



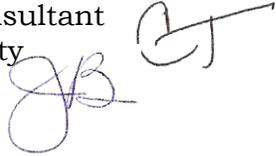
Wyoming Department of Education

Dr. Jim McBride, Superintendent of Public Instruction
2020 Grand Avenue, Suite 500
Laramie, WY 82070

Phone 307-777-5296 Fax 307-777-6719 Website www.k12.wy.us

MEMORANDUM NO. 2008 - 005

TO: School District Superintendents
Principals

FROM: Charlene Turner, State Director of Alternate Assessment
Joan Bean, Early Literacy Education Consultant
Standards, Assessment and Accountability 

DATE: January 11, 2008

SUBJECT: WDE-673 Wyoming State Assessment System Exemption Request

IMPORTANT - TIME SENSITIVE INFORMATION

All students are required to participate in the Wyoming State Assessment System. The system includes the Proficiency Assessments for Wyoming Students (PAWS), Proficiency Assessments for Wyoming Students - Alternate (PAWS-ALT) and the Wyoming English Language Learners Assessments (WELLA). However, school administrators, on behalf of the student, may apply for exemption from participation in the Wyoming State Assessment System. For exemption requests to be considered, they must meet the criteria of the three categories listed below. This year, exemption requests and/or questions should be directed to Joan Bean at jbean@educ.state.wy.us or 777-5260.

Exemptions must be submitted to the Wyoming Department of Education by February 15, 2008. An exemption is only valid after obtaining approval by the Wyoming Department of Education.

There are three participation exemption categories. They are **Medically Fragile Students**, **Expelled Students**, and **ELL Students**. All **ELL Students** who meet exemption criteria **must** have an Exemption Request submitted and approved on their behalf in order to be exempt from participating in the PAWS English Language Arts tests. Full descriptions of these exemption categories and requirements for submitting documentation are provided on the form. WDE-673 can be obtained at https://wdesecure.k12.wy.us/stats/wde.forms.details?the_form=673.

Please provide this information to building principals. If there are questions, please contact Joan Bean at jbean@educ.state.wy.us or 777-5260.

CT:al