



DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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Juvenile Prison Lockdown Ends November 5, 1999

(Pierre) - South Dakota Juvenile Prison Warden Crystal Van Vooren announces the lockdown status at the Plankinton facility is over.

"We are beginning to resume normal operations", says Van Vooren. "On Monday, the youth will resume their normal schedule, including school."

The maximum-security facility was placed on lockdown status following a disturbance October 26th in which several male juveniles got out of their cells and vandalized the cell pod area before being talked into returning to their cells.

During the lockdown period, the juvenile's time out of their cells was limited. The juveniles have since resumed eating meals and completing duties in the cell pod.

Van Vooren says the majority of the staff brought in from the South Dakota State Penitentiary in Sioux Falls and the Mike Durfee State Prison in Springfield following the disturbance are returning to their normal duties.

Some staff will continue on in Plankinton to help fill the current staff vacancies at the Juvenile Prison.