



Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Newsletter

In this issue: *School Highlights, Sweetwater STEM/STEAM Committee, Science: Professional Development, WDE Data Retreat, English Learners: ACCESS, District Report Card, PBIS and AMP, Young Author, Universal Screening Calendar, Assessment Calendar and January Calendar.*



Sweetwater County School District #1 will create and foster academic success through partnerships with its schools, community and families.

Sweetwater County School District #1 will create a positive learning climate and culture.

School Highlights

Rock Springs Junior High

The students enrolled in Foods and Wellness at RSJH participated in "Cupcake Wars". Each group customized their cupcakes and set up their display to share with their fellow students in other classes. Some themes presented were Hot Chocolate, The 70's, Disney and Outer Space. All the students did an amazing job and the cupcakes were delicious and a hit with fellow classmates and staff.



Students in Alternative Academics at Rock Spring Junior High are building their math skills, social skills, confidence and learning the basics of how to run a business with what Ms. Petersen's students have aptly named, "Jaguar Hot Drinks".

Every Wednesday orders are collected for tea, coffee, and hot cocoa and on Thursday orders are distributed to staff. The process takes a lot of preparation as the students decide, how many cups they will need and supplies that will be needed. Then on Thursday mornings the students prepare the cart with the necessary items and cash box with their start up cash. During 2nd and 3rd periods the beverage cart makes the rounds.

Once the cart arrives at the classroom door, Ms. Petersen's students pour the beverage into a cup and teachers are allowed to put a variety of extras in their beverage to include creamers, whip cream, cinnamon, crushed peppermint candies, chocolate and caramel chips, marshmallows and the list goes on. The transaction is completed with the exchange of money with students counting back the change.

The students debuted their hot beverage cart the week of December 4th and made over \$50.00. Profits made from the cart help buy treats for the junior high students at the end of the year.



Rock Springs High School

Students in Ms. Jensen's 9th grade Biology class recently completed a campaign project to help provide information and vaccines available concerning the Human Papillomavirus or HPV. The students learned what causes the disease and ways to prevent it. During the campaign project students had help from various sources in the community. Kim Lionberger, Head of Public Health in Sweetwater County, Kelly Sugihara, with the Wyoming Cancer Resource Services in Rock Springs and Dr. Zachary Nicholas, Oncologist at Sweetwater Memorial Hospital all came out to work with the students and provide information and answer questions. With the completion of the classroom campaign project students will now be taking the next steps to bring awareness to the community about HPV. Students have partnered with the Public Health Nurses and will be holding a Clinic at Rock Springs High School on January 24th, 2019. They will be providing information for the public along with the option to receive the HPV vaccine.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1y8uPwsDqqcRxc97zTYMvCJiha8qGgk0jgHtzE4vXjw/edit>

Nellie Tayloe Ross Day

Dr. Renee Laegreid of the University of Wyoming history department spoke to Ms. Wilmetti's government classes to observe Nellie Tayloe Ross Day.

She talked to the students about the challenges that Governor Ross faced as the first elected female governor nationwide.

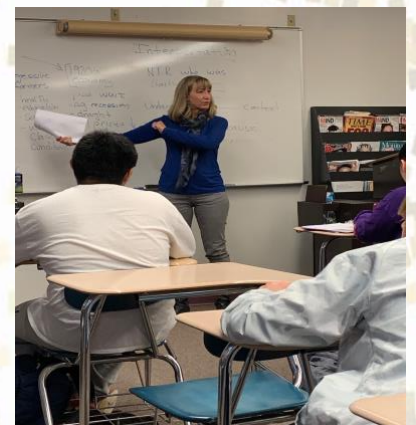
Nellie Tayloe Ross was the 14th governor of Wyoming, serving from January 5, 1925 to January 3, 1927. She was elected to complete the term of her husband, William Bradford Ross, who died in office. In 1933, President Franklin D. Roosevelt appointed her the first woman to head the U.S. Mint, a position she held until 1953.

Nellie Davis Tayloe was born in 1876 in St. Joseph, Missouri. Her family moved to Omaha, Nebraska where she completed a two-year program to become a kindergarten teacher and taught briefly. While visiting relatives in Tennessee, she met William Bradford Ross, a young lawyer. They were married in 1902 and lived in Cheyenne, Wyoming. The Rosses had four sons. While Nellie devoted herself to her home and family, William practiced law, occasionally ran for political office and eventually was elected governor in 1922. In October 1924 he died of complications from an appendectomy.

Because his death occurred so close to a general election in November, Wyoming law required that his successor be elected then. Democratic Party leaders nominated Nellie. She ran against Republican Eugene J. Sullivan of Casper and won the election. One advantage Nellie was seen to have was the desire of the citizens of Wyoming to be the first to elect a woman governor, after having been the first state to grant women the right to vote in 1869.

Nellie was nominated by the Democrats for reelection in 1926 but was defeated in a close race by the Republican candidate, Frank C. Emerson. Following her governorship, Nellie served as a Wyoming committeewoman to the Democratic National Committee and then as vice chairman of the DNC, in charge of activities for women. In 1933, President Franklin D. Roosevelt appointed her director of the U.S.

<http://www.uwyo.edu/lawlib/libraryinfo/displaycase/nellietayloeross.html>



Black Butte High School, Desert View and Farson-Eden Middle School

A RoBo Expo will be held on January 19, 2019 at Black Butte High School, Joeleen Levenson from Desert View Elementary, Sharon Seaton from Black Butte High School and Jacob Summers from Farson-Eden Middle will be coordinating the event. They will have 2 levels of robotic competitions, one for elementary and one for middle school, and the BBHS competition robots on display. We will also have computer science activities for students and families to do.

Following is a schedule of events and awards:

7:30 AM – Doors open for setup

9:00 AM to 12:00 PM – Team/Individual Judges Interviews
EV3 practice field open

9:00 AM to 3:00 PM - Computer Science Activities open

- Code.org – Minecraft
- Bloxels
- Flight Simulation
- Virtual Reality
- Droid School

12:00 PM – 12:30 PM – Lunch Break

12:30 PM to 2:30 PM – EV3 Competition

2:45 PM to 3:15 PM – Awards/Recognition

RoBo Expo Awards List

Gracious Professionalism Award - 1 for EV3 and 1 for WeDo
1st, 2nd, 3rd place and honorable mention for Ev3

Most innovative – We Do

Robot Creator – WeDo

Judges Award – WeDo



Pictured: Denise Staley Owner of Taco Time and Black Butte Robotics Team.

Eastside Elementary

PTSO Family Craft Night:

Here at Eastside Elementary, building relationships with our families is crucial not only for student achievement but also making connections for social and emotional development. Each month at Eastside, the PTSO and the school staff partner for events that will enhance the culture and climate of the school. This month we focused on families making crafts together with our staff and enjoying the holiday season.



Sweetwater STEM/STEAM Committee Choose Four Areas of Focus

STEM/STEAM represents the following curriculum areas: **Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math.**

After researching ideas, connecting with district staff and a process to narrow brainstormed selections, the district will be focusing on the following STEM/STEAM areas:

- Defining STEM/STEAM,
- Job Shadowing
- Cross-Content Integration
- Robotics

Defining STEM/STEAM will focus on communications to clarify what STEM/STEAM projects consist of, what it looks like in action and how to implement STEM/STEAM projects with students. The committee would also like to expand job shadowing opportunities with our community stakeholders. Another focus is to promote increasing awareness of cross-content integration and connections with our students, and lastly the committee voted to support the increased interest in Robotics in after school/summer clubs and activities. Committee members will be talking with colleagues about ideas to implement the high priority choices when they reconvene in January.

Another task for the members of the STEM/STEAM committee does is to work to develop relationships with community business members. Some of the connections committee members have made to date include the University of Wyoming, Western Wyoming Community College, Teton Science School, Microsoft Computer Scientists living in Wyoming, Project-based learning consortium and Nepris, a company who connects industry and education.

If you have questions or would like to give input to the committee, contact the following members:

Aaron Huff, Andrea Carroll, Angie Spann, Barbara Rezzonico, David Galindo, Darin Anderson, Debbie Varras, Jeanie Coulson, Jerry

Science Professional Development



Sweetwater #1 science teachers continue their learning from UW Science and Math Teaching Center scientists. All 6th - 12th grade science teachers continued to learn about the three-dimensional model of learning science and using phenomena to investigate complex scientific concepts. The facilitators emphasize using the lesson planning tool ([Link](#)) to build coherent units in science. Using this planning tool, all students have the opportunity to record and investigate their predictions, questions and ideas, revise their initial ideas and repeat until students have a consensus explanation. The individual summative assessment will ensure that students can reflect and apply their newly acquired scientific knowledge. Science teachers continue to plan and implement the new curriculum maps using the planning tool. They will bring student work back to the next meeting in February to showcase students learning.

WDE Data Retreat

Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) met with seven schools to analyze data, determine the root cause and work on School Improvement Plans. Teams participated in an Instructional Practice Survey and reflected upon results. The survey asked questions such as: encouraging students to participate in class, asking questions, cooperative learning and use of instructional practices. Many teams are planning on using this survey with the whole staff.

School Improvement Plans will be posted to the website before February 1st.



English Learners

Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State-to-State for English Language Learners, ACCESS, is the assessment used to determine English proficiency. English learners in Kindergarten through 12th grade demonstrate their growth and progress toward English proficiency on the ACCESS test. The testing window opens on January 22nd and ends on February 26th. All students who are identified as limited English proficient participate in the ACCESS test. This includes students who do not receive services due to refusal. Our EL teachers at each school will develop a testing schedule to support completing the ACCESS test during the testing window.



District Report Card

State and school district report cards are critical tools for promoting accountability for schools, districts, and states. Publication of data on student performance and program effectiveness informs parents, policy makers, and other stakeholders. Report cards help parents and the general public see where schools and districts are succeeding and where there is still work to do. A well-informed public is an important resource in the school and district improvement process. Data can also help parents and other community members work more effectively with educators and school officials to promote school change.

Additionally, the more parents and community members know about the academic achievement of their children and schools, the more likely they are to be involved in the public-school system. Equipped with information on academic results and teacher quality, parents and community members can make better decisions and choices.

The District Report Card is available on our School District website at sweetwater1.org. This report card has been designed to provide district stakeholders with data to support effective communication, and drive district and school improvement planning.

For these reasons, states and districts receiving Title I funds must prepare and disseminate annual report cards. Contact the Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment office with any questions 307-352-3400.

PBIS and AMP

We have added a new page to the Curriculum Department webpage. PBIS and AMP updates will now be accessible under the Department Link .

For more information on PBIS or AMP, please contact Tina Johnson at johnsont@sw1.k12.wy.us

[PBIS Link](#)

Young Author Competition

The Young Author Competition is open to all students in grades K-12. Fiction, Non-Fiction, and Poetry entries will be accepted until the **January 24th, 2019 deadline**. the winners of Young Authors will be known by February 8th and the Celebration is February 20th.

For more information visit the SCSD #1 Young Author webpage:

[Young Author Link](#)

January 2019

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5	6
Day 3 7 Desert View	Day 4 8 Westridge	Day 5 9 Eastside	Day 6 10 Overland	Day 7 11 Eastside	12	13
Day 1 14 Pilot Butte	Day 2 15 Pilot Butte	Day 3 16 Walnut	Day 4 17 Northpark	Day 5 18 Sage	19	20
Day 6 21 ML King's Day Stagecoach	Day 7 22 Farson/Desert	Day 1 23 Make-ups	Day 2 24 Make-ups	Day 3 25 Make-ups	26	27
28	29	30	31			

2018-2019 Sweetwater County School District #1 Assessment Calendar

[illegible]

January 2019

Sunday *Monday* *Tuesday* *Wednesday* *Thursday* *Friday* *Saturday*

		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 CCC-SAC 8:00am-11:30am ELA-SAC 12:30pm-4:00pm	10	11	12
13	14 WWCC PLC Training 8:00am-4:00pm Board Meeting 6:00pm	15 WWCC PLC Training 8:00am-4:00pm	16	17 Science-SAC 8:00am-11:30am FL-SAC 12:30pm -4:00pm	18	19
20	21 ELA 2 nd Grade Training 8:00am-4:00pm	22 ELA 3 rd Grade Training 8:00am-4:00pm	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30 CVE-SAC 12:30pm-4:00pm	31 Teacher Leaders 4:00pm-5:30pm		