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MEMORANDUM NO. 2018-044

TO: School District Superintendents

Personnel Directors
Curriculum Directors

Principals

Title I Coordinators
Title II Coordinators

FROM: Brent Bacon, Chief Academic Officer

DATE: April 9, 2018

SUBJECT: Title II State-Level Use of Funds Survey Results

TITLE II-A STATE-LEVEL USES OF FUNDS SURVEY RESULTS

The Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) would like to thank the 805 participants in the needs assessment survey regarding professional development (PD) activities to be coordinated and delivered by the WDE. The majority of respondents were teachers, but also included principals, other school leaders, parents and community members. The top five responses are listed below for comments on professional development for teachers and principals. While the two lists are similar, the priorities are different and will be addressed from most needed to least needed as Federal Title II-A funding permits.

Top Responses for Teacher PD:

- Develop and provide professional development and other comprehensive systems of support to promote high-quality instruction and instructional leadership in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), including computer science.
- 2. Support training to effectively integrate technology into curricula and instruction, which may include training to assist teachers in implementing blended learning projects.
- 3. Support the professional development and improve the instructional strategies to integrate career and technical education (CTE) content into academic instructional practices.
- 4. Reform teacher certification, recertification, licensing, or tenure systems or preparation program standards and approval processes to ensure that teachers have the necessary subject matter

- knowledge and teaching skills to help students meet challenging State academic standards.
- 5. Support opportunities for principals, other school leaders, teachers, paraprofessionals, early childhood education program directors, and other early childhood education program providers to participate in joint efforts to address the transition to elementary school, including issues related to school readiness.

Top Responses for Principals and Other School Leaders PD:

- 1. Provide assistance to school districts for the development and implementation of high-quality professional development programs for principals that enable the principals to be effective and prepare all students to meet the challenging state academic standards.
- 2. Develop, improve, and implement mechanisms to recruit and retain principals or other school leaders who are effective in improving student academic achievement by providing training and support for teacher leaders and principals serving on instructional leadership teams.
- 3. Reform principal or other school leader certification, recertification, licensing, or tenure systems or preparation program standards and approval processes to ensure that principals or other school leaders have the instructional leadership skills to help teachers teach and to help students meet challenging state academic standards.
- 4. Create and provide professional development and other comprehensive systems of support to promote high-quality instruction and instructional leadership in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), including computer science, for principals.
- 5. Support training to integrate technology into curricula and instruction, which may include training to assist teachers in implementing blended learning projects for principals.

Per Wyoming's Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) state plan, funds are to be invested in ongoing projects that will span the next two years and can be evaluated annually for effectiveness. The WDE is working with internal teams to determine if any current, evidence-based offerings are already being deployed to districts in an effort to prevent duplication of services. The WDE will research and provide Requests for Proposals (RFPs) to qualified vendors to provide services as funding allows.

For more information, contact Mark Bowers, Title II-A Program Manager, at 307-777-8739 or mark.bowers@wyo.gov.