Wyoming Department of Education
Dr. Jim McBride, Superintendent of Public Instruction
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MEMORANDUM NO. 2010-163

TO: School District Superintendents
School Principals

FROM: Jim McBride, Ed.D.

DATE: September 17, 2010

SUBJECT: International Education: Striving for a Sustainable Future

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INFORMATION TO SHARE

I received the attached letter and statement from the US Department of Education extending an invitation to join the celebration of the 11th annual International Education Week, November 15-19, 2010. Please share this information with your staff and take advantage of this wonderful opportunity.

JM/wk

Attachments (2)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

August 31, 2010

SEP 7 2010

Honorable Jim McBride
Superintendent of Public Instruction
State Department of Education
Hathaway Building, 2nd Floor
2300 Capitol Avenue
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002-0050

Dear Superintendent McBride:

I am pleased to invite you to join with me in celebrating the 11th annual International Education Week, November 15-19, 2010. This year's theme is *International Education: Striving for a Sustainable Future*.

International Education Week is a joint initiative of the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of State to highlight the importance of international education and international exchange. We would like to encourage you to promote international education during this week in particular and throughout the school year. In the past, governors, mayors, and school boards have issued proclamations to commemorate International Education Week.

Since the first annual celebration in November 2000, Americans have conducted a wide variety of activities. I invite you to visit the joint Web site of the U.S. Departments of State and Education at <http://www.iew.state.gov/> for further information about how students and schools can get involved. Schools can also post their events on this Web site, and I hope you will encourage them to do so.

Once again this year, the Department is working closely with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Teaching From Space office at the Johnson Space Center in Houston to highlight the importance of a rigorous math, science, engineering, and foreign language education in international space exploration. We will also be using videoconferencing technology to participate in events that will allow us to share ideas and best practices with students and educators around the world.

I am enclosing a statement about this year's celebration. I hope this information will be helpful

in providing ideas for how to promote international understanding and awareness during International Education Week. We look forward to your participation.

Sincerely,

Anthony W. Miller

Enclosure

Statement on International Education Week 2010
by U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan
Washington, DC

It is my privilege to invite you to participate in the 11th annual International Education Week, November 15-19, 2010. International Education Week is a joint initiative of the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of State. It celebrates the importance and benefits of international education in the United States and around the world. This year's theme is *International Education: Striving for a Sustainable Future.*

President Obama has stated, "All of us share this world for but a brief moment in time. The question is whether we spend that time focused on what pushes us apart, or whether we commit ourselves to an effort -- a sustained effort -- to find common ground, to focus on the future we seek for our children, and to respect the dignity of all human beings."

We are reminded that the challenges we face today are increasingly borderless. Climate change, the environment, and the economy are but some of the issues that affect our daily lives and demand our attention on a global scale. Finding sustainable solutions is imperative and will require an unprecedented level of international cooperation.

A complete education in the 21st century must teach our children about their interdependent world, and it must prepare them to be good leaders and good global citizens. International awareness and knowledge can help our children build the skills needed to communicate and cooperate with those from other nations and other cultures. And as they participate in international education and international exchange, our students can gain the knowledge and experiences to help them contribute to a sustainable future for all.

International Education Week 2010 is a chance to embrace the uniqueness of nations around the world as well as our similarities—to better understand how to work together. I strongly urge everyone to join the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of State in celebrating international education and international exchange.