

CREATING
OPPORTUNITIES
FOR STUDENTS TO
KEEP WYOMING
STRONG



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MEMORANDUM NO. 2020-099

TO: School District Superintendents
Principals
Curriculum Directors
Business Managers
Special Education Directors and Coordinators
Technology Directors and Coordinators
District Administrators

FROM: Trent Carroll, Chief Operations Officer

DATE: June 22, 2020

SUBJECT: BOCES and BOCHES Services to Districts Survey

BOCES AND BOCHES SERVICES TO DISTRICTS SURVEY

In 2017, the Wyoming Legislature established the Wyoming Spending and Government Efficiency Commission and initiated a state efficiency study, the results of which included recommendations for K-12 Shared Service Organizations to leverage operational and fiscal efficiencies for Wyoming school districts. In response to the efficiency study, and to further study opportunities to increase shared services through existing Wyoming State Boards of Cooperative Education Services (BOCES) entities, the Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) has partnered with the Region 11 Comprehensive Center (R11CC). The R11CC is a technical assistance organization funded by the U.S. Department of Education (USED) to provide capacity-building services to state educational agencies, regional educational agencies, local educational agencies, and schools to support their efforts to improve educational outcomes for all students.

The WDE and the R11CC have convened a project team to develop recommendations for improving the shared services that Wyoming BOCES offer to member districts. The recommendations also will consider services provided by the Wyoming Boards of Cooperative Higher Education Services (BOCHES) that are offered to K-12 districts. The Comprehensive Center has

developed a survey designed to collect data about:

- 1) The specific services that districts receive from the BOCES and BOCHES;
- 2) The perceived benefits and cost savings of the services received; and
- 3) Additional areas where BOCES and BOCHES might provide shared services that would benefit districts.

This is a voluntary **survey** and takes about 15 minutes to complete. Responses will be kept confidential and will be used only for research purposes. The survey will close on **Wednesday, July 8, 2020**.

Survey results will provide the WDE with a shared understanding of the common and differentiated human and fiscal resource challenges and needs faced by Wyoming's districts. The results will inform the development of a pilot model project for shared services that would help participating districts better serve the needs of their students, especially the most underserved students.

For more information, contact Joe Simpson, Region 11 Comprehensive Center Director, at jsimpson@mccrel.org, or Veronica Tate, Region 11 Comprehensive Center Project Consultant, at vtate@air.org.