Vice President, State Director, and Chair of the Awards/Recognition Committee, respectively. Additionally, I want to recognize Anne Winkle for her continued involvement with the Awards/Recognition Committee. Finally, a big shoutout to Zach Grapentine for volunteering to help run the SDES booth at the Mines Career Fair. Your contributions are truly appreciated!

All the best,  
Zach Keeney- SDES BH President

### 2023-2024 BLACK HILLS CHAPTER SDES OFFICERS

President: Zach Keeney - zkeeney@fmgengineering.com  
Past President: Joe Noble - joe.noble@AE2S.com  
President Elect: Erik Walega - erik.walega@respec.com  
Vice President: Sam Irwin - sirwin@fmgengineering.com  
Secretary/Treas: Sam McKillop - slmckillop@burnsmcd.com  
State Director: Stacia Slowey - stacia.slowey@hdrinc.com

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Awards/Recognition: Maggie Sebert  
MATHCOUNTS: Ericka Amborn  
University Relations: Vacant  
Public Relations: Amy DiRienzo  
Scholarship & Endowment: Kyle Hansen  
Newsletter Editor: Sam Irwin

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### *October 5<sup>th</sup>: Black Hills Chapter Board Meeting*

Where: Harriet and Oak  
When: 12pm-1pm

#### *October 11<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>: SDES Fall PDH Conference*

Where: Courtyard Rapid City - The Box,  
Box Elder, SD  
More information on later pages

#### *October 11<sup>th</sup>: Fall Conference Social*

Where: Cohort Brewing  
When: 5:30pm

#### *October 14<sup>th</sup>: Girl Scouts STEM event*

Volunteer Opportunity!

#### *November 8<sup>th</sup>: Eighth Grade Career Fair*

Volunteer Opportunity!  
More information on later pages

**Ideas transform  
communities**



Sioux Falls 605.977.7740  
Rapid City 605.791.6100

[hdrinc.com](http://hdrinc.com)

**TREASURER'S REPORT  
(AS OF 21-MARCH-2023)**

Account

Checking: \$4,465.65  
Savings: \$7,817.73  
CD #1: \$2,648.86  
Endowment: \$51,792.82

**Scholarship/Donation Schedule**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2022	Scholarship	\$2,500.00
2023	Scholarship	\$2,500.00
TOTAL		\$5,000.00

*The South Dakota Engineer Newsletter and the  
SDES Membership Directory*

The current issue of The South Dakota Engineer is available at [www.sdes.org](http://www.sdes.org) by clicking on "News". As a reminder, SDES members are invited to submit information for the e-newsletter. The newsletter is distributed September - May. The SDES Membership directory is also available upon request to SDES members only. Send your requests to a Black Hills Chapter Officer for a pdf of the directory. Also, please review your personal information and let a Black Hills Chapter Officer know if your contact information has changed.

*SDES Black Hills Chapter Membership Meetings:*

Chapter membership meetings are generally the third week of the month (September to May) either during lunch 11:30-1:00 (presentation at noon) or as an early evening tour/social. Please check specific arrangements as meeting dates / locations vary due to speaker/room availability, etc. *Have any topic suggestions? We'd love to hear them. Please contact a Board member with your ideas.*



**October 11th – 12th, 2023**

Join us for the SDES Fall PDH Conference!

The SDES Black Hills Chapter has planned an all-encompassing professional development and networking experience. This event will take place October 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> at the Courtyard Rapid City, The Box, Box Elder.

One of the greatest benefits of attending the SDES Annual Conference is the opportunity to interact with so many industry partners, including suppliers, equipment experts, firm and agency staff, and many other industry experts. Check out the following options: host an exhibitor booth, sponsor a speaker or conference event, become a SDES Partner, advertise in the conference program, and more!

For complete conference information, a list of technical sessions, tours, and schedules can be found on the SDES website (<https://sdes.wildapricot.org/page-1564536>).



## 2023 8th Grade College and Career Fair

The Rapid City Area Schools 2023 8th Grade College and Career Fair on Wednesday, November 8, 2023 from 8 AM–2:30 PM. Through this event, all 1,200 8th grade students in the Rapid City Area School District will have the opportunity to engage directly with SDES to learn about career and college options available to them. Career and College Exploration raises awareness about the importance of college, connects students with many different professions, gives SDES a chance to share their expertise with students, and motivates and encourages young people to stay engaged and focused on appropriate career and educational pathways .

SDES is hosting an interactive exhibit and you are welcome to join us! We will plan the activities and set up the booth, you just have to show up and talk to students about your career path! Contact Amy DiRienzo at [amy.dirienzo@sdsmt.edu](mailto:amy.dirienzo@sdsmt.edu) to sign up for a shift at the SDES booth.

### *2024 Black Hills Chapter Award Nominations*

Every year the South Dakota Engineering society sponsors two awards recognizing SDES members who have made outstanding contributions to the engineering profession and their communities.

Do any up-and-coming or seasoned SDES engineers come to mind when you think of someone positively contributing to their profession and their community?

**Nominate them!**

Have you seen or heard of any local, outstanding engineering projects that have been completed recently?

**Nominate one!**

### *Black Hills Chapter Newsletter Sponsors*

Contributions from local consultants, contractors, suppliers, government agencies, and other related companies provide vital funding for our scholarships, MATHCOUNTS program, and other worthy activities. Newsletter sponsors go from September to May.

Please consider the minimal donation of \$10 per month or \$75 for nine months to show your support for the BH chapter and get exposure in newsletters through the year.

Ads may be business card size (up to 2 3/4" H x 3 1/2" W, maximum), B&W or color, your choice.

If you or your company are interested in becoming a Sponsor, please visit the SDES website and register at [2022-2023 SDES Black Hills Chapter Sponsorship](#) or contact [sdengineeringsociety@gmail.com](mailto:sdengineeringsociety@gmail.com)