



Wyoming Department of Education

Cindy Hill, Superintendent of Public Instruction

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MEMORANDUM NO. 2012-046

TO: School District Superintendents
Title III District Coordinators
School Principals
English Language Learner Teachers
English Language Arts Teachers
Math Teachers

FROM: Robin Holbrook, English Language Learner (ELL) Content and Assessment Consultant
Standards, Learning and Accountability Division

DATE: March 5, 2012

SUBJECT: *Two* World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA) Workshops: Boost Proficiency of English Language Learners (ELLs) in **Writing** and **Math**: Using the WIDA Framework

TIME SENSITIVE

The Wyoming Department of Education is providing four days of professional development opportunities for teams of educators including the following: Title III district coordinators, administrators, English language learner (ELL) teachers, English language arts teachers, and math teachers who work with students of limited English proficiency. A description of the two workshops are as follows:

Writing:

Participants of the WIDA Writing Workshop will examine ways to support ELLs in their writing, including the deconstruction of the WIDA Writing Rubric. Text structures, discourse patterns, and issues in teaching writing to ELLs will be shared, along with ways to integrate content writing with ELLs English language proficiency levels.

Math:

The WIDA Math Workshop is targeted for elementary, middle, and secondary school teachers who teach mathematics classes containing any number of ELLs, and English as a Second Language (ESL) teachers who teach sheltered content mathematics classes or support general education teachers in a collaborative setting.

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The workshop will describe the connection between language proficiency to performance on mathematics assessments and will cover how teachers can use this information to modify classroom instruction and assessment in order to maximize student growth in both language proficiency and mathematics achievement.

These workshops are facilitated by WIDA trainers. Participants will be provided with multiple instructional and assessment strategies that can be employed immediately in the classroom.

Since most English language learners spend more time with mainstream teachers than with the ELL support team, this workshop has been designed to raise the skill set for all teachers who support Wyoming's English language learners. With this in mind, *teams of teachers are strongly encouraged to attend.*

The workshops will take place in Rock Springs and Casper. A block of hotel rooms is being held at each location. Contact the hotel and mention the Wyoming Department of Education to make your lodging reservation.

All participants must register via Zoomerang through the appropriate link listed below.

WIDA Writing Workshops	
April 17, 2012	April 19, 2012
<p>Rock Springs 8:30am – 4:00pm Hampton Inn (307)382-9222 1901 Dewar Drive Rock Springs, WY 82901 http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/WEB22E_VGM7XWV3</p>	<p>Casper 8:30am – 4:00pm Holiday Inn (307)577-5000 721 Granite Peak Drive Casper, WY 82609 http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/WEB22EV_XGQ8Z82</p>
WIDA Math Workshops	
May 1, 2012	May 3, 2012
<p>Rock Springs 8:30am – 4:00pm Hampton Inn (307)382-9222 1901 Dewar Drive Rock Springs, WY 82901 http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/WEB22E_WBBVG8PZ</p>	<p>Casper 8:30am – 4:00pm Holiday Inn (307)577-5000 721 Granite Peak Drive Casper, WY 82609 http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/WEB22EWBL8GDT2</p>

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If you have further questions, please contact Robin Holbrook at robin.holbrook@wyo.gov or (307) 777-5217.

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