



Wyoming Department of Education

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MEMORANDUM NO. 2011-109

TO: School District Superintendents
Special Education Directors
Curriculum Coordinators
Principals
Directors of Private Residential Treatment Facilities
Title I Directors
Title III Directors

FROM: David Holbrook, Interim Division Director
Quality Instruction and Learning Division
Peg Brown-Clark, Division Director
Special Programs Division

DATE: August 17, 2011

SUBJECT: Change in the 2012 Proficiency Assessments for Wyoming Students – Alternate (PAWS-ALT) and Required Standard Setting

IMPORTANT – TIME SENSITIVE INFORMATION

The test design of the 2012 Proficiency Assessments for Wyoming Students – Alternate (PAWS-ALT) has been changed. Students will be assessed using **ONLY** the Student Performance Events (SPE) in reading, writing, and mathematics in grades 3 – 8 and grade 11. Science will be assessed using **ONLY** the Student Performance Events (SPE) in grades 4, 8 and 11. The Portfolio of Student work will **NOT** be included in the 2012 PAWS-ALT administration.

Due to the change in the test design, a PAWS-ALT Standard Setting is required to set new cut scores for the four proficiency levels based on student performance as measured by the SPE.

The PAWS-ALT Standard Setting is scheduled for Saturday, September 24, 2011, and Sunday, September 25, 2011, in Lander, Wyoming. Special education teachers who have administered the PAWS-ALT and general

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education teachers who have content expertise in the assessed areas are needed to participate in this effort. Participants will be reimbursed for approved travel expenses and will be paid a stipend for their time that weekend. Please provide this information to qualified persons in your districts, schools, and private facilities. Interested persons can respond at:

<http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/WEB22CU77P47KA/>

The Department will compile a list of potential participants based on Zoomerang registrations. To ensure balanced representation of teacher groups from across the state and that the necessary panel configurations are met, participants will receive a letter confirming their participation. Participants who are not selected, will also receive a letter. Please contact David Holbrook at david.holbrook@wyo.gov, if you have questions or need additional information.