

CREATING
OPPORTUNITIES
FOR STUDENTS TO
KEEP WYOMING
STRONG

MEMORANDUM NO. 2019-137



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TO: School District Superintendents
Technology Directors
WISE Coordinators
WISER ID Administrators

FROM: Trent Carroll, Chief Operations Officer

DATE: November 12, 2019

SUBJECT: WISER IDs for Local Head Start Students



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WISER IDs FOR LOCAL HEAD START STUDENTS

The Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Wyoming Head Start Association (WHSA) to assign Head Start students unique student identifiers or WISER IDs. These IDs will allow the WDE to provide WHSA aggregated and suppressed outcomes for Head Start students to be used to evaluate Head Start curriculum and teaching strategies. Future plans include transmitting WHSA data through the WDE to school districts to better transition head start students from early childhood programs to the public school classroom.

The WDE is seeking the assistance of district staff to provide WISER IDs for their local Head Start organizations. Design constraints do not allow Head Start staff to access or retrieve WISER IDs from the WISER Registration System, and therefore require the cooperation of district staff.

In order to retrieve IDs, Head Start programs will need to provide their local district a .csv file with their students' data. The WDE has provided WHSA with a sample batch upload file, including the appropriate field types, along with instructions on how to deliver the file in a secure manner to protect student data. Students should not be entered into the district student information system, and WISER IDs cannot be retrieved using automated processes.

Only District Staff with WISER ID Administrator rights in WyEd PRO can upload the .csv file. Head Start providers will designate students with a grade level of PK and associate them with the District ID. Because student enrollment comes from the WDE684 and not the WISER Registration System, this workaround will have no negative impact on district data.

Head Start personnel will be reaching out to districts in the near future to coordinate. Efforts to link local early childhood data with K-12 are greatly appreciated. Linked data systems provide a greater understanding of the relationships among early learning opportunities and later outcomes. In addition, it provides two-way communication to ensure school readiness and coordination of services to support individual student needs.

For questions about the WISER ID Registration System, contact April Strong, Data Analyst, at 307-777-8751 or april.strong@wyo.gov.

For questions about the MOU or project, contact Susan Williams, Data Collection and Reporting Supervisor, at 307-777-6252 or susan.williams@wyo.gov.