



Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment LOVE Newsletter

In this issue: Professional Learning Communities, Standards Update: Computer Science, Young Authors, School Improvement Update, Community Curriculum Council, SAC Validation, ACCESS Testing, Federal Programs: Professional Development-Winter Academies, PBIS, Student Climate Survey, Graduation Rates and February Calendar



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

Professional Learning Communities Training

In keeping with the District Strategic Plan to nurture a positive learning climate, representative teams from all schools in the district were sent in January to further their understanding and implementation of Professional Learning Communities. The representative teams learned about the use of common formative assessments to inform practice, the importance of using data to support interventions and enrichments and the allocations of resources to create an effective system of support.

The architects of the PLC process, Richard DuFour, Robert Eaker, and Rebecca DuFour designed the PLC process around three big ideas and four critical questions that placed learning, collaboration and results at the forefront of education. Sweetwater School District Number One is committed to the PLC process and sustains the three big ideas.

1. **A focus on learning:** Teachers focus on learning as the fundamental purpose of the school rather than on teaching as the fundamental purpose.
2. **A collaborative culture:** Teachers work together in teams interdependently to achieve a common goal or goals for which members are mutually accountable.
3. **A results orientation:** Team members are constantly seeking evidence of the results they desire – high levels of student learning.



Standards Update

INPUT SOUGHT ON PROPOSED COMPUTER SCIENCE STANDARDS



Educator Survey Open Through February 26

The State Board of Education requests input from educators to identify possible impacts of the [Proposed 2019 Wyoming Computer Science Content and Performance Standards](#) on curriculum and instruction.

Input from educators will be gathered through an [educator online survey](#) through February 26, 2019.

Public Input Survey Open Through March 5

The Wyoming Department of Education will also collect input from stakeholders through a [public online survey](#) and regional meetings. The public survey is open through March 5, 2019.

Meetings will be held from 6-7:30 p.m. at the following locations:

- February 25, Green River - SCSD #2 Central Admin. Office, 351 Monroe Avenue.
- February 25, Buffalo - JCSD#1 Buffalo High School, 29891 Old Hwy 87.
- February 26, Meeteetse - PCSD #16 School Building, 2107 Idaho Street.
- February 26, Douglas - CCSD #1, Admin. Building, 615 Hamilton Street.
- February 28, Cheyenne - LCSD #1, Storey Gym, 2811 House Avenue.

Each community meeting will start with a 20-minute presentation on the standards review process, the review timeline, and a question-and-answer session. The remainder of the meeting is dedicated to collecting public input. A summary of the public input gathered during these meetings will be presented to the State Board of Education at its March meeting. If the Board moves to adopt the draft standards, an additional public comment period will follow before the new standards are adopted.

For more information contact:

Barb Marquer, Standards Supervisor, at 307-777-5506 or barb.marquer@wyo.gov

Brian Cole, Math/Computer Science Consultant, at 307-777-5036 or brian.cole@wyo.gov



*If life is a **poem**, be the **poet**.
If life is a **story**, be the **author**.
If life is an **adventure**, be the **hero**.
To live any other way is a waste of
this experience we call **life**.*

SCSD #1 Young Authors Program

Students in Sweetwater County School District #1 have entered their stories in the local Young Author program. Every year hundreds of entries are written by students showing their exceptional talent.

[Winners will be notified the week by February 8th.](#)

Come join us in our celebration and find out where your student placed. The celebration will take place [February 20, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.](#) in the [Rock Springs Junior High Auditorium](#). There will be refreshments served after the ceremony.

We are excited to showcase the talent of these students and their hard work. We hope to see you there.

School Improvement Update

A School Improvement Plan (SIP) is the process where a school sets goals for improvement to increase the level of student success and achievement. Using assessments, surveys and school performance report data, schools can pinpoint areas of focus and write SMART goals. Action plans are written, implemented and monitored. Sweetwater #1 also writes a District Improvement Plan (DIP) by analyzing individual school data and looking at the collective needs of students in the district. This year the district focus is student achievement and safety, both physical and social/emotional. Sweetwater #1 school improvement plans are reviewed and revised with feedback from SIP teams, principal teams, curriculum team, the superintendent and the board of trustees prior to submission to the state. Sweetwater County School District #1 School Improvement Plans were approved by the Sweetwater #1 trustees at the board meeting in January 2019.

The plans are available at the following website: [School Improvement Plans](#).

Community Curriculum Council (CCC)

The CCC met in January to provide input on various curriculum items. The team reviewed and made recommendations for changes to the long-range plan and curriculum framework. Also, the team reviewed and provided feedback on the District Improvement Plan. The CCC also continued the conversation about standards-based grading and steps needed to move forward. The CCC will meet again in March.

SAC Validation

Everyone! Please remember to validate curriculum maps and common assessments. The SAC teams use this information to review and revise the curriculum maps.

The validation surveys are available at this link: [Validation Surveys](#)

February ACCESS Testing:

Thank you to all of our teachers and Principals for supporting our English Learner Teachers as they administer the Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State-to-State for English Language Learners, ACCESS, over the next month to determine English proficiency. The testing window opens on January 22nd and ends on February 26th.

For the assessment, 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 work with classroom teachers and their administrator to develop a testing schedule to support completing the ACCESS test during the testing window.

Want to know more about the ACCESS Assessment or want additional resources? Check out wida.us. This free resource is available to support our students, teachers, and our families.



Federal Programs funds used for Professional Development-Winter Academies:

There will be four winter academies that will be paid for by our Title IIA Federal Funds:

Write Tools Text Dependent - February 2, 2019 8:00am - 3:00pm
IXL Math - February 9, 2019 8:00am - 11:00am
IXL ELA - February 9, 2019 12:30pm - 3:30pm
Kagan Win-Win - March 2, 2019 8:00am - 4:00pm

Feedback was used from the 2017-2018 Certified Needs Assessment to determine needs for Professional Development for the 2018-2019 school year. Coupled with the Consolidated Grant Constituency Meetings feedback, this tool is used directly to write the Consolidated Grant each year, as well as, plan for the following year's Professional Development. This survey is open from January 28, 2019 - February 22, 2019.

Thank you for completing this survey! Your feedback is what is used to make the decisions for Professional Development planning.

PBIS Update:

When you focus on ways to sustain PBIS practices, including sharing your data, you turn a flash-in-the-pan initiative into something more deeply rooted with lasting positive impact.

It is required that SWIS data be reviewed at least quarterly by each school within the district.

As shared on the PBIS SWIS website: <https://www.pbisapps.org/community/Pages/Sustaining-Implementation-Together.aspx>

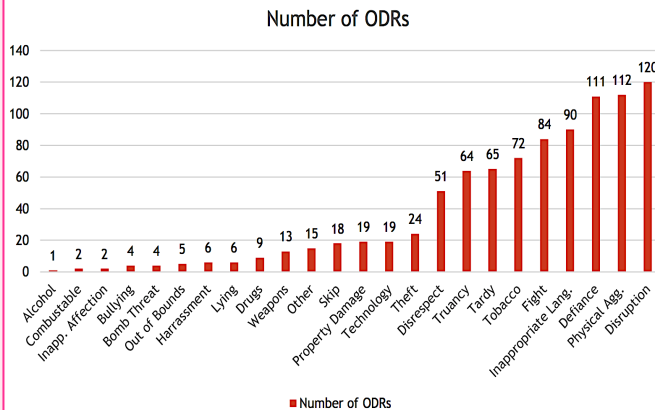
A recent study of 860 schools across 14 states (McIntosh, Kim, Mercer, Strickland-Cohen, & Horner, 2015) looked at the schools' demographics as well as the teams' actions to see which factors increased the likelihood of sustained SWPBIS implementation. Turns out, it was the team's actions, specifically how often its shared data with all school staff, that had the most significant impact on whether the school sustained its implementation.

It is always a good time to remember the positive impact sharing data with staff can have on achieving the valued outcomes in your building. When the whole school understands the goals and sees progress from the efforts, everyone is more likely to embrace the interventions implemented to meet those goals. The best way to share data is the way that feels most natural, leads to effective decisions, and offers opportunities for everyone to engage in planning.

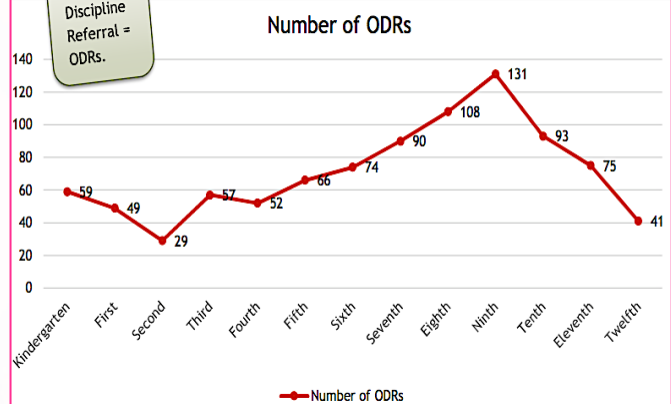
Within this newsletter, we have shared first semester District SWIS data.

<https://resource.echalk.com/sr/goqc96Go>

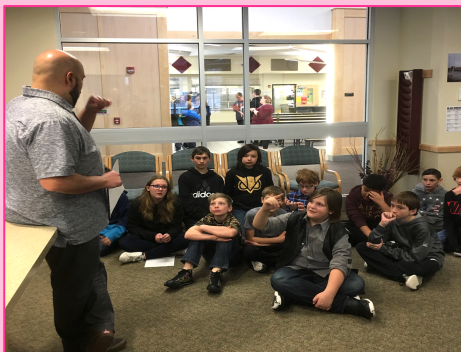
District SWIS data Referrals by Problem Behavior



District SWIS data Referrals by Grade



PBIS in action at Eastside Elementary



Eastside Elementary School PBIS Expectations Stations <https://resource.echalk.com/sr/5c8Ddbto>

Student Climate Survey

Climate surveys provide valuable information to better understand climate and culture in our schools. Originally, the student climate survey was administered as an accountability measure for our alternative school. After seeing how easy the survey was to administer and how easy it was to read results, district leadership extended the opportunity to 6th – 12th grade schools. Gathering student data can offer meaningful and valid information about relationships, school safety, school climate and culture. District and school fall results have been reviewed by schools and district committees. Overview of results shows students believe that schools have high standards (88%), the teachers expect them to do their best all of the time (92%), the teachers have high expectations for students (87%) and the teachers believe they can perform well (88%). Students also believe the lack of respect is an issue in their schools. Students believe they do not treat property with respect (49%), they don't treat staff with respect (47%) and they don't treat each other with respect (55%).

For additional detailed information about the survey, please click here: [Student District Climate Survey](#).

Graduation Rates

When students enter 9th grade they enter a graduation cohort, a group of students who begin as first time 9th graders in a particular school year and who graduate with a regular high school diploma in four years or less. If a student does not graduate on time (within that 4 years), the student will count against the school as part of that year's graduation rate. For accountability purposes, schools also get partial credit for extended graduation rates measured by five, six- and seven-year graduates. Cohorts can be adjusted throughout the 4-year term. A cohort is adjusted by adding any students transferring into a cohort in a school and by subtracting any students who transfer out or are otherwise allowed to be removed from the cohort. Graduation rates are always reported for the prior year. The graduation rates for 2017-2018 school year were released on January 22, 2019. Sweetwater County School District #1 graduation rate was 74.2% a slight increase from last year. Rock Springs High School increase by 1.6% to 75.42%. Farson-Eden High School graduation rate remained steady at 100% and Black Butte High School saw a decrease of 11% to 50%.

Detailed graduation rate data is available by clicking on this link: [Graduation Rates](#).

<i>February 2019</i>					
<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
				<i>1</i>	<i>2</i> Write Tools – Text Dependent Analysis Writing Workshop 8:00am – 3:00pm Board Room
<i>4</i>	<i>5</i> Science Training 6 th – 8 th Grade 8:00am – 4:00pm Board Room	<i>6</i> Science Training 9 th – 12 th Grade 8:00am – 4:00pm Board Room SAC – Fine and Performing Arts 8:00am – 4:00pm PDC Room	<i>7</i> SAC – Fine and Performing Arts 8:00am – 4:00pm Board Room	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i> IXL Training Board Room-All Day Math 8:00am -11:30am ELA 12:30pm – 3:30pm
<i>11</i> Board Meeting 6:00pm Board Room	<i>12</i> District Department Chairs Meeting 4:00pm – 6:00pm Board Room	<i>13</i> Parent/Teacher Conferences Evening	<i>14</i> Parent/Teacher Conferences Morning	<i>15</i> Snow Day Makeup	<i>16</i>
<i>18</i>	<i>19</i> ELA Training 2 nd Grade 8:00am – 4:00pm Board Room	<i>20</i> ELA Training 3 rd Grade 8:00am – 4:00pm Board Room	<i>21</i> STEM 3:45pm – 5:45pm PDC Room	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>
<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>		

Important Notices:

Certified Needs Assessment – January 28th - February 22nd, 2019
Parents Needs Assessment – Parent/Teacher Conference window
February 11th – 15th, 2019