

CREATING
OPPORTUNITIES
FOR STUDENTS TO
KEEP WYOMING
STRONG

MEMORANDUM NO. 2018-117



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TO: School District Superintendents
Grade 6-12 Principals
Grade 6-12 Counselors
Accountability Coordinators
WISE Coordinators
Technology Coordinators

FROM: Megan Degenfelder, Chief Policy Officer

DATE: October 8, 2018

SUBJECT: 2018-19 Student Climate Survey for Alternative School
Accountability



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FALL STUDENT CLIMATE SURVEY WINDOW

Note: Although this memo pertains to alternative school accountability, the student climate survey is available to ALL Wyoming schools that serve grades 6-12.

The Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) has worked with the Alternative Schools Technical Advisory Group (TAG) to develop and pilot a framework for alternative school accountability. The purpose was to develop a system that reflects a more accurate representation of alternative school performance than what is provided with the current model, under the Wyoming Accountability in Education Act (WAEA). As such, alternative school accountability will be based on a model that meaningfully differentiates performance among alternative schools, rather than comparing alternative schools to traditional high schools in Wyoming.

One of the performance indicators for alternative school accountability is Climate, as measured by a 24-item student climate survey. The survey uses a Likert scale to measure

students' perceptions related to trust, respect, support, and high expectations. Additionally, the survey includes one open-ended question: "Is there anything else you want to tell us about your experience at this school?" The survey is administered online and takes about 20 minutes for students to complete. Each student will receive a unique identifier to login to the survey. The race, ethnicity, and other subgroup information will be used to provide aggregated reports back to the state, district, and schools. Individual student responses will not be reported back to the WDE or district staff.

The fall student climate survey window will be open from **November 5 through 16, 2018** on a day and time chosen by the district during that window. All high schools are invited to participate in the student survey, but it is **required** for all alternative high schools. **All 6-12 schools, including alternative schools**, that intend to participate in the student survey must complete [this form](#) no later than **October 15, 2018**.

For questions about the student climate survey or about any components of the alternative school accountability model, contact Sean McInerney at 307-777-8752 or sean.mcinerney@wyo.gov.