



Wyoming Department of Education

Richard Crandall, Director

Hathaway Building, 2nd Floor, 2300 Capitol Avenue

Cheyenne, WY 82002

Phone: 307-777-7675 | Fax: 307-777-6234 | Website: edu.wyoming.gov

MEMORANDUM No. 2013-128

TO: District Superintendents
Elementary School Principals

FROM: Julie Magee, Administrator
Standards and Accountability Division

DATE: October 21, 2013

SUBJECT: WDE453 Data Collection, Instructional Foundations for Kindergarten

TIME SENSITIVE INFORMATION

The administration window for the Instructional Foundations for Kindergarten (IF-K) will be open from **October 23 through November 15, 2013**.

The purpose of the IF-K is to support instruction, facilitate transition from preschool to kindergarten, and identify levels of student readiness for the kindergarten curriculum.

The IF-K was designed by Wyoming teachers to reflect children's ability to meet the demands of diverse curricula used in kindergarten. The IF-K represents the performance of children in nine (9) key areas identified in readiness research:

1. Representation (use of symbolic and abstract information);
2. Language (knowledge of vocabulary and semantics for comprehension in verbal communication, reading and writing);
3. Writing (knowledge of writing as a form of communication and its relationship to the spoken word);
4. Reading (knowledge of printed material, its conventions and the relationship between sounds, words and meaning);
5. Geometric and Algebraic Math (knowledge of shapes and ability to distinguish similarities and differences as well as patterns);
6. Number and Operations (knowledge of numbers as symbols, their relationship to quantity and problem solving);
7. Science (knowledge of materials and the scientific method);
8. Relationships and Self-Regulation (knowledge of appropriate classroom behavior); and,
9. Social Problem-Solving (knowledge of positive peer social interactions and conflict resolution).

Data Collection:

The WDE-453 Data Collection is completed by teachers whose district provides a preschool program in accordance with Wyoming §21-4-302. By statute, the school readiness and academic performance of pupils who participate in preschool programs as compared with those who do not participate in the preschool programs is reported to the WDE biennially (twice per year). One collection is completed in the fall and one is completed in the spring. The fall collection includes kindergarten students who participated in preschool the previous year. The spring collection includes students who are currently enrolled in preschool. This memo is in reference to the fall collection only. A separate memo for the spring collection will be distributed later this school year.

Student data entry for the fall collection is available through **November 20, 2013**. The teacher feedback survey is also due **November 20, 2013**.

There are two ways teachers can access the site for data submission:

- The link to access the WDE-453 form and enter data is: <http://edu.wyoming.gov/DataInformationAndReporting/DataCollectionSuite.aspx>
 - Choose: WDE453
 - Select: "Document" Tab
 - Click: WDE453 Link; OR
- Enter the IF-K observation data at <http://ddehome.com/ifk>

Technical Assistance and Reports

Principals and teachers who set up an account in previous years, may access it with their same email address and password. New kindergarten teachers may set up an account with their email address and the default password of ddeifk. New principals who have not set up an account previously, should contact Tara Bazata at Tara@DataDrivenEnterprises.com or 303-255-5607 for assistance.

Teachers, building principals, and superintendents can request access to the IF-K instrument, training videos, WDE453 Data Collection manual, and data reports through: <http://www.ddehome.com/IFK/>.

If you have any questions about the IF-K, please contact Julie Magee at julie.magee@wyo.gov or 307.777.8740.

For support or technical assistance, please contact Tara Bazata at Tara@DataDrivenEnterprises.com or 303.255.5607.

JM:dr