

Wyoming Department of Education

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MEMORANDUM NO. 2014-099

TO: School District Superintendents

District Assessment Coordinators

Building Test Coordinators

School Principals

Computer/Technology Coordinators

FROM: Travis Hoff

Public Information Officer

DATE: September 2, 2014

SUBJECT: PAWS Release and Information Toolkit

CONFIDENTIAL PAWS RESULTS RELEASED TO DISTRICTS, SEPT. 8

WDE producing tool kit for public dissemination of information by districts

CHEYENNE - The Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) will confidentially release results from the 2014 Proficiency Assessment for Wyoming Students (PAWS), Student Assessment of Writing Skills (SAWS), the ACT suite including EXPLORE, PLAN, and ACT, and the Wyoming Alternative test for each, to the school districts on **Sept. 8**.

All results are embargoed until the statewide results are released publicly on Monday, Sept. 22.

Data will be provided through the WDE's secure Wyoming Education Fusion portal. District Superintendents will be asked to verify online that they have received and reviewed the data at: https://portals.edu.wyoming.gov/Confirm/View/2014PAWS.

To access the confidential student level assessment reports log in into Fusion at http://fusion.edu.wyoming.gov and click on the **Data Reporting** link at the top of the home page. On the left side of the next screen select **Assessment Confidential**. Persons with the following rolls will be able

to access the reports: Superintendent, Principal, Assessment Coordinator, Special Ed Coordinator, Curriculum Coordinator, or Assessment Confidential. If you do not have rights to see the report, or have forgotten your Fusion username, please contact your district Fusion administrator. If you are unsure who your district Fusion administrator is, click on the "find fusion administrator," at the top of the Fusion homepage. You will also see a link called "password help," if you are unsure what your password is. If you would like to change your password, please follow the tutorial at the following link: https://portals.edu.wyoming.gov/DCS/Content/Docs/Videos/RetrieveandResetPassword.mp4.

To accompany the release of assessment results, the WDE is developing a communications tool kit for districts, branded Wyoming Measures Up. The toolkit will help explain recent changes in the state school accountability systems, standards, and assessment. The toolkit is designed to allow district personnel to present on these subjects to stakeholders in their district.

The toolkit will be available online before the public release of the assessment results on Sept. 22.

The contents of the toolkit are a direct result of surveys sent to district superintendents last year. The toolkit will include:

- A website outlining basic concepts in education including changes in Wyoming's education system (wyomingmeasuresup.com);
- A powerpoint presentation available for download and use, outlining concepts in the Wyoming Measures Up campaign;
- FAQ sheets available for print and distribution explaining standards, changes in assessment, and accountability;
- A series of videos explaining the need for recent educational changes with appearances from members of the State Legislature, State Board of Education, and the WDE staff and;
- A brochure, which can be printed and distributed outlining changes in Wyoming education.

For questions regarding PAWS content please contact Deb Lindsey at <u>deb.lindsey@wyo.gov</u> or 307-777-8753.

For questions regarding Proficiency Assessments for Wyoming Students—Alternate (PAWS—ALT), please contact Pari Swanson at <u>pari.swanson@wyo.gov</u> or 307-324-8122.

For questions regarding Fusion user rights, please contact Susan Williams at susan.williams@wyo.gov or 307-777-6252.

For more information on the Wyoming Measures Up toolkit, contact Cary Dunlap at <u>cary.dunlap@wyo.gov</u> or 307-777-8750.