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MEMORANDUM NO. 2016-021

TO: School District Superintendents

Principals

Special Education Directors

FROM: Brent Bacon, Chief Academic Officer

DATE: February 8, 2016

SUBJECT: 2016 WAVE Academy: Call for presenters

2016 WAVE: WEEK OF ACADEMIC VISION AND EXCELLENCE

PRESENTATION PROPOSALS DUE MARCH 7

The Wyoming Department of Education is extending an invitation to the Week of Academic Vision and Excellence (WAVE) Academy (formerly known as the Leadership Symposium) on August 1-4, 2016 at Little America in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

The WAVE Academy brings together national presenters and state leaders in education to share knowledge and expertise about best practices, quality instruction, regulations, and legal educational requirements.

Topics include Family Partnerships/Family Engagement, Multitiered Systems of Support (early literacy, behavior, data-driven decision making, system level implementation), Transition, Legal issues specific to special education, fiscal needs, Every Student Succeeds Act, Autism, Para-Professional needs, Professional Learning Communities, and Educational Leadership.

General educators, special educators and directors, superintendents, school and parent attorneys, social workers, counselors, related services providers, paraprofessionals, principals, school psychologists, instructional facilitators, district leaders, district teams, early childhood educators, hearing officers and mediators. Look for registration soon.

The WDE recognizes there are outstanding programs and practices being implemented by districts and schools around the State, and the desire to share these practices with other professionals. This memo serves as an open call for proposals to district and school professionals to present at WAVE. Presentations should be structured to run as 75 minute breakout sessions, with an additional 15 minutes for question and answer. Topics for consideration include:

- Multi-Tiered Systems of Support
 - System-wide implementation
 - Data-driven decision making
 - Early literacy-targeted systems of support
 - Behavior-targeted systems of support
- Family, School, Community Partnerships/Family Engagement
- Best Practices Specific to Students with Disabilities
 - Quality vocational and/or transition programs
 - Data facilitation
 - Effective communication practices
 - Recruiting highly qualified staff
 - Effective autism programming
 - High structured supports for students with emotional/behavioral needs
 - Professional Learning Communities
 - Literacy
 - Early Childhood

Presenters that are chosen will have their registration fees for the conference waived.

If interested, please complete the electronic proposal form at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WAVEPresentationProposal and submit the document by March 7, 2016. A WDE selection committee will review proposals, and a letter of notification indicating selection results will be sent out on or before March 31, 2016. All proposals accepted will be required to have any handouts or presentation slides to WDE staff prior to July 15, 2016.

For more information please contact Kodi Gerhold at <u>kodi.gerhold@wyo.gov</u> or 307-777-3530, or Helen Oliver at <u>helen.oliver@wyo.gov</u> or 307-777-6468.