



Cindy Hill, Superintendent
2300 Capitol Avenue
Hathaway Building, 2nd Floor
Cheyenne, WY 82002-2060
(307) 777-7690
edu.wyoming.gov

MEMORANDUM NO. 2014-053

TO: District Superintendents
Elementary School Principals
School Nurses

FROM: Bruce Hayes, Ed.S., School Safety Consultant
Support Systems and Resources Division

DATE: April 28, 2014

SUBJECT: Student Readiness to Start School

WYOMING EDUCATION GROUPS ENCOURAGE STUDENT READINESS

Schools encouraged to begin communications process now for next fall

CHEYENNE - Each school year some children that are unable to function in a school setting without assistance are enrolled in Wyoming schools. The Wyoming School Nurses Association observes at least three major areas of difficulty in growing frequency. These include students who:

- Are not toilet trained;
- Have very poor social skills;
- Cannot follow safety directions.

These students have not received adequate attention or instruction at home by the age of five. When the home environment does not prepare children to start school, a school is less able to adequately respond to those who are ready to learn.

The Wyoming School Nurses Association, Wyoming Department of Education, Wyoming Department of Health, Wyoming Department of Family Services, and the Wyoming Afterschool Alliance encourage you to take any appropriate steps (via letters, workshops, meetings, home visits,

instructions, reminders, expectations, etc.) to ensure that families within your sphere of influence do all in their power to prepare their children for kindergarten. This would include making sure students are toilet trained at home, have at least a rudimentary ability to positively interact with others, and have the discipline to follow basic safety directions.

For assistance with community services for parents in need, feel free to call or visit with your local Department of Family Services Manager.

For questions, please contact Bruce Hayes, School Safety Consultant, at bruce.hayes@wyo.gov or 307-777-6198.

BH:rs