



WYOMING
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

*Creating Opportunities
for Students to Keep
Wyoming Strong*

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edu.wyoming.gov
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MEMORANDUM NO. 2015-128

TO: School District Superintendents
Principals
Curriculum Directors
Instructional Facilitators
ELA Teachers (grades 2-8)

FROM: Brent Young, Chief Policy Officer

DATE: October 19, 2015

SUBJECT: Writing Instruction Workshop

SCORING & NORMING TO IMPROVE WRITING INSTRUCTION

When: December 8 (9 am – 5 pm), December 9 (9 am – 4 pm)

Where: Hathaway Building, Basement Conference Area
2300 Capitol Ave. Cheyenne, WY

The WDE Standards and Assessment teams will be offering a two-day professional development session to support standards-based instruction for writing. During these sessions, participants will systematically score and norm student papers in order to inform quality writing instruction.

Before the sessions, participants will administer Wyoming writing prompts to their students. Each participating grade level has two prompts. The prompts and instructions can be found on the WDE Language Arts page, in the Workshop Materials table:

edu.wyoming.gov/educators/standards/language-arts

Writing samples must be submitted before November 20, 2015, to Jessica Steinbrenner at jessica.steinbrenner@wyo.gov.

During the sessions, teachers will score and analyze student writing. Discussions will examine the strengths and shortcomings of student writing and give teachers an opportunity to share their responses, concerns, expectations, and learning progressions. Participants will also be exposed to resources and strategies to further guide writing instruction.

Due to the collaborative nature of these sessions, participants are encouraged to attend in teams of two or more, and are encouraged to work together to implement the norming model at the local level. Participants will receive 1 PTSB credit for their attendance and participation.

To register for this session, please fill out this form: goo.gl/forms/XfFqIQlq7B. Registration closes on November 20, and will be capped at 50 participants on a first-come, first-served basis.

Participants are also encouraged to join Wyoming's Edmodo English/Language Arts PLC before attending the workshop to gain access to supplemental readings, and to share ideas and resources to deepen discussions about writing instruction at the upcoming workshop and after. Registration for Edmodo is free and can be found at: www.edmodo.com. Resources for the workshop will be available for all educators regardless of workshop attendance.

Once registered, click "Find your school", and select "Wyoming DOE". In order to join the Wyoming's English/Language Arts community, participants must use the following code: **cueqay**

For more information, please contact Monica Mosier, Language Arts and Fine Arts Consultant, at 307-777-8595 or monica.mosier@wyo.gov.

Attachments:

Workshop Agenda