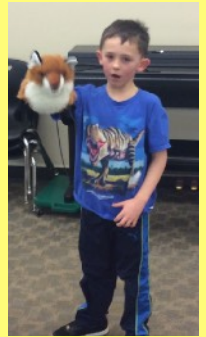***In this issue…*** *System of Support, Title IVA, CIA Open Positions, PBIS PD, Dual/Concurrent Numbers, WY-TOPP Info, Upcoming Events*

What's Working in 1st Grade & Kindergarten Music

This year the Fine and Performing Arts Subject Area Committee is validating their curriculum maps. Dr. Feierbend's resources, a potential new resource as Performing Arts looks toward a resource adoption, is research based and extremely engaging for student. By piloting Dr. Feirbends resources, students are now able to leave the classroom relaxed from their musical experiences. Through the structuring of each lesson and the backward design of the sequence, students are able to grasp musical concepts more effectively and efficiently and they enjoy each musical experience.

~Information provided by Weston Lamb, Music Teacher, Sage & Stagecoach Elementary

What's Working in Elementary Science

During the 2017-2018 school year, the Science Subject Area Committee (SAC) met to create new Science curriculum maps for SCSD#1 that are directly aligned to the Wyoming Content and Performance Standards for Science. The K-5th grade maps will be implemented in the fall of 2018 for use throughout the school year. Teachers will evaluate the maps and give feedback periodically via validation surveys during the school year. Teachers in grades K-5 will have the opportunity to use the online resource, Mystery Science, along with materials gathered from FOSS science kits during the 2018-2019 school year. According to the district's **long-range plan**, in the 2019-2020 school year Science is scheduled for a resource adoption and development of common assessments.
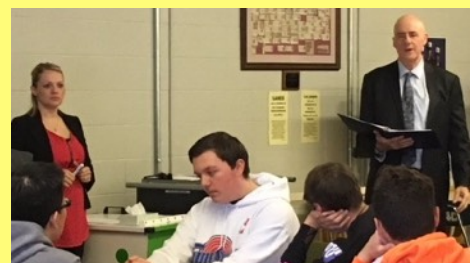
~Information provided by Lorna Bath, 4th Grade Teacher, Northpark Elementary

What's Working in Social Studies at RSHS

You Be the Judge is a program in which local judges teach American Government students at RSHS about how the judicial system works. This year they walked students through creating a law to determine under what circumstances a juvenile could be tried as an adult then, asked students to apply their law to various cases. In another session, Judge James and several local lawyers participated in a mock trial with a juvenile defendant in which both sides presented their cases then, asked the students to vote on whether the defendant should be convicted of assault. This program, coordinated by Liz Sedey and Heidi Rubich, allows the students to take what they have learned in the classroom and apply it to their lives.

~Information provided by Jennifer Wilmetti, Government & Psychology Teacher, RSHS

Academic Vision: To implement the Instructional Model which includes purposeful planning, quality instruction, resources, and assessment.

What's Working in Counseling

The SCSD#1 counseling department is working to collaborate, make decisions through using data, and has taken an approach to increase community involvement. There have been many of these efforts highlighted publicly. Counselors have supported the community by helping in fundraising for families in need, educating families on issues facing our youth such as suicide ideology, technology and cyber harassment or abuse, bullying, digging in to make sure we continue to remain and gain cultural competence and other crises. We also have reached out in various ways to get our families engaged in academic and emotional progression for our students. Our most recent efforts in providing comfort and safety for our students and families was collaborating, coordinating and implementing The Great Kindness Challenge. The amazing and unique responsibilities of the counseling department are to reach the individual, the family, the community and the nation. We have a vast area of focus and it makes our careers the most interesting ones out there. We support district staff, community protection agencies, first responders, correctional facilities, residential treatment facilities, and most importantly, students.

~Information provided by Koral Hueller, Counselor, Westridge Elementary

System of Support (SOS): Data/School Improvement Planning Retreat

On February 27 and 28, the Wyoming Department of Education came to SCSD#1 for a Data/School Improvement Planning Retreat. School improvement teams from schools who are at the level of "*Not Meeting Expectations*" on the School Performance Report were in attendance including a team from Uinta County School District #1. The teams learned about growth, equity, achievement and additional readiness indicators. During the data review, the teams reflected on emerging patterns, strengths, weaknesses, working with at-risk students, interventions, enrichments and concluded with urgent facts about their school. Teams then took an urgent fact through the five whys root cause analysis to determine a Hypotheses of Practice. Teams reflected upon the impact the hypotheses of practice and strategies have on student achievement. Teams then constructed draft school improvement goals and possible action steps for the 2018-2019 school year.

7th Annual WyTECC Conference
Tinkers & Thinkers

- ❖ Saturday, May 5, 2018
- ❖ 8:00am to 4:00pm
- ❖ WWCC Green River
- ❖ Participants could earn .5 PTSB credit
- ❖ District covers registration for first 50
- ❖ Registration $35
- ❖ Register: http://wytecc.wildapricot.org/events

Young Author Results from the County Celebration are available on the SCSD#1 <u>Young Author Results</u> webpage.

Title IVA: Student Support and Academic Enrichment

The district received $92,698.60 from the Title IVA grant with the requirement of meeting three goals. The February CIA newsletter focused on the first goal of STEM. In March, the CIA newsletter reviewed the second goal of providing a well rounded education. This month the newsletter will provide information on the final and third goal of the grant: Supporting the effective use of technology. The objectives for this goal are to:

1. Provide additional resources, supplies, and technology
2. Train teachers through professional development

In support of this goal, the district is able to use 20% of the grant, or $18, 539.80, toward support of professional development. Up to 15% of the $18,539.80, or $2780.97, is available for the purchase of technology devices and/or software. This year SCSD#1 is piloting Apple TVs and will purchase eighteen of these devices. Professional development will be provided on the use of the Apple TVs in order to support further STEM implementation. Of the Spring and Summer Academies offered this year, eleven will support technology initiatives.

CIA Open Positions

SCSD#1 Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment office has several open positions for which we are seeking applications or letters of interest for the 2018-2019 academic year. The various positions serve different functions, have different time commitments, and different compensation—all of which will be outlined in the District News email coming to your inbox this month.

For all positions, applications will be accepted from Wednesday, April 25, 2018-Friday, May 11, 2018.

PBIS Professional Development

The Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Office partnered with the USDOE Counseling Grant to bring Dr. Tim Lewis, Professor in Special Education at University of Missouri and Co-Director of OSEP Center for PBIS, to SCSD#1. Dr. Lewis spent March 7-9 visiting the district to work toward goals of sustainability for the USDOE Counseling Grant as it concludes this year. Dr. Lewis presented to staff including Counselors, Principals, Teacher Leaders, District Department Chairs, Positive

Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) teams, Achievement Monitoring Progress (AMP) teams, and the Counseling Grant Advisory Board during his time in SCSD#1. The Counseling Grant Advisory Board includes community members from Southwest Counseling Service and Juvenile Probation. Dr. Lewis wrapped up his visit with the district's counselors by attending their PD day the morning of the 9th for personalized consultation.

~Information provided by Jessica Castillo, USDOE Grant Project Director/Desert School Counselor

Spring 2018 Concurrent Enrollment	BBHS	FEHS	RSHS	NWCC	Total
Total Credits	no concurrent teachers this semester	48	273	10	331
Total Students		16	76	5	97
Total Classes		3	8	1	12

Concurrent enrollment courses are taught at the high school in which the student is registered, by high school instructors. No tuition is charged to students and the Sweetwater BOCES grant purchases books (if needed) and equipment needed to make sure classes at the high school can provide the same learning opportunities as the college.

Spring 2018 Dual Enrollment	BBHS	FEHS	RSHS	Total
Total Credits	70	17	827	914
Total Students	16	5	217	238
Total Classes	18	4	104	126
Total Books	27	10	328	365

Dual enrollment classes are taught at Western Wyoming Community College by a college instructor. The college has a BOCES grant to pay the high school student's tuition and the RSHS BOCES grant provides for textbooks. Students can get funding for up to 10 college credits per semester (excluding summer) through this grant.

WY-TOPP Required Spring Testing

- ◉ K-2 Reading and Math WY-TOPP Interim
- ◉ 3-10 Reading and Math WY-TOPP Summative
- ◉ 3, 5, 7, 9 Writing WY-TOPP Summative
- ◉ 4, 8, 10 Science WY-TOPP Summative

For more Testing Tips and Info
check out the **WY-TOPP Newsletter**!

NEW WY-TOPP TEST ADMINISTRATION MANUALS

The 2018 Summative Assessment Test Administration Manual are now available. Please follow the links below to view the new manuals.

WY-TOPP Test Administrator User Guide
WY-TOPP Online Summative Test Administration Manual
WY-TOPP Paper Summative Test Administration Manual
WY-TOPP K-2 Spring Interim Test Administration Manual

Follow these links to other manuals that are helpful when preparing for the spring assessment.

TIDE User Guide
NEW Braille Requirements Manual
Secure Browser Installation Manual
Technical Specification Manual for Online Testing

COMMUNICATION DEVICE POLICY FOR STATE ASSESSMENTS

It is very important to maintain test item security before, during, and after test administration. We suggest that campuses communicate a strict policy for communication devices during testing. For campuses that do not have cell phone or communication device policy, please follow this link to an example of a communication device policy that can be read or distributed to faculty, staff, and students during state testing.

WY-TOPP Testing Tips

✓ Make sure test questions and materials are not discussed or taken out of the test setting to ensure its future viability.

✓ Double check and confirm accommodations prior to allowing student to begin test. The accommodations will be listed when the student logs in.

✓ Headphones will be needed for students in grades K-2 and all students with text-to-speech accommodations.

➡ Please use the headphones provided by the district. Headphones with the volume on them will open the iTunes application and interrupt the student's test.

✓ Make sure test questions and materials are not discussed or taken out of the test setting to ensure its future viability.

✓ During summative testing you will need to take down or cover up word walls, etc. in your classroom. See the **Allowable Resources chart** for a full listing of what will need to be covered or taken down.

For more Testing Tips and Info
check out the **WY-TOPP Newsletter**!

K-2 Interim Blueprints

K-2 Interim Blueprints are available on the SharePoint **WY-TOPP Resources** webpage. These blueprints show the standards in ELA and Math at each grade level and the number and percent of items per strand.

WY-TOPP WRITING PROMPT

Schools may allow students to organize and draft their responses on scratch paper. Keep in mind that the test will still need to be attended to as it will "time-out" after 20 minutes of inactivity. Once started, the writing section must be finished. Please ensure that all scratch paper is securely destroyed after testing. It is recommended to schedule the writing assessment earlier in the school day to ensure sufficient time for administration.

Please follow the link below to view a new FAQ about auto-scoring the writing segment of the WY-TOPP assessment. NEW FAQ Auto Score
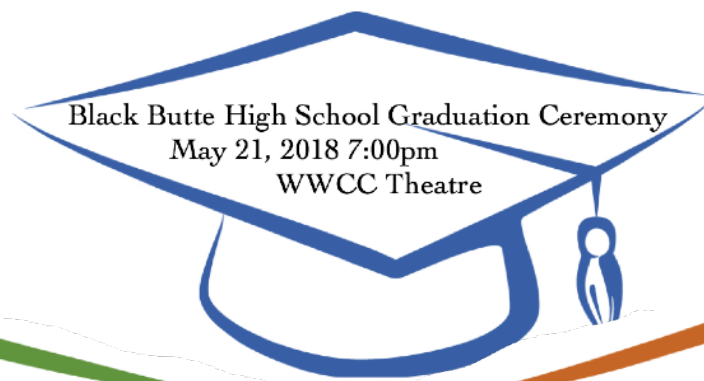
Automated Scoring of Writing on WY-TOPP

WDE, in conjunction with AIR, hosted a webinar on automated essay scoring. AIR relayed the benefits as decreasing time for teacher grading, lower scoring costs, ensures consistency in scoring, and the immediate turnaround of results. Specialized software is designed to predict how trained raters assign scores to essays then, scores student results accordingly. The Artificial Intelligence (AI) is trained on specific questions using writing samples and scores from trained human raters. Then, the AI is run through an extensive quality control process by professional psychometricians. During statistical processing the AI scores the essay or assigns a condition code. Condition codes include No Response, Not Enough Data, Duplicate Text, Passage Copied, and non-specific codes when the essays don't fall under the other categories.

Humans tend to agree 60-70% of the time on scores and 80-95% on condition codes. Humans and AI are almost never off by more than one point about 1% of the time. Research on interim items has found that agreement between two humans vs. human-AI vary by less than 1% on conventions, evidence and elaboration, as well as process and structure.
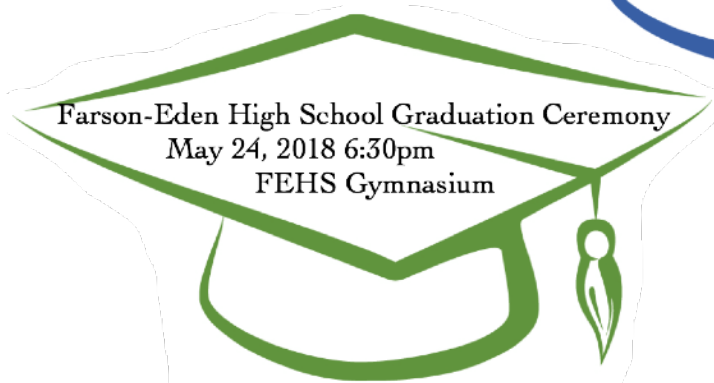
For the summative assessment the AI engine is tuned to specifically model human scores on writing prompts. The responses the AI deems it cannot score with confidence are routed to an expert human for scoring. This happens to about 15% of student responses.

The recommendation is to use the WY-TOPP writing rubric with your students for the best writing results. Summative prompts are will be similar in format to the modular/interim prompts but will be different prompts. Students who write using multiple paragraphs score better than students writing one long paragraph. The WDE will release exemplar responses with annotations for all performance levels in grades three, five, seven and nine in the next few weeks.

View the **recorded webinar** or go to **https://wyoassessment.org/** and click **Resources** for more information.

Black Butte High School Graduation Ceremony
May 21, 2018 7:00pm
WWCC Theatre

Farson-Eden High School Graduation Ceremony
May 24, 2018 6:30pm
FEHS Gymnasium

Rock Springs High School Graduation Ceremony
May 26, 2018 10:00am
Tiger Stadium

Assessment Calendar is available for download here.

2017-2018 Sweetwater County School District #1 Assessment Calendar									
Assessment	**September**	**October**	**November**	**December**	**January**	**February**	**March**	**April**	**May**
DIBELS Universal Screening *(Required by District)* Grades K-3	September 18-28				January 8-19			Begin: April 30	End: May 11
WY-TOPP Interim-Fall *(Required by District)* Grades 3-10 Reading / Grades 3-10 Math / Grades 3, 5, 7, 9 Writing		Begin: October 23	End: November 17						
WY-TOPP Interim-Winter *(Grades 1 & 2 required by District)* Grades 1-10 Reading / Grades 1-10 Math / Grades 3, 5, 7, 9 Writing					Begin: January 16	End: February 9			
WY-TOPP Interim-Spring Grades K-2 Reading *(Required by WDE)* / Grades 1-2 Math								Begin: April 16	End: May 11
WY-TOPP Summative-Spring *(Required by WDE)* Grades 3-10 Reading / Grades 3-10 Math / Grades 4, 8, 10 Science / Grades 3, 5, 7, 9 Writing								Begin: April 16	End: May 11
WY-TOPP Modular *(Optional)*	*Available for grades 3-11— On Demand*								
WY-ALT *(Required by WDE)* Grades 3-11 Reading / Grades 3-11 Math / Grades 3-11 Science						Begin: February 26	End: March 28		
ACT *(Required by WDE)* Grade 11								April 10-12 Make Up April 24	
WorkKeys *(Optional)* Grade 11-12								Begin: April 17	End: May 1
ACCESS for ELLs *(Required by WDE)* Grades K-12					Begin: January 23	End: February 27			
WIDA Screener Grades K-12	*New EL students who don't have an ACCESS for ELLs score.*								
District Common Assessments	*Math, Health/PE*								

12/7/17jp

April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Spring Break	3 Spring Break	4 Spring Break	5 Spring Break	6 Spring Break	7
8	9 Math Spring Academy PDC Room 4:00-6:00	10 ACT Online Testing	11 ACT Online Testing	12 ACT Online Testing Math Spring Academy PDC Room 4:00-6:00	13	14 Kagan Win-Win Board Rm 8:00-3:45
15	16 WY-TOPP Window Opens	17	18 Open Educational Resources Board Rm 4:00-6:00	19 First Tech Challenge Robotics Board Room 4:00-6:00	20 CTE Data Analysis Meeting Board Rm 1:00-4:00	21
22	23	24 ACT Make-Up Day Consolidated Grant Public Meeting Board Rm 4:00-5:30 CANVAS Jumpstart PDC Rm 4:00-6:00	25	26	27	28
29	30 CIA Consumable Order Due					

May

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Hands On STEAM Exploration Desert View Library 4:30-6:30	3	4	5
6	7 Health/PE SAC Board Rm 8am-4pm	8	9	10	11 Social Studies SAC Board Rm 8am-4pm WY-TOPP Window Closes	12
13	14	15 CCC/Proficiency Scales Training Board Rm 8am-4pm	16 Math SAC Board Rm 8am-4pm Data Teams PLCs	17 Fine & Performing Arts SAC Board Rm 8am-4pm	18	19
20	21 BBHS Graduation WWCC Theatre 7:00pm	22	23 Last Day for Students	24 Professional Development Day FEHS Graduation FEHS Gymnasium 6:30pm	25	26 RSHS Graduation Tiger Stadium 10:00am
27	28	29 ELA SAC Board Rm 8am-4pm BBHS/RSHS Summer School	30 ELA SAC Board Rm 8am-4pm BBHS/RSHS Summer School	31 ELA SAC Board Rm 8am-4pm BBHS/RSHS Summer School		