



**April  
2016**

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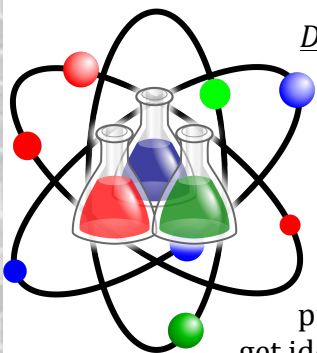
## Sweetwater County School District #1 Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Newsletter

### Community Curriculum Council Recruitment

The Community Curriculum Council (CCC) is a representative group of district personnel and community representatives. The CCC advises on decisions pertaining to curriculum, instruction, and student learning. This means the CCC also serves as a sounding board for certified personnel in curriculum and instructional matters, makes recommendations regarding staff

development, coordinates accreditation processes, and directs the work of all Subject Area Committees (SAC). Please view the [SCSD#1 Curriculum Procedures](#) regarding composition and representation of selected members. Current open positions include: primary teacher (grades K-2); intermediate teacher (grades 3-4); junior high teacher (grades 7-8); mental health professional, building administrator (grades K-4) and building administrator (grades 7-8). Members are expected to commit to a three-year term. Meetings will be held on a monthly basis.

Anyone interested in serving on the Community Curriculum Council should submit a letter of interest to Chief Academic Officer, Wanda Maloney by Monday, May 2, 2016.



### Draft Science Standards Available for Review

On March 1, 2015 the State Board of Education (SBE) voted to reengage the science standards committee to review Wyoming's Science Content and Performance Standards. The committee, well represented by Wyoming teachers, university representatives, and science and business professionals, reconvened and began the writing and revision process. Regional public input meetings were held last spring to get ideas and recommendations from the public. Using this input,

the committee wrote the [Draft Standards Document](#).

[Draft Science Standards](#) were released Friday, March 11, 2016 and are available for review. Superintendent Jillian Balow said, "Wyoming took a deep dive into its review of science standards and made sure the public was involved throughout the entire process."

The next step in the process will be a statewide public input period of at least 45 days where feedback will be collected. The SBE will consider this feedback as they determine whether or not to recommend the proposed standards for adoption. If the board makes this recommendation, a second public comment period will be opened for a minimum of 45 days. The board will again use public feedback in their final determination before sending the standards to the Governor's Office to be signed.

***May 9<sup>th</sup> WDE will be in Green River at the SCSD#2 District Office from 6pm-8pm seeking public feedback on the proposed science standards.***

For more information visit the [WDE Standards](#) webpage.

*Mission: To provide a quality education for all students.*

### SCSD#1 Schools have Exemplar Comprehensive School Improvement Plans

This fall schools in Wyoming were asked to complete a new Comprehensive School Improvement Plan and make it available to the public and state on the district website. WDE received many requests for exemplars of the Comprehensive Plans to help others in the state draft their plans.

Last month Brent Young, WDE Chief Policy Officer, released a list of exemplar Comprehensive Plans within each performance level. SCSD#1 had an exemplar plan in almost every category.

Desert Elementary has an exemplar plan in the Exceeding Expectations category. Walnut Elementary has an exemplar plan in the Meeting Expectations category. Pilot Butte has an exemplar plan in the Partially Meeting category and Overland Elementary has an exemplar plan in the Not Meeting category.

WDE plans to change the list of [Exemplar Comprehensive School Improvement Plans](#) each year to reflect the best examples within each category.



### SCSD#1 Receives USDE Counseling Grant

Sweetwater County School District #1 received a US Department of Education Counseling Grant this school year! This three-year grant will be completed in 2018. Project schools include Eastside Elementary, Pilot Butte Elementary, and Desert School. The grant will support an additional counselor in each school, decreasing the student to counselor ratio. Grant counselors will be looking at attendance and office disciplinary referrals aligned with the type and amount of mental health services students receive.

The USDE Counseling Grant will strengthen Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) with the expectation that additional counseling services will be implemented at all three tier levels. This will include but is not limited to the Second Step curriculum, school-wide positive behavior recognition, small groups, individual counseling, and parent/family support. The grant will look to expand relationships with outside community agencies over the next couple of years helping to strengthen the referral process when needed.

To date, SCSD#1 has hired two school counselors for the grant, and are currently interviewing for the third. The goal is for the third counseling position to be filled for next school year.

Jessica Castillo was hired as the Project Director. In addition to coordinating the grant, she is helping to support Desert School. Jessica is a Licensed Professional Counselor with a background working in community mental health with children and adolescents. "We are pleased to have received this grant; it is going to bring a lot of great opportunities to the district. I am grateful to be involved and look forward to providing additional support to our students."

Kimberly Drane is also a Licensed Professional Counselor. She has worked with students for many years in a community college setting. Kimberly has been supporting both Eastside Elementary and Pilot Butte Elementary schools since she started in November. "I am very excited to be working in SCSD #1 as part of this counseling grant. It is a great opportunity to provide enhanced services to the students in the school district."

--Information provided by Jessica Castillo USDE Counseling Grant Project Director for SCSD#1

**Young Authors County Results**

First place winners from the SCSD#1 Young Author program went on to compete against students from Holy Spirit Catholic School and SCSD#2. The awards ceremony will be held at Rock Springs Junior High on April 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. Results from the ceremony will be posted on the SCSD#1 Young Author webpage the morning of April 7<sup>th</sup>. Winners from the county competition will go on to compete at the state level.

**Summer Academies**

A brochure containing academy descriptions, dates and times along with the registration link will be available Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup>.

Registration will close May 16<sup>th</sup>.

***It's almost time for the 5<sup>th</sup> annual WyTECC Conference!  
May 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> @ WWCC Green River Campus***

***Keynote speakers include:***

George Couros, Shannon McClintock Miller, and James Kapptie

***\$65 registration fee includes:***

Access to vendors, Breakout sessions, Keynote Presentations, Snacks, Coffee Bar, and 2016 membership to WyTECC

***The conference offers:***

PTSB credit, STAR credit, or University of Wyoming graduate credit

The registration fee for the first 50 district employees was paid by the Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Department.

***For more information or to register:***

<http://wytecc.wildapricot.org/>

Dr. Cristy Pelham [pelhamc@sw1.k12.wy.us](mailto:pelhamc@sw1.k12.wy.us)

Angie Spann [spanna@sw1.k12.wy.us](mailto:spanna@sw1.k12.wy.us)



<i>DRAFT</i>	<i>2015-2016 Sweetwater County School District #1 Assessment Calendar</i>								<i>DRAFT</i>
Assessment	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May
<b>Universal Screening</b> Grades K-6	Begin: Sept. 28	End: Oct. 8			Begin: Jan. 18 End: Jan. 29				Begin: May 2 End: May 13
<b>MAP Testing</b> Grades K-9		Begin: Oct. 12	End: Nov. 20					Begin: April 18	End: May 18
<b>PAWS Testing</b> Grades 3-8							Begin: March 7 End: March 25		
<b>Wy-ALT</b>						Begin: Feb. 29	End: March 25		
<b>ASPIRE</b> Grade 9 and Grade 10								Begin: April 11	End: May 3
<b>ACT Plus Writing</b> Grade 11								Initial: April 19	Make-up: May 3
<b>ACT COMPASS (Optional)</b> Grade 12		Begin: Oct. 5 End: Oct. 23						Begin: April 11	End: May 3
<b>WorkKeys</b> Grade 11 - 12								Begin: April 19	End: May 3
<b>NCLB Tech Asmt.</b> Grades 8									Begin: May 2 End: May 27
<b>ACCESS for ELLS</b> Grades K-12					Begin: Jan 19		End: March 4		
<b>WIDA W-APT Placement Test</b> Grades K-12	New ELL students who don't have an ACCESS for ELLS score.								

### WorkKeys & ACT Compass Testing

WorkKeys is an optional assessment offered to 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students. The window is April 19-May 3.

ACT Compass is an optional assessment offered to 12<sup>th</sup> grade students. The window is April 11-May 3.

### ACT & ACT ASPIRE Testing

The ACT ASPIRE testing window is April 11-May 3. All 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students will take this assessment.

ACT plus writing assessment for all 11<sup>th</sup> grade students is April 19<sup>th</sup>. May 3<sup>rd</sup> is the make up day for this assessment.

### Spring Universal Screening

Spring DIBELS testing will begin May 2<sup>nd</sup> and end May 13<sup>th</sup>. DIBELS will be administered in reading only for kindergarten through grade 3 and identified students in grades 4-6. Tammy Macy will be working with schools to set specific schedules for their scheduled days.

### Spring MAP Testing

The spring MAP testing window is April 18-May 18. All kindergarten through 9<sup>th</sup> grade students are required to test in reading and math during this window.

The Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment office will hold MAP proctor trainings this month, open to anyone proctoring MAP assessments this spring. The trainings will cover an overview of proctoring the MAP test, troubleshooting tips, where to find resources, and Q & A. Trainings will take place on Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup> from 3:45-4:15pm and Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> from 7:00-7:30am in the PDC room. These trainings can also be planned into a PLC or staff meeting. Contact Debbie Varras or Jessica Peppard to schedule a training session.



## *In the Spotlight...*

Rock Springs  
High School  
100 Years of  
Accreditation

Advanced Wyoming recognized Rock Springs High School for their 100<sup>th</sup> year of continuous NCA/Advanced accreditation. Superintendent Kelly McGovern, Chief Academic Officer Wanda Maloney, and RSHS Principal Darrin Peppard received the award at the Excellence in Education Awards Assembly in March.



Wanda Maloney, Kelly McGovern and Darrin Peppard with Superintendent of Public Instruction, Jillian Ballow.

An accredited school allows students to receive a certified diploma accepted by all higher learning institutions and employers. Accreditation certifies that a school meets requirements in all domains they are evaluated: Teaching and Learning, Leadership Capacity, and Resource Utilization.

To be accredited for 100 years continuously reflect hard work and dedication by teachers, administration, directors and the superintendent. By maintaining 100 years of continuous NCA/Advanced accreditation, Rock Springs High School is part of a prestigious and globally recognized educational network that serves 35,000 schools and school systems around the world.



RSHS accreditation team members were recognized for their hard work at the SCSD#1 school board meeting last month. Team members include: Brett Doak, Annie Fletcher, Haley Seilbach, Angie Spann, Rick Spann, Liz Strannigan, Darrin Peppard, MacKenzie Faris, Cathy Ronick, Leesa Kuhlmann, Kristin Gasaway, Debbie Petrie-Bullock, Jessica Jidas, Chris Arrants, Bernie Keslar, Jeannie Ritchey, Stephanie Hardesty, John Gamble, Tom Jassman and Heidi Rubich.

## April 2016

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				1 End of 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter Professional Development (AM) Grade Prep (PM)	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 ELA Subject Area Committee Meeting Board Room 8-4  ASPIRE Testing Begins	12 ELA Subject Area Committee Meeting Board Room 8-4	13 ELA Subject Area Committee Meeting Board Room 8-4	14 Community Curriculum Council Board Room 8-11:30	15 MAP Testing Begins	16	17
18	19 ACT Plus Writing	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

## May 2016

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						1
2 NCLB Tech Assessment (Grade 5-8) Begins  Universal Screening Begins	3 ACT Plus Writing Make- Ups	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 Health/PE Subject Area Committee Board Room 8-11:30  Math Subject Area Committee Board Room 11:30-4  ASPIRE Testing Ends	11 Community Curriculum Council Board Room 8-4	12	13 Universal Screening Ends	14	15
16	17 AMP Reading Placement Pathways Meeting Board Room 8-11:30	18	19 MAP Testing Ends	20	21	22
23	24 AMP Meeting Board Room 8-4	25	26	27 NCLB Tech Assessment (Grade 5-8) Ends	28	29
30 Memorial Day No School	31					