



Wyoming Department of Education

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MEMORANDUM NO. 2008 - 001

TO: School District Superintendents
District Title III directors

FROM: Lori Nelson, Title III Director
Federal Programs Unit 

DATE: January 04, 2008

SUBJECT: Title III Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives (AMAOs)

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

In April, 2007, Wyoming was monitored by the United States Department of Education (USED), Office of English Language Acquisition (OELA), for our administration of federal Title III funding and programs. Wyoming was found to be compliant with federal regulations in all but three (3) areas.

One area was ensuring that ALL English language learner (ELL) students are assessed annually with the WELLA. The second area pertained to teacher English fluency, for which we have provisions in the Professional Teaching Standards Board Rules and Regulations (Chapter 7, Section 14 [(a) Standard I] and Section 15 [(b) Standard II] After further submission of documentation, these two regulations have been satisfied.

The one remaining area in which further action was required is the application of Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives (AMAOs) for ELL students. AMAOs are targets for districts and the State to ensure that all ELL students make progress toward and reach English proficiency.

This memo is written for the purpose of informing the districts that AMAO determinations were not made for the school years 2003-04, 2004-05, and 2005-06. There is great difficulty in measuring the past AMAOs that were in force because of changes to our ELL assessment during those years. In addition, the WISER student ID system was not in place at that time. OELA recommended to Wyoming that the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) determinations for the ELL subgroup be substituted for the lack of workable AMAO measurement from 2003 to 2006. Therefore, AMAO determinations will be made for those years, using AYP for the ELL subgroup.

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It is a pleasure to inform you that all districts made AYP for the ELL subgroup for the years 2003-04, 2004-05, and 2005-06, and thus all met their AMAOs for those years. However, it is the responsibility of the districts to notify the parents that the AMAO determinations for school years 2003-04, 2004-05, and 2005-06 were not made until now.

Revised AMAOs have been developed during this past year, vetted to the district Title III directors and the Committee of Practitioners, and submitted to OELA for approval. These new AMAOs will be applied to all districts (regardless of whether they are Title III-funded districts or not), beginning with the 2006-2007 school year, and continuing thereafter. Districts will receive notification of the 2006-2007 AMAO determinations in January.

If you have any questions regarding any of the information in this memo, please contact Lori Nelson at (307) 777-6210, or Christine Steele (307) 777-6216.

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