



Wyoming Department of Education

PRESS RELEASE

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Standards review process begins

Cheyenne – Under the direction of the Wyoming Board of Education, the Wyoming Department of Education is beginning the standards review process Superintendent of Public Instruction, Dr. Jim McBride, announced today.

Wyoming statute § 21-2-304 (c) requires that the Wyoming state standards be reviewed and revised every five years. The standards are used by schools to define what each student should academically learn in each of the nine content areas.

The nine content areas include standards for career/vocational education, fine & performing arts, foreign language, health, language arts, math, physical education, science, and social studies.

The process of review and revision to standards will continue until 2013. Each content area has a working committee composed of school districts staff, parents, business leaders, civic leaders and University of Wyoming and Wyoming Community College representatives.

The committees will be working on their specific content area standard in three phases. The first phase will be a review and committee rewrite of the standards. This first phase is to insure the standards are an updated outlook of knowledge in the content area, as well as to improve the rigor and relevance of the standard.

The committees will then publish the updated standard for feedback from industry experts and the general public. They will then take the feedback and make additional changes to the standards before submitting the final version to the Wyoming Board of Education for approval.

The committees will be meeting throughout the next three years at various times, and all meetings will be announced and open to the public for attendance. The next committee meetings will be for the health and foreign language content areas.

The health standards committee will meet June 5 and 6 beginning at 8 a.m. each day. The committee will be meeting in the Natrona County School District 1 central services building at 970 N. Glenn Road in Casper.

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The foreign language committee will meet June 6 and 7 beginning at 8 a.m. each day. The committee will be meeting in the Natrona County School District 1 office building at 1044 Foster Road in Casper.

“This is a very complex process,” Dr. McBride said. “We want to make sure that the standards reflect what we expect our students to know as they progress through the educational path in Wyoming.”

“I hope people in Wyoming will take an interest in this process and provide their feedback to the committees so that we can have a final product that is representative of what is important knowledge in Wyoming and also is a rigorous example so students excel.”

For more information on the Wyoming content standards or the review process, please visit the Wyoming Department of Education website and select state standards. You may also contact Tom Collins at (307) 721-1902 or by email at tcolli@educ.state.wy.us.

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