

CREATING
OPPORTUNITIES
FOR STUDENTS TO
KEEP WYOMING
STRONG

MEMORANDUM NO. 2020-081

TO: School District Superintendents
FROM: Jillian Balow, Superintendent of Public Instruction
DATE: June 3, 2020
SUBJECT: COVID-19 Guidance Updates



JILLIAN BALOW
Superintendent of Public Instruction

DICKY SHANOR
Chief of Staff

SHELLEY HAMEL
Chief Academic Officer

KARI EAKINS
Chief Policy Officer

TRENT CARROLL
Chief Operations Officer



CHEYENNE OFFICE
122 W. 25th St. Suite E200
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307-777-7675

RIVERTON OFFICE
320 West Main
Riverton, WY 82501
307-857-9250



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facebook.com/WYOEducation

COVID-19 GUIDANCE UPDATES

Online Instruction - Wyoming Virtual Academy

As part of an ongoing effort to assist school districts with preparation for a more flexible learning environment, the Department invited leaders from the [Wyoming Virtual Academy](#) to discuss the essential components of effective online education and operations.

Update on Perkins Waiver and WDE Conferences

Perkins Funds Waiver: the WDE has applied for and received a waiver of section 421(b) of the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA), extending the period of availability of Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 funds until September 30, 2021. This provides an extra year of availability consistent with other federal funds, with the exception of IDEA. All districts have expended their (FY) 2018 Perkins funds or returned them to the WDE, as required by federal law. These remaining funds, nearly \$38,000, will be available for competitive application through the professional development grants.

STAR Conference: The 2020 STAR is scheduled to be hosted virtually on June 8-9. Access the [WDE website](#) to register, or view the [At-A-Glance schedule](#).

Upcoming Joint Education Committee Meeting

Legislative meetings will be held virtually. Anyone wishing to offer public testimony must sign up in advance at <https://wyoleg.gov/postcomments/Intcommlist.aspx>. Video streams will be available on [LSO's YouTube Channel](#).

Upcoming Meetings:

- June 3: School Facilities.
- June 4-5: Joint Education.
- June 24-25: School Finance Recalibration.

Moving forward

As for the Monday meetings with superintendents, the WDE will transition to a schedule of every two weeks; the next COVID-19 Update with the WDE is set for 8:30-9:30 a.m. MDT on June 15. The WDE will continue to answer questions regarding operating under the current state health orders. WDE staff remain available by email or telephone to discuss any aspect of a district's adapted learning plan at any time.