MEMORANDUM NO. 2020-044

TO: School District Superintendents
FROM: Jillian Balow, Superintendent of Public Instruction
DATE: March 27, 2020
SUBJECT: Guidance for State School Closure Period April 6-17

ADAPTED LEARNING PLAN GUIDANCE

Governor Mark Gordon and the Wyoming Department of Health have extended three existing public health orders that keep schools closed to students through April 17. School operations and funding during this time period will proceed as follows:

- Each Wyoming school district must have an Adapted Learning Plan approved by the Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) prior to April 6 to continue to receive state funding. The guidance document for Adapted Learning Plans can be found here.

- Once approved, Adapted Learning Plans are valid through the end of the 2019-20 school year. Status checks will be conducted by the WDE with each district at the end of April, and if necessary in May, to ensure adherence to their plans. Failure to adhere to plans may result in a determination that full funding is not appropriate, or that missed school days need to be made up.

- At the expiration of the statewide school closure to students, or the end of the school calendar year, I will make a determination as to whether exercising my authority under W.S. 21-13-307(a)(ii)(B) to hold all schools in a district harmless from daily proportional reduction of block grant funding due to school building closures is appropriate. That determination will be based on whether the district has followed through with its Adapted Learning Plan.
- A primary consideration when evaluating adherence to Adapted Learning Plans will be the tracking of student attendance. The WDE will provide further guidance on general expectations on this topic next week.

- This guidance is in addition to the approval of all school closures occurring on school calendar days from March 16 to April 3, 2020 through Memorandum No. 2020-040.

- Wyoming Department of Health guidance for educational institutions provides some narrow exceptions to full student closures. Please review the guidance and contact the local health officer to utilize an exception.