



Wyoming Department of Education

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MEMORANDUM NO. 2010-108

TO: School District Superintendents
District PAWS Coordinators
Curriculum Coordinators
Principals

FROM: Jim Verley, Science Content Specialist
Standards and Assessment Unit

DATE: May 14, 2010

SUBJECT: PAWS Item and Bias Review Project

IMPORTANT - TIME SENSITIVE INFORMATION

Teachers from across Wyoming have the opportunity to participate in the PAWS Item Review (July 7-9) or the Bias Review (July 8th). The Wyoming Department of Education Assessment Team is asking for **recommendations of exemplary teachers** to participate in one of these professional development opportunities.

During Item Review teams of teachers working with Pearson will examine potential future PAWS items for overall quality. Teachers participating in Item Review will be selected for content expertise, special education experience, and geographic representation. For Bias Review, teams will evaluate potential new items for possible bias and/or sensitivity of subject content. Bias Review members will be selected based upon experience with ELL, special education or minority students and geographic representation. Both Item and Bias Review are a critical part of the PAWS assessment process.

Item Review takes place for 2½ days, July 7-9, 2010, at Little America in Cheyenne, Wyoming, and Bias Review, lasting one day, will be on July 8th at the same location. Pearson will provide breakfast, lunch, and reimbursement for dinner (up to \$29) for meeting days. Lodging and mileage is also provided by Pearson for those traveling outside of Cheyenne. A stipend will be provided by Pearson for each participant related to their days of participation.

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The schedule of subject-by-grade-level for each day is as follows:

Item Review Groups July 7th, 8th, and ½ day July 9th:

Reading/Writing		Mathematics		Science	
Group#:	Grades	Group#:	Grades	Group#:	Grades
1	3 , 4	1	3, 4, 5	1	4, 8(1/2)
2	5, 6	2	6, 7	2	8(1/2), 11
3	7, 8	3	8, 11		
4	11				

Bias Review Groups July 8th only:

Reading/Writing		Mathematics		Science	
Group#:	Grades	Group#:	Grades	Group#:	Grades
1	3 , 4, 5	1	3, 4, 5, 6	1	4, 8, 11
2	6, 7	2	7, 8, 11		
3	8, 11				

To indicate your interest in participating please go to:

<http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/WEB22ALLXDDU9V>

If you have questions about the PAWS Item & Bias Review and would like additional information, please contact Tracy Stibitz (307)721-1902, tstibi@educ.stat.wy.us or Jim Verley (307)721-1940, jverle@educ.state.wy.us.

JV:al