



Wyoming Department of Education

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MEMORANDUM NO. 2011-063

TO: School District Superintendents
Business Managers

FROM: Fred Hansen, Director of Finance *FH*

DATE: May 2, 2011

SUBJECT: Elimination of School Grade Configuration Guidelines

Five years ago, in Section 7 of House Bill 0139, House Enrolled Act 23 of the 2006 legislative session, the Department was directed to develop guidelines for the districts to follow when applying for reconfiguration of grades in their schools. As you may remember, HEA 23 was the 2006 recalibration bill which “grandfathered” all grade configurations to those configurations adopted by the districts for the 2005-06 school year.

The 2011 recalibration bill, House Bill 0127, House Enrolled Act 98, changed the wording on established grade configurations from “2005-2006” to the “immediately preceding” school year. There is no language in this bill to direct the continuation of the reconfiguration guidelines. The Department, after consultation with legal counsel, believes that the previously adopted guidelines are no longer in effect.

For future grade reconfiguration requests, the standard application for grade reconfiguration (on our website) will continue to be used. In evaluating the requests, the Department will follow the three statutory considerations (see W.S. 21-13-309(m)(iv)(C)):

- the appropriate delivery of the required educational program
- the cost effectiveness of the modified grade configuration
- any extraordinary circumstances related to the safe and efficient delivery of the education program to students.

Should you have any questions regarding the process for approval of reconfiguration requests, please do not hesitate to contact me at 307-777-7804 or at fhanse@educ.state.wy.us.