



# Wyoming Department of Education

## *PRESS RELEASE*

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### **Wyoming State Board of Education accredits school districts**

**Cheyenne** – The Wyoming State Board of Education granted full accreditation to all Wyoming school districts, with one exception, as well as 12 institutional schools, during its meeting last week.

The one exception is Fremont County School District 38, which received full accreditation with deficiencies from the Wyoming State Board of Education. The district, which has been focused the past year on making significant changes and improving student achievement, still needs additional time to complete the improvements and receive technical assistance.

“We are committed to helping Fremont 38 succeed and serve the students of the district with quality resources and instruction,” Wyoming Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. Jim McBride said. “We will work diligently, as we have already been doing for the past year, with the district to make sure the students are receiving a high quality education.”

Each year, the board reviews the accreditation of all K-12 school districts and certain institutional schools. Student performance standards and assessments are evaluated and monitored by WDE staff and various other components are evaluated and monitored by the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement.

“This has become a streamlined process over the past few years and has become very effective at insuring our students are receiving quality instruction,” McBride said. “Plus, it provides a reliable process for a school to internally audit its programs and work on improving student achievement.”

The private institutions that also received full accreditation include:

- Attention Homes, Inc.
- Big Horn Basin Children’s Center
- C-V Ranch
- Cathedral Home for Children
- Jeffrey C. Wardle Academy
- Normative Services
- Powder River Basin Children’s Center
- Red Top Meadows
- St. Joseph’s Children’s Home
- Wyoming Boys’ School
- Wyoming Girls’ School
- Wyoming State Hospital

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Each year the SBE accredits all K-12 schools and certain institutional schools in Wyoming. The components of accreditation are monitored and evaluated by the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA) in cooperation with the Wyoming Department of Education.

The areas reviewed in accreditation include Vision and Purpose, Governance and leadership, Teaching and Learning, Document and Using Results, Resources and Support Systems, Stakeholder Communications and Relationships, and Commitment to Continuous Improvement.

All Wyoming schools are required to focus on student performance and improve student achievement through their school improvement plans. Quality contacts are made annually with each school, and accreditation visits are conducted on site using a five-year cycle.

All institutional schools will receive an on-site accreditation visit in the 2008-2009 school year. All schools must complete a two-year progress report following the on-site visits on each overall recommendation, regardless of the scores received. It is a process which reflects true continuous school improvement, as we work with each school throughout the school year, and any necessary changes are made along the way.

All Wyoming school districts participate in the NCA accreditation process with the exception of Sheridan County School District 1. Sheridan 1 participates in the WDE accreditation process and was visited in 2007-2008.

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*If you would prefer to receive this and other announcements or press releases in electronic format, please contact Public Information Officer Tim Lockwood at (307) 777-6386 or by e-mail at [tlockw@educ.state.wy.us](mailto:tlockw@educ.state.wy.us)*

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