MEMORANDUM NO. 2007-092

TO: School District Superintendents

FROM: Shadd Schutte, WISE Project Manager
Meredith Bickell, Technical Services Supervisor
Technology, Careers & Data Unit

DATE: April 27, 2007

SUBJECT: Server Maintenance, WISE Staff ID Program Install, and Server Reduction Project

Important Information – Time Sensitive

In the coming weeks the Wyoming Department of Education in conjunction with ESP Solutions Group and Edustructures will be performing WISE project server maintenance, as well as implementing the new WISE Staff ID for all districts. This server interruption will necessitate the reconfiguration of every district’s Student Information System (SIS) to accommodate the WISE Staff ID requirements and to include an update of SSL protocol for security.

Note: This process will occur in a phased approach and will require the involvement and engagement of all districts and their SIS vendors.

1. WDE will be conducting server maintenance over the next few weeks.
2. Though we are seeking minimal disruption, this process will require configuration changes for the SIS Agents at every district to support SSL (Secure Sockets Layer). Thus, district and SIS vendor responsiveness and engagement is critical. We request that if the district technology coordinator is not the appropriate contact for this process, that each district identifies a resource to WDE who will be responsible for the SIS reconfiguration. This person should
be identified for additional communications regarding the specifics of implementing SSL.

3. Separate from the security enhancements, some districts (not all) will also be migrating from their existing servers onto new servers in order to consolidate onto a smaller set of zone and applications servers in order to improve the efficiency of resources.

4. In addition to implementing SSL and limited migration changes, we will also be discussing SIF horizontal opportunities available to all districts at this time.

5. The security enhancement process will involve reconfiguring every SIS agent and adding SSL security certification to the ZIS. The nature of these changes makes it impossible to provide a general description of the changes needed. Changes to SIS agents are the responsibility of the district and their SIS vendors. ESP Solutions and Edustructures support personnel are available to support districts and their vendors during this maintenance process.

We appreciate your cooperation and look forward to working with all of you as we continue to make WISE an asset to education in Wyoming.

Please direct your questions and concerns to Shadd Schutte WISE Project Manager at sschut@educ.state.wy.us or 777-3656.

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