



Wyoming Department of Education

PRESS RELEASE

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For more information:

Tom Lacock

Phone: 307-777-5399

Cell: 307-996-6337

Email: tom.lacock@wyo.gov

Website: edu.wyoming.gov

Public Comment sought on No Child Left Behind Flexibility Waiver application

CHEYENNE - The Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) will host a pair of online presentations to unveil details of its flexibility waiver application from certain aspects of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), commonly known as No Child Left Behind.

In order to solicit as much public comment as possible, the department will host online meetings at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Friday, April 12. Each presentation will last approximately an hour and a half.

Wyoming Department of Education Unit Leader of Federal Programs, Dr. David Holbrook and other staff from the WDE will present this update through the Department of Education's online public meeting space, Blackboard Collaborate. Instructions for the Blackboard Collaborate system are listed below, including system requirements and an online tutorial.

The WDE submitted a flexibility waiver to the US Department of Education on Feb. 28. On March 7, the US Department of Education granted the State of Wyoming an extension until April 15 to re-submit a waiver request.

In the presentations, Dr. Holbrook and others will discuss the WDE's work on the flexibility waiver including the WDE's intention to use one system of support and accountability for both federal and state reporting. He will also offer an update on a school rating system as well as teacher and principal evaluations.

For those unable to attend, but who still wish to offer comments, please contact Dr. David Holbrook, Federal Programs Unit Leader at 307-777-6260 or david.holbrook@wyo.gov.

The Link to join the Blackboard Collaborate is:

http://tiny.cc/WDE_Participant

or

<https://sas.illuminate.com/site/external/launch/dropin.jnlp?sid=vclass&password=0DG15IPQCRZU5XBHR150>

Please treat this link as you would any other public meeting space. This webinar platform should be accessed only at the scheduled time and date of the event. (Blackboard does offer a public platform that can be accessed at any time.)

Webinars are collaborative and interactive online experiences. If you are new to Blackboard Collaborate, please visit the "Tutorial and Documentation" links below. Prior to attending any sessions, we strongly suggest that you use the "System Check" links below to confirm that your system is properly configured. These are simply one-time technical checks and, in the future, you will not need this process unless you switch computers. **Blackboard Collaborate is not compatible at this time with iPads.**

System Check:

- Configuration - Verification that your computer's operating system and Java are supported through Blackboard Collaborate's Configuration page: <http://support.blackboardcollaborate.com/ics/support/default.asp?deptID=8336&task=knowledge&questionID=1473>
- Demo Room - If you will be using a microphone (or web-cam), Blackboard Collaborate has a demo room that can be used to verify the connection to these devices through the "Audio Setup Wizard": <https://sas.illuminate.com/site/external/jwsdetect/meeting.jnlp?sid=345&password=M.A2DE26587EB74583B59A0F8AAD0CC4&username=Test>

Tutorial and Documentation:

- Online Orientation (Video): <http://www.brainshark.com/blackboardinc/vu?pi=zGLzYw5XBz35Sgz0>
- On-Demand Learning (Documentation): <http://www.blackboard.com/Platforms/Collaborate/Services/On-Demand-Learning-Center/Web-Conferencing.aspx>.