April 8, 2013

Dr. Melody Schopp, Secretary
SD Department of Education
800 Governors Drive
Pierre, SD 57501

Letter of Intent Regarding Legislation Approved in the 2013 Session

Dear Secretary Schopp:

This Letter of Intent sets forth a particular view held by the Joint Committee on Appropriations in approving your appropriation in the 2013 Legislative Session. As such, it supplements that appropriation with a specific policy guideline as approved on March 25, 2013.

While the guideline does not have the direct force of statutory law, it rests solidly on a long-standing tradition of Legislative-Executive relationships in South Dakota and it will be used by the Joint Committee as one basis for the fiscal oversight of your agency and its continued funding.

The 2013 South Dakota Legislature passed HB1185 which included an amendment (1185mak) to provide $500,000 of one-time funding to the postsecondary technical institutes.

It is the intent of the Interim Joint Committee on Appropriations that the $500,000 of one-time funding for the postsecondary technical institutes be distributed in FY2014 in the same manner in which the formula funds will be distributed to the institutes for FY2014. Therefore, the Committee directs the Secretary of the Department of Education to distribute the funds based on the funding formula per administrative rule 24:10:42:28 in effect for FY2014 to the postsecondary technical institutes.

In addition, it is also expected that you will be prepared to address this guideline in your FY15 budget presentation to the Joint Committee next January.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Representative Fred Romkema
Co-Chair, Interim Joint Appropriations

Senator Deb Peters
Co-Chair, Interim Joint Appropriations

cc: Marty Guindon, Auditor General
Jason Dilges, Commissioner, Bureau of Finance and Management