



Wyoming Department of Education

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MEMORANDUM NO. 2013-091

TO: District Superintendents
Principals

FROM: Jim Rose, Ed.D
Interim Director

DATE: July 31, 2013

SUBJECT: Regional Summits on Educational Accountability Slated for This Fall

IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO SHARE

The Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) and State Board of Education will partner this fall for 13 sessions offered around the state updating stakeholders on the Wyoming Accountability in Education Act.

Wyoming's Summit on Education Accountability is a series of meetings committed to providing outreach to educational professionals and community members from across the state regarding accountability efforts in its beginning.

The Board of Education and the WDE plan to offer two sets of informational meetings, which would satisfy the requirements of Section 5(f) of the 2013 Educational Accountability Act Amendments (Interim Study Priority number 10). These meetings will be held face-to-face in five sites around the states as well as online through the WDE's Blackboard Collaborate tool in hopes of accommodating the largest number of interested stakeholders.

Meetings scheduled for August will include discussion on elements of the WAEA, which are to be presented at the Oct. 24-25, 2013 meeting of the Wyoming Legislature's Joint Education Committee and gather insights from those who attend. The hope is for the meeting format to foster a two-way communication and help educators move forward with implementing elements of the WAEA.

These meetings will observe the following agenda:

Time allotted	Subject	Presenter
15 Minutes	Welcome, introduction and meeting goals	Paige Fenton Hughes, State Board Coordinator
30 Minutes	Standards, District Assessment Systems, System of Support	Julie Magee, WDE (Fenton Hughes will provide information on multiple measures)
20 Minutes	Accountability model	Mike Flicek, WDE
20 Minutes	Assessment	Deb Lindsey, WDE
30 Minutes	Wrap up, questions and discussion	

Another group of meetings will take place after the Professional Judgement Panel (PJP) convenes in Casper, September 16-18. These meetings are scheduled to be more focused in time and scope and will share the results of the PJP and explain how the decisions made by the PJP will impact individual schools. Stakeholder feedback will be recorded and shared with the State Board of Education.

The PJP is a 27-member panel of teachers, administrators and members from higher education as well as the business community. Their role is to set cut scores for each of the indicators to help categorize schools as exceeding expectations, meeting expectations or below expectations. The PJP will meet in September to set the targets. Members of the PJP were selected by the State Board of Education based on nominations it received in March of 2012 as directed by the Legislature.

Schedule for Regional Summit on Educational Accountability

August 26	Cheyenne	6 p.m.
August 27	Gillette	Noon
August 27	Casper	6 p.m.
August 28	Worland	Noon
August 28	Rock Springs	6 p.m.

August 30	Online Meeting through Blackboard Collaborate (see below for instructions for joining BBC meeting)	9: 30 a.m.
September 15-18	PJP Meeting - Casper	
September 24	Cheyenne (School Improvement Conference) - Little America	12:30-1:30
September 30	Online Meeting through Blackboard Collaborate (see below for instructions for joining BBC meeting)	1:30
October 1	Rock Springs	Noon
October 1	Worland	6 p.m.
October 2	Casper	Noon
October 2	Gillette	6 p.m.

The Link to join the Blackboard Collaborate online meetings is:

http://tiny.cc/WDE_Participant

or

<https://sas.illuminate.com/site/external/launch/dropin.jnlp?sid=vclass&password=0DG15IPQCRZU5XBHR15O>

System Check:

- **Configuration** - Verification that your computer's operating system and Java are supported through Blackboard Collaborate's Configuration page: <http://support.blackboardcollaborate.com/ics/support/default.asp?deptID=8336&task=knowledge&questionID=1473>

- **Demo Room** - Blackboard Collaborate has a demo room that can be used to verify the connection to mics or web cams through the "Audio Setup Wizard":<https://sas.illuminate.com/site/external/jwsdetect/meeting.jnlp?sid=345&password=M.A2DE26587EB74583B59A0F8AAD0CC4&username=Test>

For more information, contact Tom Lacock at 307-996-6337 or tom.lacock@wyo.gov.