



Wyoming Department of Education

Cindy Hill, Superintendent of Public Instruction
2300 Capitol Avenue, 2nd Floor Hathaway
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Phone: 307-777-3498 Fax: 307-777-6234 Website: edu.wyoming.gov

MEMORANDUM NO. 2011-150

TO: Superintendents
Curriculum Directors
Principals
District and Building PAWS Coordinators

FROM: Paul Williams, Assessment Director
Assessment Team Division

DATE: November 21, 2011

SUBJECT: Wyoming Statewide Assessment Updates

IMPORTANT UPDATES AND REMINDERS

The Wyoming Department of Education would like to provide districts with the following updates and reminders regarding the statewide assessment system.

Changes to 2012 PAWS Writing Assessment: In accordance with assessment specifications described in the 2011 Wyoming Legislative Session - Enrolled Act 90 (EA 90), the writing assessment portions of the PAWS and PAWS-ALT have been removed from the 2012 test administrations. Please inform your district and building test coordinators of this change and suggest that they plan their assessment schedules accordingly.

Included in EA 90 is the provision for the pilot of a stand-alone writing assessment to be administered outside the PAWS assessment window. During this pilot, each student in grades 3-8 and 11 will write to only one (1) prompt. The 2012 Writing Pilot will take place during the spring of 2012; the dates for this administration will be announced in the very near future.

Statewide Assessment Request for Proposal Procurement Process: This week the Wyoming Department of Education proposal review team conducted interviews with three vendors as part of the selection process for a contractor for the PAWS, PAWS-ALT, and the Statewide Assessment of Student Writing. The results of this process will be announced after all steps of the process have been completed.

If you have questions, or need additional information, please contact Paul Williams at 307-777-6132, paul.williams@wyo.gov or David Holbrook at 307-777-6260 david.holbrook@wyo.gov.

PW:TS