



WDE Assessment Updates

December 5, 2014

Volume 2, Issue 36

- Deb Lindsey-
777-8753
- Jessica
Steinbrenner-
777-8568
- Michelle Carroll-
777-3618
- Will Donkersgoed-
777-5133
- Emily Brantz-
777-2906

ACT Test Accessibility and Accommodations System

The ACT negotiations and contract has been finalized. It is now okay to send materials to ACT, including submitting supporting information for the accommodations requests. Thank you for your patience!

School Improvement Leadership Conference: Register NOW!

School leadership expert Dr. Sue Szachowicz is coming to Wyoming! Sign up now for the WDE's School Improvement Leadership Conference, *Leading for Change*, an event that will arm you with the knowledge and tools you need to improve your school. Attached is a flyer you can share with colleagues.

Event link:
<http://edu.wyoming.gov/event/school-improvement-leadership-conference>

Note: The date for this training, as previously reported, has changed. We are hoping to schedule it for mid-February dependent upon speaker availability. Further information will be posted in this newsletter after final arrangements are confirmed.

Assessment Professional Development, December 10, Registration Now Closed!

Registration for the WDE Standards and Assessment teams full day of professional development for elementary and middle grades early and pre-service educators has now been *closed*.

We look forward to seeing everyone who has registered. Please remember the day will begin promptly at 8:00 and conclude by 4:30

- WHAT:** Assessment Professional Development
- WHO:** Early and pre-service educators and those who are new to Wyoming
- WHEN:** December 10, 2014
- TIME:** 8:00 – 4:30
- WHERE:** Central Services Building, 970 N. Glenn Road, Casper, WY 82601

PAWS/SAWS Building Coordinator Training - Save the Date!

Educational Testing Service (ETS) and the Wyoming Department of Education will be hosting four Building Coordinator Training sessions at two locations to review the responsibilities of the Building Test Coordinator for the 2015 PAWS/SAWS administrations.

Tuesday, January 27th—AFTON
Location: 150 S. Washington St.
Afton, WY 83110

Thursday, January 29th—CASPER
Location: 125 College Drive
Casper, WY 82601

Session 1: 9:00 am—11:00 am
Session 2: 2:00 pm—4:00 pm

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Registration information coming soon!

Alternate Assessment Training

In the spring of 2015, a new alternate assessment will be administered in Wyoming. The new test, called the Wy-ALT, will not require a second scoring for every test administered. Instead, 25% of the students statewide will be selected for second scoring. We will also design the sample so that at least one student per grade span (3-5, 6-8, 9-11) has a second scorer in each district. The new second scorer plan will reduce burden in districts with many students with significant cognitive disabilities.

WDE is pleased to announce that registration is now open for the training for the new test. Test Administrators and Second Scorers are REQUIRED to attend one of the face-to-face sessions. To register for training, go to this link: <http://wyoassessment.org/wy-alt-training-registration>

Registration sign-in will open at 8:30 a.m. at each location, and training will begin promptly at 9:00 a.m. The training will adjourn no later than 4:30 p.m. Training locations have limited capacities, so TAs may only register for one date.

Please note that there will be no on-line training opportunities for this test. All staff administering the test must attend face-to-face training. Any questions can be directed to the Wy-ALT Help Desk – wyalhelpdesk@air.org

Tuesday, January 6th – CHEYENNE

Capacity: 100 participants
Location: LCCC CCI
Building –Centennial Room
1400 E College Dr.
Cheyenne, WY 82007

Tuesday, January 13th – RIVERTON

Capacity: 100 participants
Location: Holiday Inn
900 E Sunset Dr.
Riverton, WY 82501

Thursday, January 8th – GILLETTE

Capacity: 100 participants
Location: Gillette College –
Presentation Hall
300 W. Sinclair St.
Gillette, WY 82718

Thursday, January 15th – GREEN RIVER

Capacity: 100 participants
Location: Hampton Inn &
Suites
1055 Wild Horse Canyon Rd
Green River, WY 82935

Monday, January 12th – JACKSON

Capacity: 75 participants
Location: Teton County Ag – 4
-H Center 255 W Deloney Ave.
Jackson, WY 83001

Friday, January 30th -- CASPER

Capacity: 50 participants
Location: District Office
970 North Glenn Road
Casper, WY 82601

Wy-ALT Online Management System, TIDE, opens December 8

The Wy-ALT Online Management system, called TIDE, will be opened on Monday, December 8. In TIDE, a Building Coordinator can see the students (according to the 684) who are expected to take the Wy-ALT in their building, the students who need a second scorer, assign roles to others (such as test administrators and second scorers) and can add students.

Wy-ALT Building Coordinators will receive a link from TIDE containing a temporary password to activate their account and instructions on setting up their account. If you do not receive this email, please check your spam folder. Building Coordinator accounts must be set up within 30 days of receiving the activation email.

To access TIDE visit:

<http://wyoassessment.org/building-coordinators/>

New Report Available in Fusion

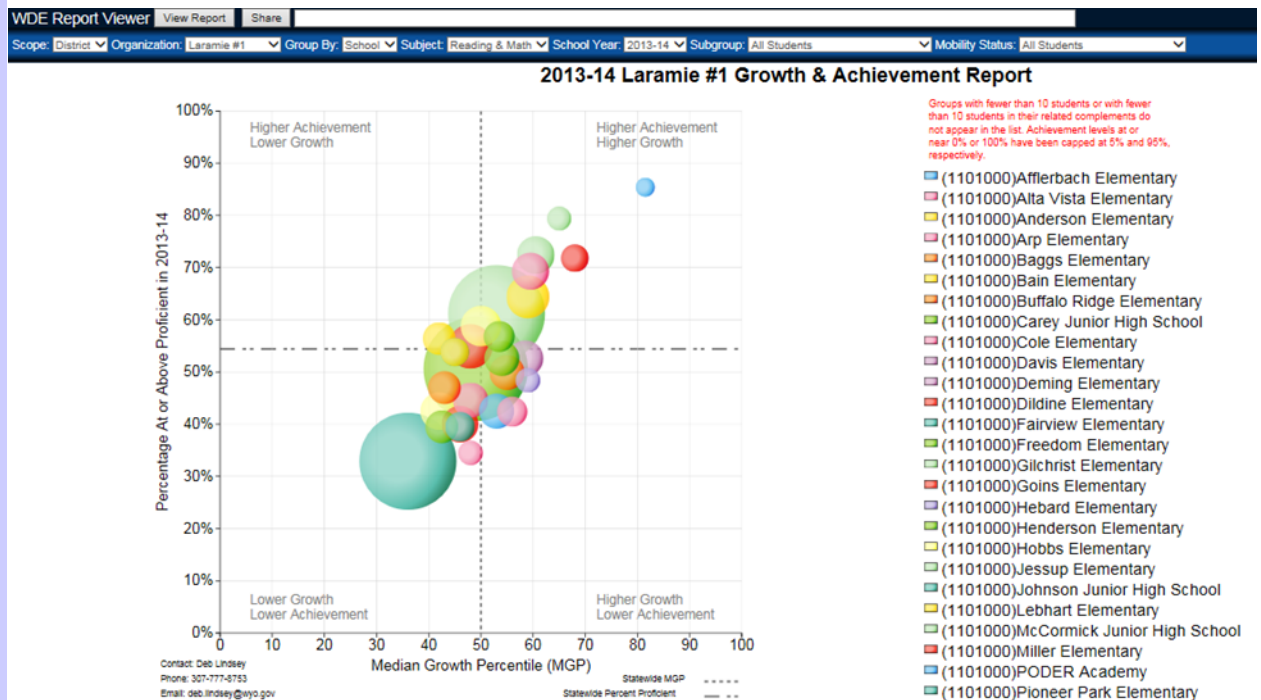
The WDE data and assessment teams are pleased to announce a new report has been added to the Fusion repository. The new report, called Growth and Achievement, employs data visualization techniques to present information on both achievement (reported in terms of the percent of students proficient) and growth (reported in terms of the median growth percentile from the Wyoming growth model). Both growth and achievement data are presented simultaneously so that viewers can see schools (or student groups within schools) in one of four quadrants: high growth, high achievement; low growth, low achievement; high growth, low achievement; and low growth, high achievement.

In the example below, each bubble represents a school. School size determines the size of the bubble. In addition to the legend that appears on the right, users can hover over a bubble to see the name of the school it represents. Users can employ multiple filters to look at reading or math results, disaggregate by different student groups, and select a year to depict (only 2013-14 appears now) for districts, schools, and grades within schools.

At a glance, it's easy to see which schools/grades have similar achievement but very different patterns of growth. Educators might find it useful to work with peer schools to identify particular instructional support strategies that help students with similar achievement to grow more quickly academically.

These reports will be fully accessible to the public under the Accountability folder in Fusion; suppression rules have been applied to ensure confidentiality for individual students.

If you have questions about the information in these reports, please contact Deb Lindsey at 777-8753.



ACT Test Accommodation Q&A Session

ACT will provide Q&A sessions to answer any questions you have about test accommodations. The registration closes **December 8, 2014**.

To register for a session, click on the link beside your preferred date and time below, and enter the appropriate information.

| Date | Time | URL to Register |
|-------------------|----------------------|---|
| December 10, 2014 | 9 a.m. mountain time | https://act.ilinc.com/register/zvspfxf |
| December 10, 2014 | 1 p.m. mountain time | https://act.ilinc.com/register/tybsmtf |

You'll receive a confirmation email after you register, and a reminder email 24 hours before the session. The reminder email contains the link to join and a phone number to call for audio.

PAWS/SAWS Test Order Management System (TOMS) Webinar

The Educational Testing Service (ETS) hosted a webinar about TOMS for all building Coordinators to review TOMS, the demographic collection database to be used for the 2015 PAWS and SAWS Administration. In this training, ETS reviewed the current TOMS system.

Miss the training? Visit the link below for the training's recording.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xWJlxNqNrus>

Important Dates

Dec. 8 -- ACT Test Administration webcast available on ACT Wyoming State Testing website
Dec. 10 -- ACT Test Accommodation Q&A session
Dec. 10 -- Assessment Professional Development
Jan. 6-15, 30 -- Alternate Assessment Administration Training
Jan. 27 & 29 -- PAWS/SAWS Building Coordinator Training
Feb/Mar -- ALT Standards Professional Development