



Wyoming Department of Education

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MEMORANDUM TO SUPERINTENDENTS NO. 2013 - 003

TO: District Superintendents

FROM: Elaine Marces
Private School Licensing Program Manager

DATE: January 21, 2013

SUBJECT: Chapter 18 Private Non-Religious Elementary and Secondary Schools Rules Revisions

The Chapter 18 Education Rules and Regulations are now available for public comment. The Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) will be accepting public comment until March 11, 2013. The following information is intended to clarify the changes to the Chapter 18 Education Rules that address requirements for Private K-12 Non-Religious Schools.

The following changes are being proposed:

- Adjustments to annual reporting requirements;
- Adjustments to the authorizing body to align with Wyoming State Statute;
- Revisions to the Common Core of Knowledge and Common Core of Skills to align with Wyoming State Statute.

For more detailed information about these adjustments, please read the attached document: Chapter 18 Statement of Reasons.

In order to view the proposed draft of Chapter 18 Rules and Regulations and/or comment on the proposed changes, please visit the following URL:

http://www.edu.wyoming.gov/Programs/schools/private_school_licensing/chapter-18-rules.aspx#commentsform

Please contact Elaine Marces at elaine.marces@wyo.gov or 307-777-6210 for any questions.

CHAPTER 18
PRIVATE SCHOOL LICENSING
STATEMENT OF REASONS

Pursuant to Wyo. Stat §21-2-401, the Wyoming Department of Education shall administer and set minimum standards for licensure of Private Schools. Additionally, Section 9501 of ESEA as amended by No Child Left Behind (NCLB), requires provision of equitable services and other benefits in comparison to services and other benefits for public school children, teachers, and other educational personnel.

Chapter 18 Rules and Regulations have been amended to include updated annual reporting requirements as approved by the Wyoming State Board of Education (SBE) and required by ESEA. The Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) consulted with the SBE relative to the annual reporting requirements of Private K-12 Non-Religious schools in Wyoming. 2012 Federal Monitoring of Title III - English Language Learners (ELL) requires WDE to implement a process for collecting ELL student information. This requirement is met through the addition of Section 15(g) of the Rules.

Additionally, adjustments have been made to the authority and the common core of knowledge and skills to ensure alignment with Wyoming State Statute. The current Chapter 18 Rules and Regulations refer to older statute which granted authority of Private School Licensing to the Wyoming State Board of Education. Current Private School Licensing Statute §21-2-401 charges WDE with administering and setting minimum standards for licensure. Common core of knowledge and skills has also been revised to align with the adjusted description in Wyo. Stat §21-9-101.

These rules meet the minimum substantive state statutory requirements and are within the Department's statutory authority.