MEMORANDUM NO. 2019-129

TO:         School District Superintendents  
               Principals  
               Title I Directors  

FROM:      Shelley Hamel, Chief Academic Officer  

DATE:      November 4, 2019  

SUBJECT:   2019-2020 National ESEA Distinguished Schools Application  

NATIONAL ESEA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL AWARD PROGRAM APPLICATION  

The Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) has released the 2019-20 National ESEA Distinguished School Award Program Application. The National Association of ESEA State Program Administrators honors Title I schools from each state that have demonstrated a wide array of strengths, including team approaches to teaching and learning, focused professional development opportunities for staff, individual programs for student success, and strong partnerships between the school, parents, and the community.

The WDE will select one qualifying school, if applicable, in each of the following categories with a maximum of two schools allowed per state per year:

- Exceptional student performance and academic growth for two or more consecutive years.
- Closing the achievement gap between student groups for two or more consecutive years.
- Excellence in serving special populations of students (homeless, migrant, English learners, etc.).
In order to qualify in the stated categories, the school must have:

- A poverty rate of at least 35% for the selected year;
- Demonstrated high academic achievement for two or more consecutive years;
- Exceeded expectations as established by WAEA for at least two consecutive years;
- Clearly demonstrated that it has met the criteria for the category it is applying for and;
- Not been recognized as a Distinguished School during the previous two years.

The application and scoring rubric can be found on the WDE Distinguished Schools page. The deadline to submit applications is November 20, 2019.

For more information, contact Leslie Koch at 307-777-6216 or les.koch1@wyo.gov.