



WYOMING
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Jillian Balow

Superintendent of Public Instruction



Cheyenne Office

Hathaway Building, 2nd Floor
2300 Capitol Avenue
Cheyenne, WY 82002-0050
Phone: (307) 777-7675
Fax: (307) 777-6234

Casper Office

539 S. Payne
Casper, WY 82609
Phone: (307) 577-4686
Fax: (307) 577-6785

Riverton Office

320 West Main
Riverton, WY 82501
Phone: (307) 857-9253
Fax: (307) 857-9257

On the Web

edu.wyoming.gov
www.wyomingmeasuresup.com

MEMORANDUM NO. 2015-027

TO: School District Superintendents, Principals,
Curriculum Directors, Instructional Facilitators and
Coaches, K-12 Teachers, BOCES Administrators

FROM: Deb Lindsey, Director of State Assessment,
Accountability Division

DATE: March 9, 2015

SUBJECT: Student Assessment of Writing Skills (SAWS)

TIME SENSITIVE; PLEASE SHARE IMMEDIATELY

STUDENT ASSESSMENT OF WRITING SKILLS (SAWS)

Enrolled Act 50 was signed into law on March 2, 2015 by Governor Mead. The new statute eliminates the Student Assessment of Writing Skills (SAWS) at grades 3, 5, and 7 from the statewide assessment system effective immediately. This means that the SAWS test scheduled for April 13 – May 1, 2015 is canceled.

Using 2015 prompts and anchor papers already developed under the SAWS program, WDE Standards and Assessment teams will be planning two-day professional development sessions in order to continue to support standards-based instruction relative to writing. These sessions will be offered regionally around Wyoming during the summer months of 2015. Announcements regarding these professional development opportunities will be made via the [WDE website](#) as well as through the weekly Assessment Updates.

If you would be interested in attending a 2-day workshop on assessing student writing, please take a few minutes to complete the interest survey found at the link below. This survey will close on Wednesday, March 25, 2015.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2015WritingPD>

For questions regarding SAWS, contact Deb Lindsey at deb.lindsey@wyo.gov or (307) 777-8753. For questions about the Writing Assessment Workshop, contact Catherine Reeves at catherine.reeves@wyo.gov or (307) 777-8595.