

## SMALL SCHOOLS REVIEW FAQ

- Why were SIPs used for small schools?
  - Because small schools have an enrollment of ten or fewer students, the same WAEA rating system used for the larger schools cannot be applied in order to protect the confidentiality of the students. Instead, a small school's School Improvement Plan (SIP) is evaluated for alignment to the indicators outlined in WAEA: Achievement, Growth (grades 3-8), Readiness (high school), and Equity.
- Which SIPs were used?
  - The most recent NCA SIPs on file with the WDE were used to evaluate the small schools.
- Evidence for Achievement and Growth/Readiness
  - SIPs that described using both WAEA-specific indicators, such as PAWS and ACT, and indicators not specific to WAEA, such as MAP, were generally awarded full points for those items in the Achievement and Growth categories on the rubric.
- Evidence for Equity: Consolidated subgroup
  - SIPs that specifically addressed extra supports and interventions for students who did not score proficient on the WAEA-specific assessments – PAWS/ACT – were generally awarded full points for those items in the Equity category on the rubric.
- Approved w/Recommendations
  - Small schools that received a score of "Approved w/Recommendations" are encouraged to review the items on the rubric that received a score of 0 or 1 and address those items in the next revision of its SIP. Assistance is available from the Accreditation Team at the WDE if needed: [bill.pannell@wyo.gov](mailto:bill.pannell@wyo.gov) or 307.777.7322. At this time, no further actions are required. Changes to the SIP may be made prior to the next regular submission to the WDE.
- Revise & Resubmit
  - Schools in which the SIP was outdated or where no plan was included are required to resubmit a current SIP no later than December 8, 2014. Please note: the deadline for submitting SIPs for accreditation purposes was November 1, 2014.
- Pilot Year
  - The review process for the 2013-14 school year is being treated as a pilot. That is, the rubric and scores are meant to provide guidance to small schools in order to help them align their future SIPs to the requirements of WAEA. Assistance with plan revisions is available through the Accreditation Team at the WDE.