



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

October 2016

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2016-2017 Instructional Teacher Leaders

The Sweetwater County School District #1 Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Department recently announced the Instructional Teacher Leaders for the 2016-2017 academic year. This leadership role is designed to challenge and support instructional leaders across our district to develop their leadership skills and instructional strategies. The instructional teacher leaders will focus on supporting the instructional model expectations for the 2016–2017 school year.

The following instructional leaders were selected for this year's program: Cedric Philo, Andrea Carroll, Candi Ruffini, Meagan Doporto, Jordan Erspamer, Aaron Huff, David Galindo, Deanah Fullmer, Courtney McKasy, Tenesa Bledsoe, Heather Biggs and Crystal Richardson.

These instructional leaders will develop the skills needed to lead instructional improvements. This will be accomplished through professional development teams i.e.: grade level teams, department or other teacher teams while rolling out the curriculum maps,



quality lesson design and best practice instructional strategies to support the 2016-17 district wide instructional expectations.

Improving schools is complex and challenging; it cannot be done without strong teacher leaders.

Mission:

To provide a quality education for all students.

Vision:

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

Sweetwater County School District #1 Long-Range Plan

SUBJECTS	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28	28/29
Math	C	VC	R/A	VA SSR		C	VC	R/A	VA						
Health/PE	C	VC	R/A	VA		SSR	C	VC	R/A	VA					
ELA		C	VC	R/A	VA			SSR	C	VC	R/A	VA			
Info Lit/Foreign Language		C	VC	R/A	VA			SSR	C	VC	R/A	VA			
Social Studies			C	VC	R/A	VA				SSR	C	VC	R/A	VA	
Fine and Performing Arts			C	VC	R/A	VA SSR		C	VC	R/A	VA				
Science		SSR		C	VC	R/A	VA		C	VC	R/A	VA SSR		C	VC
Career Vocational		SSR		C	VC	R/A	VA			SSR		C	VC	R/A	VA

C	Development of Curriculum Documents
VC	Implementation and Validation of the new Curriculum
R	Resource Selection
A	Development of Common Formative Assessments
VA	Implementation and Validation of the new Assessments
SSR	State Standard Review

SCSD#1
8/9/16

SAC Update

The Math and Health/PE Subject Area Committees (SAC) will meet during the months of September through December to write common assessments aligned to the benchmarks within the curriculum. Common assessments will be implemented district-wide and validated during the 2017-2018 academic year. The assessment development process supports measuring students' proficiency in meeting the benchmarks, guides instructional planning, and ensures consistency of curriculum implementation. The SCSD#1 long-range plan assists in identifying the year each component of curriculum mapping, adopting resources and assessment development occurs.

Data Teams: Make Data Impact Instruction

This summer, administrators, instructional coaches and teacher leaders attended a three-day training to become certified Data Teams trainers. The purpose of this data teams training was to build leadership capacity to support PLC teams using the data teams process. Data Teams is a collaborative model for implementing data-driven decision making at the instructional level. The data team process allows teachers to identify areas of student need and collaboratively decide on the best instructional strategy to use to teach the deficit skills and concepts as well as extend the learning of other students. The power of the data teams process is to identify effective strategies and classroom practices that increase student proficiency. Throughout the school year, PLC teams will use the Data Teams process with common assessments. Administrators, instructional coaches and teacher leaders will be available to support this process.



Applying for Grants

Grants bring about an opportunity for organizations to receive funds. *All grants for the school district must go through the SCSD#1 Federal Grants Office.*

The Grants Coordinator is able to help with reviewing the grant, understanding requirements for compliance, applying for the grant, setting up the grant, developing a spending plan, and meeting the terms of the grant. When applying for a grant, you are representing Sweetwater



County School District #1. The district becomes the fiscal agent for the funds awarded.

Please make sure all grant requests are made through the Grants Coordinator's office located in the Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Department at the Central Administration Building. If you are interested in applying for a grant or have questions please contact Grants Coordinator, Shannon Garrison by email garrisons@sw1.k12.wy.us or by phone at ext, 1247.

English Learners (EL)/Title III Translation Services

We hope that everyone is off to a great start this year! Thank you again for your help to follow the translation process. If there is anything that we can do to support you or our students, please contact us at ext. 1247 or feel free to stop by the Title III offices.

Translation information and resources for Title III are available on the [Sharepoint Title III page](#).

Digital Citizenship Parent Night & Chili Cook-Off

Eastside Elementary is partnering with Western Wyoming Community College, Pilot Butte Elementary School, Rock Springs Police Department, WYTECC, and Prevention Management Organization of Sweetwater County to host a digital citizenship parent night featuring a chili cook-off and dessert.



On Wednesday, October 19th from 6-8pm, community members will present brief workshops featuring new technologies students are using both in and out of school, the possible perils of digital technology and what parents can do to monitor their students' use of and exposure to digital technology, and ways to use digital technology safely, responsibly and respectfully.

Fifth and sixth grade students along with students in the gifted and talented program will facilitate tech stations to familiarize attendees with digital technology.

An opportunity to ask questions of the speakers will follow the workshops. Babysitting and activities for very young children will be provided.

SCSD#1 School Performance Ratings 3-Year Trend

Three elementary schools stayed at the same performance level.

Five schools moved down one performance level.

Two schools moved up one performance level.

Only Walnut Elementary received Exceeding Expectations for 2016.

School Name	Grades Served	Overall School Performance Level Spring 2014	Overall School Performance Level Spring 2015	Overall School Performance Level Spring 2016
Desert Elementary	K - 6	Partially Meeting Expectations	Exceeding Expectations	Meeting Expectations
Desert View Elementary	K - 4	Partially Meeting Expectations	Partially Meeting Expectations	Partially Meeting Expectations
Eastside Elementary	5-6	Partially Meeting Expectations	Partially Meeting Expectations	Partially Meeting Expectations
Farson - Eden Elementary	K - 5	Exceeding Expectations	Exceeding Expectations	Meeting Expectations
Lincoln Elementary	K-4	Under Review	Exceeding Expectations	Partially Meeting Expectations
Northpark Elementary	K - 4	Partially Meeting Expectations	Meeting Expectations	Not Meeting Expectations
Overland Elementary	K - 4	Partially Meeting Expectations	Not Meeting Expectations	Partially Meeting Expectations
Pilot Butte Elementary	5 - 6	Partially Meeting Expectations	Partially Meeting Expectations	Partially Meeting Expectations
Sage Elementary	K - 4	Partially Meeting Expectations	Partially Meeting Expectations	Meeting Expectations
Stagecoach Elementary	K - 4			Partially Meeting Expectations
Walnut Elementary	K - 4	Meeting Expectations	Meeting Expectations	Exceeding Expectations
Westridge Elementary	K - 4	Exceeding Expectations	Exceeding Expectations	Partially Meeting Expectations

School Name	Grades Served	Overall School Performance Level Spring 2014	Overall School Performance Level Spring 2015	Overall School Performance Level Spring 2016
Desert Middle School	7 - 8	Partially Meeting Expectations	Partially Meeting Expectations	Partially Meeting Expectations
Farson - Eden Middle School	6 - 8	Partially Meeting Expectations	Partially Meeting Expectations	Partially Meeting Expectations
Rock Springs Junior High School	7 - 8	Exceeding Expectations	Partially Meeting Expectations	Partially Meeting Expectations

All three middle/junior high schools kept the same performance level of Partially Meeting Expectations.

Farson/Eden HS moved up one Performance Level.

Rock Springs HS moved down one performance level.

Black Butte HS has a new accountability system as an alternative school.

School Name	Grades Served	Overall School Performance Level Spring 2014	Overall School Performance Level Spring 2015	Overall School Performance Level Spring 2016
Farson - Eden High School	9 - 12	Partially Meeting Expectations	Partially Meeting Expectations	Meeting Expectations
Black Butte High School	9 - 12	New accountability model under development.		
Rock Springs High School	9 - 12	Not Meeting Expectations	Partially Meeting Expectations	Not Meeting Expectations



MAP Testing on iPads

This school year MAP testing will be available on the iPads at schools. This can be helpful for K-1 students when taking the primary test, which often requires the students to touch and drag a selection to another space on the screen. Using the iPad to MAP test will also be helpful by being able to enlarge the screen for students that have this accommodation on an IEP.

Students should have a basic understanding of how to manipulate the iPad to make the testing process easy on the student.

New iPads automatically have the MAP app added to them, but existing iPad labs may not have the app loaded. If you intend to use iPads to test students, please put in a helpdesk ticket for Stacie Smith to make sure she has time to update the iPads if they don't have the app already. Stacie said this could possibly take a few days so please plan accordingly.

MAP Reports Training

Watch for a District News email to hit your inbox in mid-October containing dates and info for MAP reports trainings. The trainings will review reports, leaving time at the end for Q & A.

Optional Compass Testing

Compass testing is an optional interest inventory and college placement assessment. Students must be given the opportunity to take this test during the window (Oct. 3-21), but are not required to take this assessment.

Fall testing events are highlighted.

<u>DRAFT 2016-2017 Sweetwater County School District #1 Assessment Calendar</u>									
Assessment	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May
Universal Screening Grades K-3	Begin: Sept. 19 End: Sept. 30			Begin: Dec. 5 End: Dec. 16			Begin: March 27	End: April 7	
MAP Testing Grades K-9		Begin: Oct. 3	End: Nov. 18					Begin: April 18	End K-6: May 5th End: May 18
PAWS Testing Grades 3-8							Begin: March 6 End: March 24		
WY-ALT Grades 3-11						Begin: Feb. 28	End: March 24		
ASPIRE Grade 9 and Grade 10								Begin: April 10	End: May 3
ACT Plus Writing Grade 11								Initial: April 19	Make-up: May 3
ACT COMPASS (Optional) Grade 12		Begin: Oct. 3 End: Oct. 21							
NAEP Grades 4 and 8					Begin: Jan 30		End: March 10		
WorkKeys Grade 11 - 12								Begin: April 19	End: May 3
ACCESS for ELLS Grades K-12					Begin: Jan 24		End: February 28		
WIDA W-APT Placement Test Grades K-12	<i>New ELL students who don't have an ACCESS for ELLS score.</i>								



PAWS Resources

After receiving feedback about the usability and organization of the Released Test Questions (RTQs) on the PAWS webpage, work was done to increase the ease of access for these documents. RTQs can now be accessed by domain in each grade and subject area, as well as by the year they were released. Please visit the [PAWS assessment page](#) and scroll down to Released Test Questions by Domain and Materials by Grade to access this information. Also released are the [2016 PAWS Teaching Tips](#) to help with item review.

ACT Resources

While the best preparation for all standardized tests, including the ACT, is good instruction aligned to the standards, some students benefit from additional practice with items and format of the test. To that end, we are providing some additional information that you might find useful.

- [ACT's site listing resources](#) Included on this site are sample test questions, free streaming events that are also recorded, and general test tips.
- Here ACT booklets in [English](#) and [Spanish](#) containing sample questions as well as a practice test to preparing for the ACT.
- ACT and Kaplan have partnered and offer several free live webinars and recordings. The streaming events are intended to refresh and refine knowledge and skills before a student takes the ACT test. Students can view the recordings or sign up to receive a reminder for when upcoming event reminders on ACT's [Online Prep Live](#) webpage.



ACT Aspire Software Updates

Software updates have been made to TestNav for the 2016 - 2017 ACT Aspire test administration. Please visit the link below to download the most current versions of the TestNav Apps:

- <http://download.testnav.com>

Please note: The following TestNav apps must be uninstalled and reinstalled prior to 2016-17 online testing:

- TestNav Desktop App
- iPad TestNav App
- Chromebook TestNav App

Visit the link below for help installing TestNav:

- <https://support.assessment.pearson.com/display/TN/Kiosk+Mode+Test+Setup>

If you would like to learn more about upcoming changes to testing on iOS:

- <https://support.assessment.pearson.com/display/TN/TestNav+8+-+Upcoming+Changes+to+Testing+on+iOS>

For assistance, please call toll-free [888-802-7502](tel:888-802-7502) or email at ACTAspire_Implementation@ACTAspire.org.

October 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 MAP & COMPASS Window Opens	4	5 AMP 8-4 Board Rm School Improvement Planning 4-6 Board Rm	6 District Dept Chair Meeting 4-6 PDC TAP 4-6 Board Rm	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 Professional Development	15
16	17	18	19	20 School Improvement Planning 4-6 Board Rm	21 PD/Grade Prep COMPASS Window Closes	22
23	24 Math SAC 8-4 Board Rm	25 Math SAC 8-4 Board Rm	26 Health/PE SAC 8-4 Board Rm	27 Health/PE SAC 8-4 Board Rm AdvancED Steering Committee Meeting 4-6 Board Rm	28 Community Curriculum Council 8-11:30 Board Rm	29
30	31					

November 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Suicide Prevention Training 9-11 Board Rm	15	16 Math SAC 8-4 Board Rm	17 Math SAC 8-4 Board Rm	18 Community Curriculum Council 8-11:30 Board Rm Suicide Prevention Training 1-3 Board Rm MAP Testing Window Closes	19
20	21	22	23 Thanksgiving Break	24 Thanksgiving Break	25 Thanksgiving Break	26
27	28 Health/PE SAC 8-4 Board Rm	29 Health/PE SAC 8-4 Board Rm	30			