



DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

ADMINISTRATION

3200 East Highway 34
c/o 500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501-5070
Phone: (605) 773-3478
Fax: (605) 773-3194

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 8, 2008
CONTACT: Michael Winder, SD DOC (605) 773-3478

New STAR Academy Superintendent named

Pierre, S.D. – A new leader has been named for the state-run juvenile corrections programs.

Norbert Mohnen Jr. has been named the Superintendent of the State Treatment and Rehabilitation (STAR) Academy near Custer. He replaces Chuck Gilson, who retired last month.

Mohnen is no stranger to the juvenile corrections field. He has 26 years of experience in state government, having worked for 24 years at the former State Training School in Plankinton as a youth supervisor, counselor, teacher and Operations Manager for the facility. His education includes a Bachelors of Science degree from South Dakota State University, a teaching certificate from Dakota Wesleyan University and a Masters degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the U.S. Navy War College. He recently completed an advanced educational specialist track program for school Superintendents at the University of Sioux Falls.

“He is an experienced professional who has logged many years working with adjudicated youth,” said Corrections Secretary Tim Reisch. “Norbert's organizational and leadership skills are especially well-suited for STAR Academy.”

Mohnen will report to Director of Juvenile Services Doug Herrmann, who looks forward to working with him in this new capacity. “We are excited to have him join our team and provide leadership to the division and STAR Academy,” said Herrmann.

Mohnen also served 29 years in the South Dakota National Guard, retiring at the rank of Colonel. He is currently the Superintendent at the Crow Creek Tribal School and residential dormitory.

Mohnen will begin his duties at STAR Academy on January 22nd.