



Jillian BalowSuperintendent of Public Instruction



Cheyenne Office

Hathaway Building, 2nd Floor 2300 Capitol Avenue Cheyenne, WY 82002-0050 Phone: (307) 777-7675 Fax: (307) 777-6234

Casper Office

539 S. Payne Casper, WY 82609 Phone: (307) 577-4686 Fax: (307) 577-6785

Riverton Office

320 West Main Riverton, WY 82501 Phone: (307) 857-9253 Fax: (307) 857-9257

On the Web

edu.wyoming.gov www.wyomingmeasuresup.com

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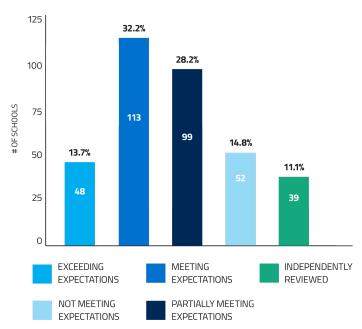
2015 ACCOUNTABILITY DETERMINATIONS RELEASED FOR WYOMING SCHOOLS

EMBARGOED UNTIL 1 PM ON SEPT 8, 2015

CHEYENNE - Federal and state accountability determinations were released by the Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) today and are available at goo.gl/oSNvvq. State accountability measures show most Wyoming schools are meeting or partially meeting expectations.

2014-2015 SCHOOL PERFORMANCE LEVELS

BASED ON STATE ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES



"Now is the time to take a hard look at where schools are at and what needs to be done to get them to the next level," says Superintendent of Public Instruction Jillian Balow. "This data gives us the valid measure needed to get schools where we want them and fortify Wyoming's future."

Superintendent Balow says the WDE is using the state accountability system to guide school improvement efforts. Every school is required to complete a comprehensive plan based on their school performance level. New components of the State System of Support will provide resources to improve leadership, instruction and other areas in Wyoming education.

According to federal accountability determinations, only 17 percent of Wyoming schools made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) during the 2014-15 school year. Superintendent Balow says this is not an accurate reflection of how Wyoming schools are doing, "No Child Left Behind gives an outdated, narrow view of student achievement. It's overly focused on standardized test scores and meeting proficiency, instead of improving all students. I once again call on Congress to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and give more control back to the states."

For questions, contact Kari Eakins at 307-777-2053 or kari.eakins@wyo.gov.