



Sweetwater County School District #1

Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Newsletter

November 2016

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New Resource Adoptions

The resource adoption process for English Language Arts (ELA), English Learners (EL), and Foreign Language (FL) has begun its initial phase by seeking input from teachers through a survey given during the October professional development sessions. In addition, the Community Curriculum Council (CCC) met to consider the resource adoption rubrics to be utilized when reviewing selected resources.

A timeline of meeting dates and activities projects the sequence of the adoption process. The selected dates coordinate with opportunities for input from staff, administrators, parents, and CCC members, as well as facilitating budgetary and professional development planning.

During the month of December, ELA/EL and FL resource adoption committees will be formalized with representatives from the CCC and Subject Area Committees (SAC).

In January and February, the adoption committees will meet to analyze resources from various sources to include: staff input via surveys, Edreports.org, highest performing districts' data, and alignment to research- and evidence-based programs. The adoption committees will utilize the information and rubrics to narrow the selected options. After reviewing resources in correlation to the rubrics, the resource adoption committees will recommend three to five options to be reviewed by parents and district staff. Parents will be surveyed during parent-teacher conferences on needs related to the content areas. The adoption process will continue with the committees hearing formal presentations from representatives for the publisher of each program. A final recommendation will be considered after reviewing rubric evaluations and survey results.

During the month of March, the final recommendations will be communicated to CCC members, administrators, staff and parents. In addition, an informational presentation will be given to the Board of Trustees.

In April, with final approval from the Board of Trustees, the new resources will be adopted and professional development planning will begin.

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.



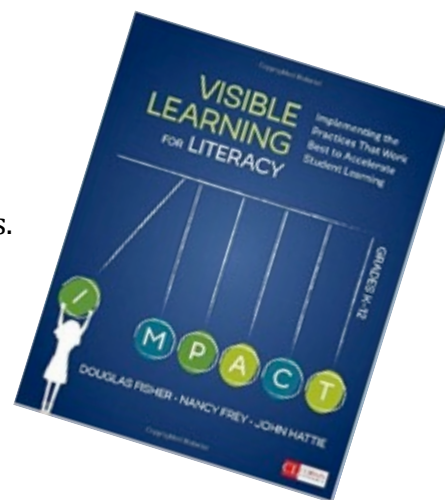
2016 Math Adoption Committee



Data Teams Implementation

Data Teams is a process that unfolds by collecting, charting, and analyzing data. The process continues by setting a SMART goal, selecting instructional strategies, and determining results indicators. This continuous process aligns to the guiding questions of Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) and the implementation of common assessments to determine:

- What do we want students to learn? (Planning and pacing instruction)
- How will we know if they have learned it? (Collect data)
- What do we do if they do not learn it? (Intervention)
- What do we do if they do learn it? (Enrichment)



All Sweetwater County School District #1 Administrators and Instructional Coaches along with various District Department Chairs received training this past June and are Certified Data Team Trainers. In addition, all schools had the opportunity for on-site coaching during October. Two schools within the district have received school improvement grants to further develop the Data Team process with PLCs, Desert View Elementary and Rock Springs Junior High School.

To further the understanding of selecting high effect size instructional strategies, the Achievement Monitoring Process (AMP) team and District Department Chairs will be engaging in a book study of *Visible Learning for Literacy* by Fisher, Frey & Hattie.

2nd Grade PLC at Walnut works with Weston Kieschnick to refine their data team procedure.



Weston Kieschnick working with Eastside 6th grade PLC.

USDE Counseling Grant

In September the US Department of Education Counseling Grant funded a Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) trainer, Dr. Terrance Scott, to come and speak to SCSD#1. He spoke about preventative work and early intervention, providing step-by-step examples. He broke down classroom management as well as escalating behaviors. Dr. Scott teaches that encouraging positive behavior begins with adults.



The district's three project schools (Desert, Eastside, Pilot Butte) are busy at work implementing PBIS in various ways.

Desert School students are very excited about the implementation of a school store supporting PBIS. Students receive Coyote Cash to spend at the store based on their behavior. Students are also recognized for good behavior by being placed on a bulletin board if they "stay on green" all week. Making correct choices at school is of great importance and teachers and staff celebrate students each day with positive affirmation. The school store is an extra incentive to go above the intrinsic value of making good choices at school. This has been a great addition to Desert School this year.

Stayed tuned for more
information on PBIS
from our other project
schools- Eastside and
Pilot Butte Elementary!





TESORO Grant Awarded to Northpark

Lorna Bath at Northpark Elementary was awarded a grant for \$3500.00 to purchase 30 GPS units for use at the school. These GPS units are being used to plot waypoints and

coordinates in the Northpark Nature Area. In October, students tested for calcite deposits in the nature area and recorded the coordinates. Students will use the coordinates to map the deposits in the nature area. Thank you TESORO for purchasing Northpark GPS units!



Sweetwater County School District #1 Young Author Contest Wants You!

Please submit student poems or stories to the Young Author contest!

The entry deadline is February 3, 2017. First through third place winners will be recognized at a celebration on March 9, 2017. First place entries from March 9th will be submitted to the county competition. Participants in the county competition will be recognized March 29, 2017.

Students in grades K-12 can submit multiple entries in Poetry, Non-Fiction, or Fiction.

Entries should be submitted to Tammy Macy at the SCSD#1 Central Administration Building.

For more information visit the [Young Author webpage](#) or contact Tammy Macy at macyt@sw1.k12.wy.us or 389-2415.



Title III—English Learners



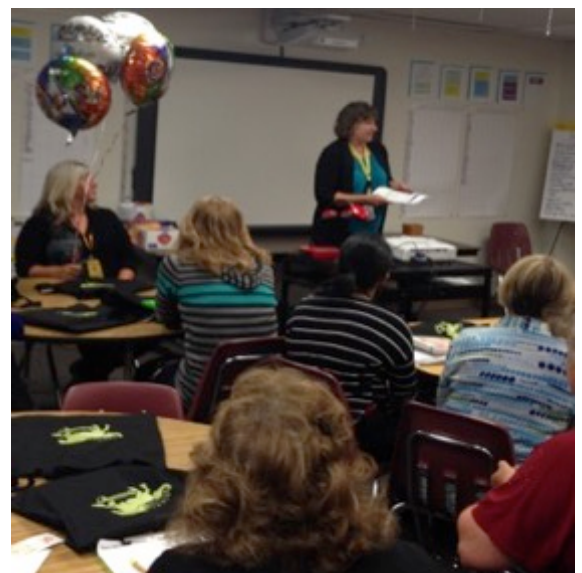
The SCSD#1 Title III Program Guide, found on the [Sharepoint Title III page](#), provides information regarding the district's EL program.

The Title III Program Guide is aligned to Wyoming Guidance and Policy. This information and other resources for supporting English Learners can be found on [WDE's Title III webpage](#).

Desert View Elementary Receives School Improvement Grant

Congratulations to Desert View Elementary School for receiving a 2016-2017 School Improvement Grant! The \$85,310.00 grant will be used to support the implementation of a comprehensive school improvement program. This program is designed to increase the capacity of the instructional staff to utilize high impact strategies and to differentiate instruction so that all learners reach their maximum levels of achievement.

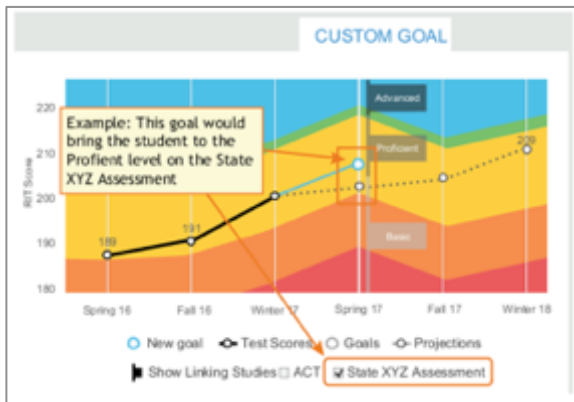
Teachers will be working with John Hattie's *Visible Learning* and participating in research based professional development designed to implement effective learning strategies to improve professional practice. Desert View Elementary is excited to move their instructional practices to the next level to support student achievement.



NWEA -- Student Profile Report

NWEA MAP released a new student profile report this year. This student report compiles NWEA data to support student growth. The report also projects state assessment proficiency as well as college/career readiness.

Another feature of the Student Profile report shows each student's relative area of strength and suggested area of focus in each subject area that is assessed. This information can be used for student goal setting and teacher instructional decisions.



This report is available on the MAP Reports page of NWEA. Look for *Next Generation Report* then, click *Student Profile*.

If you or your PLC would like additional MAP reports training please contact Debbie Varras varrasd@sw1.k12.wy.us or Jessica Peppard peppardj@sw1.k12.wy.us

Current and upcoming 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>								

November 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 District Department Chair Meeting 4-6 PDC Rm	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 AdvancED Steering Committee 4-6 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			

December 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	22	233
4	5 Universal Screening Begins	6 Math SAC 8-4 Board Rm	7 Math SAC 8-4 Board Rm	8 District Department Chair Meeting 4-6 PDC Rm	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 Universal Screening Ends	17
18	19	20	21	22 PD/Grade Prep Winter Break	23 Winter Break	24
25	26 Winter Break	27 Winter Break	28 Winter Break	29 Winter Break	30 Winter Break	31