MEMORANDUM NO. 2015-090

TO:    School District Superintendents
         High School Principals
         High School Counselors

FROM:  Stephanie Brady, Social Studies Consultant
         Accountability Division

DATE:  August 24, 2015

SUBJECT:  U.S. Senate Youth Scholarship Program

U.S. SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM
INFORMATION AVAILABLE NOW

The United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP) provides high school juniors and seniors with an extensive orientation of all branches of the federal government, and the opportunity to receive a $5,000.00 scholarship. Since 1962, the USSYP has brought to these students a greater understanding of how the federal government works.

This fantastic opportunity can only happen if qualifying students apply for the program. This year, the application process has changed: schools will need to request a copy of the program and examination by filling out an online survey. Once the program is requested, more specific directions and the examination will be sent to the school. All student applicants will be asked to complete a short application form, and to take a test regarding U.S. and Wyoming history and government.

Completed examinations must be postmarked to the Wyoming Department of Education by October 2, 2015. Eight to ten finalists will be invited to interview, and the top two interviewees will serve as the Wyoming delegates. The 54th USSYP will be held March 5 - 12, 2016 in Washington, D.C.

Delegates receive an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C. The delegates will meet United States Senators during the Senate reception, and will tour the Capitol, U.S. Supreme Court Building, and the Pentagon. They will also tour historic landmarks and various Smithsonian museums. Each delegate receives a $5,000 scholarship sponsored by the William Randolph Hearst Foundation. The foundation underwrites all Senate Youth Program expenses, therefore the program costs taxpayers absolutely nothing.
To request an information packet and a copy of the examination, please complete this survey: http://goo.gl/forms/xMVdnt1IXw.

For more information, contact Stephanie Brady, Social Studies Consultant, at 307-777-3793 or email stephanie.brady@wyo.gov.