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MEMORANDUM NO. 2017-070

то:	School District Superintendents Special Education Directors
FROM:	Brent Bacon, Chief Academic Officer
DATE:	May 15, 2017
SUBJECT:	Multi-Tiered System of Support District Coaching Opportunity

MULTI-TIERED SYSTEM OF SUPPORT DISTRICT COACHING OPPORTUNITY APPLY BY MAY 26

The first year of the Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) Coaching Project has been completed through funding with the State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG), and the Wyoming Department of Education is now working to expand the use of the MTSS framework to both new and currently participating districts.

MTSS is a support system that includes evidence-based instruction, universal screening, progress monitoring, formative assessments, research-based interventions matched to students' needs, and educational decision-making using student outcome data.

During the second year of the MTSS coaching project, the WDE will broaden the content and level of support provided to the coaching project participants. Support from the state MTSS coach, Bart Lyman, will continue with an increased focus on face to face meetings supplemented by webinars to ensure support is available throughout the year. Tricia Berg, National Safe & Civil Schools trainer, will provide expertise to support participating districts in developing a robust Tier 1 level of behavioral supports. Districts that apply to participate in the project will have access to both experts for the duration of the 2017-18 school year. School districts currently implementing MTSS are experiencing positive outcomes, such as:

- Gains in reading and math assessment scores for all students
- Decreases in inappropriate referrals to special education
- Decreases in suspensions and expulsions
- Improved collaboration between general and special education
- Corresponding cost benefits

Districts interested in using MTSS should complete the requirements listed in the attached MTSS Coaching FAQ document.

For more information, contact Nick Whynott, Early Learning Supervisor, at 307-777-2059 or <u>nick.whynott@wyo.gov</u>.