



Sweetwater County School District #1 Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Newsletter

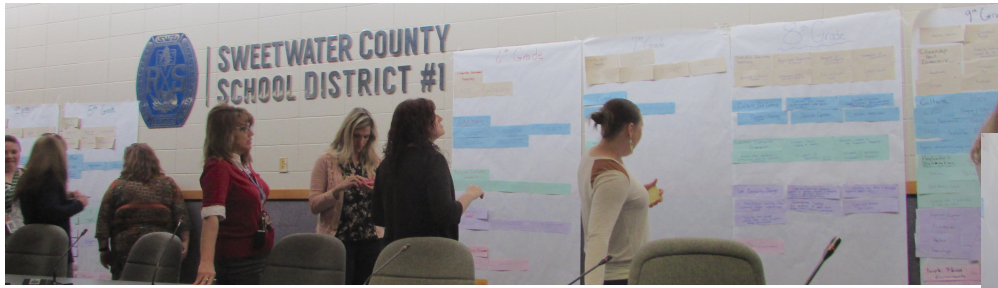
May 2017

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Mission:
To provide a quality education for all students.

Vision:
Is an innovative district, united with our community, we empower and inspire all students to academic excellence in pursuit of their interests and passions.



Social Studies Subject Area Committee Update

The Social Studies Subject Area Committee (SAC) began curriculum mapping in April. SAC members reviewed Social Studies questionnaires from staff and recorded teaching topics on colored strips of paper. Each colored strip designated a Social Studies standard which were organized by grade level or course then attached to large pieces of paper taped to the walls of the board room. The SAC reviewed the walls looking at alignment, coverage of standards,



redundancy, appropriateness, and skill gaps. Vertical K-12 discussions took place to locate missing or underrepresented standards. The SAC committee also began working on their subject area mission statement and purpose statements. The Social Studies SAC will meet again in June to complete their draft curriculum maps, which will be piloted and validated during the 2017-18 school year.

ELA/EL and FL Adoption Update, Next Steps

The final resource recommendations from the adoption committees were presented to the Board at the March board meeting and final approval was given at the April board meeting. The following resources were approved for use next school year:

- ReadyGEN published by Pearson for grades K-5
- Springboard published by College Board for grades 6-12
- Avancemos (Spanish)/Bien Dit (French) published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt for grades 8-12

Summer Academy sessions are being offered in June to support teachers in implementing the English Language Arts adoption, ReadyGEN and Springboard, and Foreign Language. In addition, summer academies on Write Tools and Technology support the implementation across all grade levels. Check out the [Summer Academy Brochure](#) for session details.

Along with Summer Academies, additional training will be provided from resource consultants at the beginning of the 2017-18 academic school year.

Foreign Language Still Required in Grades K-2

Governor Matt Mead vetoed House Enrolled Act 0102 (House Bill 126) on March 14, 2017. All school districts are still required to provide instruction in foreign languages to K-2 students under W.S. 21-9-101(g): *Not later than the 2002-2003 school year, all school districts shall provide instruction in foreign languages to students in kindergarten through grade 2 in accordance with [standards promulgated by the state board](#).*

Teachers, please make sure to continue instruction in foreign language with K-2 students with the district's currently approved resource, SALSA. This will aid in completing the surveys for elementary [Foreign Language validation](#) as well as verifying if the SALSA program will continue to meet the Wyoming Content and Performance Standards for K-2 Foreign Language.

AdvancED Progress Assessment

SCSD#1 recently submitted evidence of our progress toward meeting the improvement priority given by AdvancED during the 2014-15 school year: *"establish a systemic process, guided by the purpose and direction of the district, that will ensure horizontal and vertical alignment of curriculum, assessment, and instruction. This process should also inform support by resources, professional development, and evaluation systems that will frequently monitor implementation of all processes system-wide."*

The response from AdvancED was very positive and noted that SCSD#1 has put systematic processes in place to address the complex and detailed improvement priority. Based on the actions of the district, the performance levels were all increased to a level 3. Also, the Index of Educational Quality Scores (IEQ) indicates we are performing above the AdvancED average in the Overall, Teaching & Learning, and Resource Utilization categories. SCSD#1 will sustain the continuous improvement as we prepare for the upcoming accreditation visit in the 2018-2019 school year. See the full [AdvancED response](#).

Index of Education Quality Scores (IEQ)		
	Initial Score	Updated Score
Overall IEQ	278	281
Teaching & Learning	265	270
Leadership Capacity	289	291
Resource Utilization	295*	N/A

*Above AdvancED Average

AdvancED Averages	
Overall IEQ	278.34
Teaching & Learning	268.94
Leadership Capacity	292.64
Resource Utilization	283.23

Title III

ACCESS testing results will be released on May 2nd to school districts. The following information was released in a memo on April 24, 2017 from the Wyoming Department of Education:

"Due to WIDA's standard-setting process, the bar has been raised for what constitutes a given proficiency level. This change takes effect this school year and will be factored into the score reports that districts and schools receive on May 2, 2017. This change potentially could result in a significant drop in the amount of students that are eligible for program exit. Coupled with the recent switch to an online testing platform with ACCESS 2.0, these changes prompted a review of the current exit criteria. The Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) took this as an opportunity to analyze research and proficiency level concordance data from WIDA, as well as statewide data from both last year's ACCESS 2.0 and statewide summative testing (PAWS) to recalibrate exit criteria. Starting this year, the single exit criterion used in Wyoming for EL program exit will be a minimum overall composite proficiency level of 4.6. No requirement will be in place for domain proficiency levels."

(Wyoming Department of Education Memo 2017-052, released April 24, 2017)

Once the district has received ACCESS results, EL teachers will review, analyze, and share this information with all that support our English Learners. Please contact Shannon Garrison with any questions. Enjoy the last month of school and thank you again for all that you do for our students!

Grants

Thank you to our staff for your work this year in supporting grant-funding opportunities for our students! If you are interested in applying for a grant or have questions contact our Coordinator, Shannon Garrison garrisons@sw1.k12.wy.us or extension 1247.

Parent Night for Counseling Grant

Through the US Department of Education Counseling Grant, counselors will begin offering parent workshops at the three project schools: Eastside, Pilot Butte and Desert School. Based on parent survey results, the first parent workshop will be held one evening in May 2017 with topics to include *Your Child's Self-Esteem* and *Social Media*. Additional parent workshops will be held next school year. USDOE Grant counselors are excited for this opportunity to collaborate further with parents.

Summer Academy Registration Reminder

Emails will be sent to Summer Academy participants to confirm their registration of approved sessions through an online process. All registration confirmations must be complete by May 18, 2017 at 4:00pm. Failure to complete the online process to confirm your registration by May 18, 2017 at 4:00pm will remove your name from the session roster.

Remember to bring your fully charged laptop, identification badge, and required materials for the session.

Attendance is required for the full session time and/or days in order for the attendee to receive allotted compensation. If you are unable to attend a session after confirming registration, please contact Kami Danaei danaeik@sw1.k12.wy.us two weeks prior to the session or as soon as possible to cancel your registration.

For more information or to register visit the [Summer Academy webpage](#).



Youth In Transition

The [McKinney-Vento Act](#) is a federal law ensuring enrollment and stability for homeless children and youth.

To meet the requirements of the McKinney-Vento Act, employees must be trained in how to recognize students who may qualify for services.

In August of the 2017-18 school year a Public School Works Training for the McKinney-Vento Act will be required for all employees.

2017 Summer School Info

Summer school for grades 9-12 will occur May 30-June 23, 2017 with funds remaining from the WY Bridges Grant and 1-D monies.

High schools will follow the Bridges Grant requirements.

District funds allocated for summer school/extended day will be utilized for the PreK-8th grade summer school, July 17-28, 2017.

Requirements on class size, number of instructional hours, and professional development requirements are no longer required for PreK-8th grades.

See the [summer school calendar](#) for timeframes.

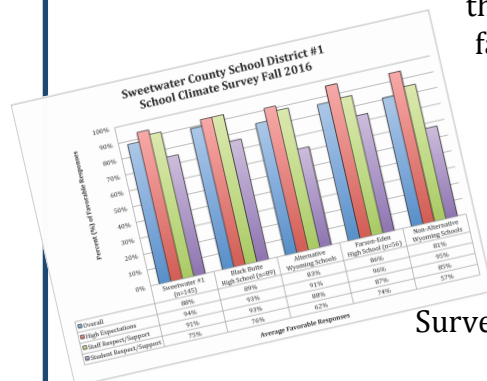
Location	Administrator	Grades	Dates
BBHS	Mike Maloney Ryun Payne	9-12	May 30-June 23
RSHS	Colby Lynch Lollie Lebario	9-12	May 30-June 23
RSJH	Tina Johnson	6-8	July 17-July 28
Stagecoach	Kris Cundall	3-5	July 17-July 28
Stagecoach	Karl Wells	PreK-2	July 17-July 28
Desert & Farson-Eden*	Cristy Pelham	PreK-8	July 17-July 28

*The Farson-Eden Community Center will be utilized for summer school in Farson.

Wyoming Department of Education Climate Survey for Students

In October 2016, students at Black Butte High School (BBHS) and Farson-Eden High School (FEHS) completed a climate survey developed by researchers at Harvard Graduate School and Panorama Education. The survey, used to measure student perceptions of teaching and learning, gathers feedback from students about their classroom experience and measures teacher expectations, respect, student support, and trust.

The climate survey is part of the new accountability model for alternative schools in Wyoming. BBHS is required to give the survey in the fall and spring of every school year. This year the Wyoming Department of Education gave the opportunity for any high school to participate in the survey. The climate survey was administered at FEHS in the fall.



In April, all SCSD#1 high schools participated in the climate survey. The results will give valuable data to school and district improvement teams helping to inform school and district improvement goals. Fall results from the climate surveys are available on the district's [Survey Results webpage](#). Spring results will be available to view sometime in May on the [Survey Results webpage](#).



New State Assessment AIR Begins Next Year

Beginning in the spring of 2018, PAWS and Aspire will no longer be administered as Wyoming's statewide summative assessment. The State Board of Education voted to move ahead with American Institutes for Research (AIR) for grades 1-10. AIR assessments will be administered through an online platform and results will be available within one day for students, teachers and parents. The immediate assessment feedback will help drive teacher instructional decisions and identify areas of strength or focus for students. The new assessment will also have online extended response (essay) questions, with a two-week turnaround for results.

ACT will continue to be Wyoming's College Readiness assessment administered to all 11th grade students.

Interim assessments through AIR will be available to the district, free of charge, for grades 1-10. These will be mini-summative assessments and modular assessments, with item types similar to the summative assessment.

Visit www.air.org to find out more about the tests, take a practice test in math or English, or see sample math and science test questions.

More information will be released before the end of the school year on testing window dates, and specifics on the AIR testing system.

Assessments Reminders

- **ACT Aspire** testing window ends May 3.
- **ACT + Writing** make up day is May 3.
- **NWEA MAP** testing window closes May 5 for grades K-6 and May 18 for grades 7-12.
- **DIBELS Universal Screening** window closes May 5.

Summer Reminders

- Summer Academies May 30-June 29 and July 31-Aug 1
- Board Meetings June 12, July 10, Aug 14
- Administrators return August 1
- Teachers return August 15
- Students return August 21



May 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Apple Training 8-4 Board Rm	3 Apple Training 8-4 Board Rm Aspire Window Closes ACT + Writing Make-Up Day WorkKeys Window Closes	4 Apple Training 8-4 Board Rm	5 MAP Window Closes for K-5	6
7	8 Board Meeting 7pm Board Rm	9 ELA SAC 8-4 Board Rm	10 ELA SAC 8-11:30 Board Rm Info/FL SAC 12:30-4 Board Rm	11 District Department Chair Meeting 4-6 PDC	12	13
14	15 Community Curriculum Council 8-4 Board Rm	16 Math SAC 8-4 Board Rm	17 Math SAC 8-11:30 Board Rm	18 AMP Data Review 8-4 Board Rm MAP Window Closes for 6-12	19 AMP Data Review 8-4 Board Rm	20
21	22	23 BBHS Graduation 7pm WWCC Theatre	24	25 Farson-Eden Graduation 6:30pm FEHS Gym	26 Last Day for Students & Teachers	27 RSHS Graduation 10am Tiger Stadium
28	29 Memorial Day	30 F & P Arts SAC 8-4 Board Rm Summer Academies	31 F & P Arts SAC 8-4 Board Rm Summer Academies			

June 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 F & P Arts SAC 8-4 Board Rm Summer Academies	2 F & P Arts SAC 8-4 Board Rm Summer Academies	3
4	5 F & P Arts SAC 8-4 Pilot Butte Cafeteria Social Studies SAC 8-4 Pilot Butte Cafeteria Summer Academies	6 Social Studies SAC 8-4 Board Rm Summer Academies	7 Social Studies SAC 8-4 Board Rm Summer Academies	8 Social Studies SAC 8-4 Board Rm Summer Academies	9 Social Studies SAC 8-4 Board Rm Summer Academies	10
11	12 Summer Academies Board Meeting 7pm Board Rm	13 Summer Academies	14 Summer Academies	15 Summer Academies	16	17
18	19 Summer Academies	20 Summer Academies	21 Summer Academies	22 Summer Academies	23	24
25	26 Summer Academies	27 Summer Academies	28 Summer Academies	29 Summer Academies	30	

July 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 Board Meeting 7pm Board Rm	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 Summer Academies					

August 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Summer Academies Administrators Return	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Board Meeting 7pm Board Rm	15 Teachers Return	16 Professional Development	17 Professional Development	18	19
20	21 Students Return	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		