



## Wyoming Department of Education

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### MEMORANDUM NO. 2010-115

**TO:** School District Superintendents  
School Principals

**FROM:** Bruce Hayes, Facilities and School Safety Consultant  
Health, Safety & Nutrition Unit

**DATE:** June 11, 2010

**SUBJECT:** Auditorium and Theatre Safety

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#### FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Pursuant to W.S. 21-15-115 (a)(i), all schools districts in Wyoming must ensure their facilities align to certain uniform standards that, as a minimum, shall include, “all applicable building, health, safety and environmental codes...”

The Department of Education has received concerns that not all of the auditorium/theatre rigging and equipment is maintained to a safe level and that accidents may result from low maintenance levels. The state follows the 2006 International Building Code (IBC), but it is often vague in this area.

To compensate, the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) has come up with standard E1.22; however, this standard is too new to be referenced in the 2006 IBC.

Please review with appropriate staff the condition of your auditorium and theatre rigging/equipment this summer and perform any fixes that may be required. Using applicable sections of ANSI E1.22 may help staff decide what maintenance may be required. Feel free to reference the article, *What You Don't Know: Little known code requirements for K-12 theater and auditorium stages* by Michael Fickes, which can be found at:

[http://www.peterli.com/spm/resources/articles/archive.php?article\\_id=2608](http://www.peterli.com/spm/resources/articles/archive.php?article_id=2608) .

For questions, feel free to contact Bruce Hayes, School Safety Consultant, at [bhayes1@educ.state.wy.us](mailto:bhayes1@educ.state.wy.us) or call 307-777-6198.