

CREATING
OPPORTUNITIES
FOR STUDENTS TO
KEEP WYOMING
STRONG

MEMORANDUM NO. 2021-003



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

TO: School District Superintendents
Principals
Computer/Technology Coordinators
WISE Coordinators
Curriculum Coordinators
Education Directors
Virtual Education Coordinators
Technical Directors

FROM: Trent Carroll, Chief Operations Officer

DATE: January 18, 2021

SUBJECT: Digital Equity Data

DIGITAL EQUITY DATA

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact teaching and learning, and digital broadband equity continues to be a priority - and a significant challenge in Wyoming. That's why the Wyoming Department of Education has partnered with the Wyoming Business Council to create the Wyoming Broadband Program Parent Survey. The goal is for parents and guardians of students across the state to participate in the survey to better understand and estimate the percentage of students who may not have adequate home digital access.

The state is asking for all households to contribute information on broadband availability and speed in the Wyoming Business Council (WBC) State Broadband Program **Broadband Test and Survey**. Once the broadband survey data is collected, the WBC will share it with Internet Service Providers and stakeholders, which then can be used to identify broadband service underserved and unserved communities.

Additional student-centric information, such as broadband affordability, reliability and adequacy, and computing device availability will be collected



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



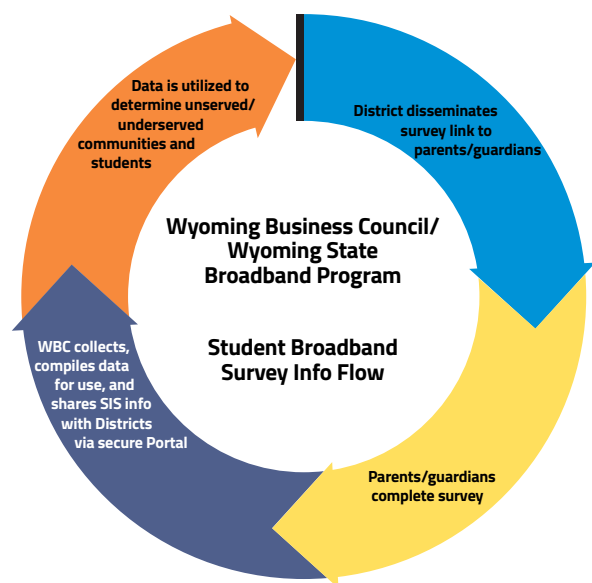
ON THE WEB

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from the optional Student Connectivity Survey section of the site. While all Wyoming citizens are asked to participate in the survey, only parents/guardians are asked to complete the optional Student Connectivity Survey section.

Districts are encouraged to share the Broadband Test and Survey link to parents and communities via student packets, social media, district websites and local media outlets. Postage pre-paid mail-in cards will be made available to districts by the WBC for those households with no internet access.

Specific student-centric information collected from the 'Student Connectivity Survey' section of the Broadband Test and Survey is available to districts via a WBC secure portal; contact Teal Wyckoff (wycckoff@uwyo.edu) for access.



The WBC reported data can be downloaded (in .csv format) and should be securely stored and accessible, ideally imported into the Student Information System (SIS), which would allow for seamless aggregation and integration across other student data points. Both Wyoming SIS vendors, Infinite Campus and PowerSchool, now have [Digital Equity Data Elements](#) in the core product. Districts should establish some sort of cadence for updating the data set, e.g., incorporating into registration and enrollment.

This data can be utilized by districts to populate the correlated SIS data fields for student-level computing devices and broadband equity access information. These populated SIS data fields may be helpful to address individual student availability and accessibility issues, and may also be useful in transitioning from Tiered modes of instructional delivery.

Districts are encouraged to take action by connecting with families to further understand and support their home digital access needs and collect additional information where needed.

Additional Digital Equity Resources for Districts:

- [CCSSO's Home Digital Access Data Collection: Blueprint for State Leaders](#) determined that an important early step in solving the pressing digital equity challenge is for districts to conduct high-quality data collection to identify which students are impacted.
- PowerSchool and InfiniteCampus Student Information Systems included standardized elements based on the [ED-FI Working Draft 3 - Digital Equity Collection](#) document.

- Through the Digital Bridge K-12 initiative, the non-profit EducationSuperHighway has created free tools, resources, and best practice guidance to help districts coordinate effective outreach campaigns to collect home access data from families. [DigitalBridgeK12.org](https://www.digitalbridgek12.org) offers a [Home Access Needs Assessment Playbook](#) to assist in creating a digital equity collection plan.

For more information, contact Ryan Kudera, Broadband Manager – WBC, at 307-371-6784 or ryan.kudera@wyo.gov or Ken Reynolds, Information Management Division Director – WDE at 307-777-8014 or ken.reynolds@wyo.gov.