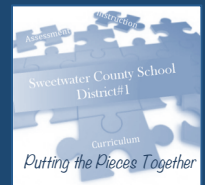




# Office of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Newsletter



*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.*

## 2014-2015 District Goals

**GOAL #1:** All students in Sweetwater County School District #1 will be proficient in Wyoming Content and Performance Standards in English Language Arts and Math.

**GOAL #2:** All stakeholders in Sweetwater County School District #1 will improve stakeholder communication by June 2015.

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May 2015

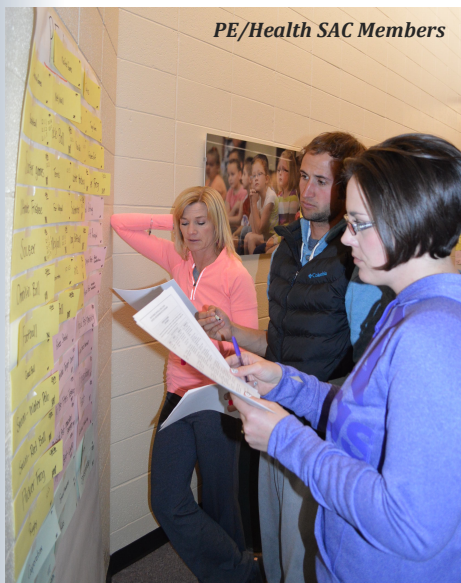
### Curriculum Mapping and Subject Area Committee Update

The most recent Subject Area Committee meetings were held April 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> (PE/Health) and April 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> (Math). SAC members created questionnaires that all PE/Health and Math teachers were asked to complete prior the SAC meeting. Information from these surveys helped members know exactly what is and is not taught in each class, grade level, and school. This information helped the SAC know where the redundancies in current curriculum maps were with regard to the Wyoming Performance and Content Standards. The Subject Area Committee made decisions about alignment and appropriateness of skills at each grade level.

The focus of this round of SAC meetings was to identify what is currently being taught and constructing topic cards and curriculum walls to analyze the current curriculum against the Wyoming state standards. The curriculum walls help the SAC to identify misalignment, missing topics, unintended repetition and/or gaps.



Math SAC members



PE/Health SAC Members

The PE/Health and Math SACs will continue meeting this summer to write draft PE/Health and Math curriculum maps with specific benchmarks and targets for all PE/Health and Math courses. The SAC will also write purpose and mission statements for each subject area that align with the SCSD#1 vision and mission.

This draft curriculum will be implemented and validated during the 2015-2016 school year. The curriculum will be revised, as needed, based on feedback from teachers.

For more information on Subject Area Committee meetings and activities, contact one of the SAC members and see more information through this link:

[http://www.sweetwater1.org/site\\_res\\_view\\_template.aspx?id=d2434566-fbcb-4754-8024-cc5c270e9d52](http://www.sweetwater1.org/site_res_view_template.aspx?id=d2434566-fbcb-4754-8024-cc5c270e9d52)

Curriculum Mapping Q&A***How much time is curriculum mapping going to take? Are we going to get time?***

Curriculum mapping will be a continuous process with two content areas being mapped each academic year. The cycle of curriculum mapping corresponds with the revision and alignment of the Wyoming Content and Performance Standards. Each year Subject Area Committees (SACs), comprised of representative teachers, will meet to revise and align our district standards. By selecting representatives to facilitate this work, instructional time is protected ensuring the majority of teachers remain in the classroom. After each year of mapping, teachers will be expected to utilize the curriculum map to verify its effectiveness. Teachers will be expected to align instruction, resources, and assessments to the revised curriculum maps. Training will be provided during professional development time to support the implementation of revised curriculum maps.

***How does this curriculum mapping fit with previous initiatives such as Kagan Cooperative Learning, Public Education Business Coalition (Reading/Thinking Strategies training), etc?***

The curriculum map is “what” we teach, reflects what we value, and ensures what all students will know and can do. Kagan and Reading/Thinking strategies are “how” we teach. The curriculum map outlines what is taught, and allows teachers flexibility in how it is taught. These previous initiatives or strategies can be a support in planning lessons to meet the benchmarks and learning targets of the curriculum map.

Summer Academies

The Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment department is offering summer academies to support each building to continue School Improvement planning, Achievement Monitoring Process/transitioning planning, and Kindergarten Round-up/registration. All building requests for these summer academies will go through the building principal.

In addition to supporting individual schools, specific classes will be offered during the summer to support the district improvement goals of increased student achievement in ELA and Math. These classes are outlined in a brochure available now on the Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Summer Academy webpage:

[http://www.sweetwater1.org/site\\_res\\_view\\_folder.aspx?id=47ceafb-4bb6-46e5-9568-b3fea0d727d0](http://www.sweetwater1.org/site_res_view_folder.aspx?id=47ceafb-4bb6-46e5-9568-b3fea0d727d0)

Staff can register for sessions beginning May 1<sup>st</sup> with the link below. All summer academy registration forms must be submitted by 3:00pm May 29<sup>th</sup> to be considered.

Link to register: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SQZJY62>

Math Standards Flipbooks

The following sites are for grade specific flipbooks of the Math Standards. Each book helps with understanding the meaning of each standard in terms of what students must know and be able to do. Samples of instructional strategies and examples are also provided along with misconceptions students at each grade level may have.

**Kindergarten:** <https://www.azed.gov/azccrs/files/2013/11/kflipbookedited.pdf>

**1<sup>st</sup> Grade:** <https://www.azed.gov/azccrs/files/2013/11/1stflippdf2.pdf>

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade:** <https://www.azed.gov/azccrs/files/2013/11/2flipbookedited.pdf>

**3<sup>rd</sup> Grade:** [https://www.azed.gov/azccrs/files/2013/11/3flipbookedited\\_2.pdf](https://www.azed.gov/azccrs/files/2013/11/3flipbookedited_2.pdf)

**4<sup>th</sup> Grade:** <https://www.azed.gov/azccrs/files/2013/11/4flipbookedited.pdf>

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade:** [www.azed.gov/azccrs/files/2013/11/5th-flipbookedited2.pdf](http://www.azed.gov/azccrs/files/2013/11/5th-flipbookedited2.pdf)

**6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grades:** [http://www.google.com/search?q=7th+grade+common+core+flip+book&ie=utf-8&oe=utf-8&aq=t&rls=org.mozilla:en-US:official&client=firefox-a&channel=sb&gws\\_rd=ssl&surl=1&safe=active](http://www.google.com/search?q=7th+grade+common+core+flip+book&ie=utf-8&oe=utf-8&aq=t&rls=org.mozilla:en-US:official&client=firefox-a&channel=sb&gws_rd=ssl&surl=1&safe=active)

***High School:***

[http://www.google.com/search?q=algebra+common+core+flip+book&ie=utf-8&oe=utf-8&aq=t&rls=org.mozilla:en-US:official&client=firefox-a&channel=sb&gws\\_rd=ssl&surl=1&safe=active](http://www.google.com/search?q=algebra+common+core+flip+book&ie=utf-8&oe=utf-8&aq=t&rls=org.mozilla:en-US:official&client=firefox-a&channel=sb&gws_rd=ssl&surl=1&safe=active)

Grade Level Common Formative Assessment Planning Meetings Update

On April 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> sixty-one certified staff members participated in the instructional planning sessions to support teachers with the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter CFAs. According to the exit surveys, clarification and a deeper understanding of the standards, as well as, learning about new resources were the predominant themes when participants completed the sentence,

***"The most significant thing I learned was..."***

*Kindergarten*

- How to use or better use the instructional data form

*1<sup>st</sup> Grade*

- A deeper understanding of CFA expectations and how to use them as a teaching tool

*2<sup>nd</sup> Grade*

- Learning about more resources, strategies and ideas for teaching

*3<sup>rd</sup> Grade*

- Understanding the next CFA better

*4<sup>th</sup> Grade*

- Resources available for each standard
- New strategies for teaching RI standards

*5<sup>th</sup> Grade*

- How to use resources and plan effectively to teach the standards

*6<sup>th</sup> Grade*

- Clarification of what the standards are really asking for

Sweetwater County Young Author Awards

Sweetwater County School District #1, Sweetwater County School District #2 and Holy Spirit Catholic School held a combined awards ceremony to celebrate first place finishers from each district as county winners. Each grade level in fiction, non-fiction and poetry recognized receivers of first place, honorable mention, and the superintendent's awards. Superintendent's awards were new to this year's celebration. Each district's superintendent selected a story that stood out to them from grade level categories of K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12. Student stories receiving a first place county award will compete at the state level. Click below to see all county winners:

[http://www.sweetwater1.org/site\\_res\\_view\\_template.aspx?id=cacc5250-0bc8-49a5-8c54-968a66615c78](http://www.sweetwater1.org/site_res_view_template.aspx?id=cacc5250-0bc8-49a5-8c54-968a66615c78)

SCSD#1 Superintendent Awards

Teague Powell (K-2), Megan Zotti (3-5), Kaytlyn Keeler (6-8), Aubrie Ellis (9-12)

SCSD#1 Fiction Winners**1<sup>st</sup> Place**

Bailey Anderson (K)  
Aubrielle Maes (3)  
Skylar Messic (4)  
Hanna Crockett (7)

**Honorable Mention**

Lilac DeCastro (1)  
Logan McCann (2)  
Megan Zotti (5)  
Rikki Cozad (6)

SCSD#1 Non-Fiction Winners**1<sup>st</sup> Place**

Kiera Layne (1)  
Ryan Zotti (2)  
Sage Romero (4)  
Wendy Reynoso (5)  
Laiba Fatima (9)

**Honorable Mention**

Tahlia Knudsen (K)  
Bailey Amundsen (2)  
Steven Hickerson (3)  
Eliza Burgess (4)  
Kaytlyn Keeler (8)

SCSD#1 Poetry Winners**1<sup>st</sup> Place**

Teague Powell (1)  
Mykenzy Davis (4)  
Rebecah Winward (7)  
Kaytlyn Keeler (8)  
Aubrie Ellis (9)  
Emily Winward (12)

**Honorable Mention**

Lizzie Jensen (2)  
Marcella Hall (3)  
Carter McBurnett (4)  
Yesi Vicencio (5)  
Maddison Dimick (6)



WDE Survey on Implementation of English Language Arts and Math Standards

The Wyoming Department of Education invites third through eighth grade teachers, elementary and middle school principals and curriculum directors to participate in a survey regarding implementation of the 2012 Wyoming Content and Performance Standards in English Language Arts and Mathematics. Survey results will be analyzed along with results from the 2015 PAWS to better understand how implementation of the standards varies across the state and how the variation in implementation affects student achievement.

All responses to the survey will be confidential. If you would like to be entered in a raffle to win prizes like an iPad Mini, Lunch with Superintendent Balow, or an assortment of education-related books, then you can enter your contact information at the end of the survey.

The online survey is expected to take no more than 20 minutes to complete. It will launch on April 16 and be open through May 15. Click the link below to access the survey:

<http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/2072429/Wyoming-Educator-Survey>

If you have questions about the survey, please contact Deb Lindsey, Director of State Assessment at 307-777-8753 or [deb.lindsey@wyo.gov](mailto:deb.lindsey@wyo.gov)

Supporting Writing Instruction in Wyoming

With the elimination of SAWS as the statewide writing assessment, Wyoming Department of Education standards and assessment teams have explored ways to help reinforce the importance of good writing instruction across the state.

WDE decided to re-purpose SAWS prompts intended for the 2015 administration (to be fiscally responsible!) and use student work addressing those prompts as the focus of professional development this summer. In these sessions, teachers will identify exemplar or anchor papers for each score point, thereby deepening understanding of the expectations inherent in the standards and resulting in actionable information about specific strengths and needs related to writing.

Those interested in attending one of these two-day range-finding workshops will need to register using the link below. Registration closes on May 19th and will be capped at 50 participants per location on a first-come, first-served basis. Locations and dates were selected based on responses from a survey released by WDE earlier this spring. They include the following:

June 9-10 (Tuesday/Wednesday) Cheyenne

June 11-12 (Thursday/Friday) Riverton

June 15-16 (Monday/Tuesday) Cody

June 17-18 (Wednesday/Thursday) Casper

Register here: <http://goo.gl/forms/KkFwkfYNUi>

To see the agenda and objectives of the training, click here:

[http://www.sweetwater1.org/site\\_res\\_view\\_template.aspx?id=d949db40-4d30-4adc-a055-e07f74cd84a5](http://www.sweetwater1.org/site_res_view_template.aspx?id=d949db40-4d30-4adc-a055-e07f74cd84a5)



Summer School

All Summer School positions are posted for certified and classified staff on AppliTrack. To apply go to our District home page and click on Job Opportunities (top right hand), under Internal Applicants (bottom right hand), click on View Internal Positions, click on Summer Employees (on the left hand side). You will see a list of all the summer school positions. Principals will be selecting applicants from AppliTrack.

**Kindergarten – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade**

Administrator: Karl Wells  
 Location: Eastside Elementary  
 Session Dates: July 6-July 30 (M-Th)  
 Staff Daily Schedule: 7:30-1:30  
 Student Daily Schedule: 7:45-1:00

**3<sup>rd</sup> Grade – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Administrator: Kris Cundall  
 Location: Eastside Elementary  
 Session Dates: July 6-July 30 (M-Th)  
 Staff Daily Schedule: 7:30-1:30  
 Student Daily Schedule: 7:45-1:00

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Administrator: Tina Johnson  
 Location: Rock Springs Junior High  
 Session Dates: June 22-July 16 (M-Th)  
 Staff Daily Schedule: 7:30-1:30  
 Student Daily Schedule: 7:45-1:00

**9<sup>th</sup> Grade – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Administrator: Colby Lynch  
 Location: Rock Springs High School  
 Session Dates: June 22-July 17 (M-F)  
 Staff Daily Schedule: 7:30-11:00 Session #1  
 11:00-11:30 Duty Free Lunch  
 11:30-3:00 Session #2  
 Student Daily Schedule: 8:00-11:00 Session #1  
 11:00-11:30 Lunch  
 11:30-2:30 Session #2

**Black Butte High School**

Administrators: Mike Maloney and Lollie Lebario  
 Location: Black Butte High School  
 Session Dates: June 8-July 3 (M-F)  
 Staff Daily Schedule: 8:45-11:00 Session #1  
 11:00-11:30 Duty Free Lunch  
 11:30-1:45 Session #2  
 Student Daily Schedule: 9:00-11:00 Session #1  
 11:00-11:30 Lunch  
 11:30-1:30 Session #2

**Rural Schools**

Administrator: Daryl Michael  
 Location: Farson School and Desert School (Wamsutter)  
 Session Dates: July 6-July 30 (M-Th)  
 Staff Daily Schedule: 7:30-1:30  
 Student Daily Schedule: 7:45-1:00

**Extended School Year**

Administrator: Tammy Fausett  
 Location: Pilot Butte Elementary  
 Session Dates: June 22-July 30 (M-Th) *Special circumstances will fall outside of this timeline.*  
 Staff Daily Schedule: 8:00-1:00  
 Student Schedule: 8:30-12:30

Outcomes from Final Assessment System Review

The SCSD#1 Leadership Team has reviewed the assessment system currently in place. Input was taken from stakeholders during academic visioning sessions, the Community Curriculum Council meetings, and principal PLC. The following decisions were made for the 2015-2016 school year:

- \* NWEA MAP test will not be administered during the winter testing term
- \* DIBELS reading assessments in grades K-3 will remain the same
- \* DIBELS math assessments at all grade levels will no longer be given
- \* DIBELS and DIBELS CARI reading assessments in grades 4-9 will no longer be given except for identified students who meet certain criteria (These criteria will be determined in the coming weeks during the Reading Placement Pathways meeting).

Click the link below to see the SCSD#1 Assessment Placemat listing district assessments and the process surrounding each assessment administered.

[http://www.sweetwater1.org/site\\_res\\_view\\_template.aspx?id=fc168dee-6696-42f6-ae8f-a0a1bb5fe22e](http://www.sweetwater1.org/site_res_view_template.aspx?id=fc168dee-6696-42f6-ae8f-a0a1bb5fe22e)

Spring DIBELS Universal Screening & NWEA MAP Assessment

The NWEA MAP testing window will close for K-6 elementary schools May 14<sup>th</sup>. Secondary schools have until May 30<sup>th</sup> to complete testing. At the K-6 grade levels spring data is used to place students in interventions for the upcoming school year. The amount of students testing, availability of computers needed for MAP testing secondary level students, and additional End-of-Course testing dictates the need for extra days to complete testing.

The remaining schedule for DIBELS Universal Screening is as follows:

Westridge-May 4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	Farson-May 6 <sup>th</sup>
Desert View-May 7 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Desert School-May 12 <sup>th</sup>

The final make-up testing day is May 1<sup>st</sup>.

***Secondary DIBELS CARI testing will take place at Rock Springs High School May 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>.***

ACT Testing

The window for ACT Explore (9<sup>th</sup> graders) and ACT Plan (10<sup>th</sup> graders) closes May 12<sup>th</sup>. Optional ACT Compass testing for 12<sup>th</sup> graders must be completed by this time, as well.

Eleventh grade make-up date for ACT Plus Writing is May 12<sup>th</sup>.

The optional WorkKeys test make-up day is May 13<sup>th</sup>.

NCLB Technology Assessment for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students

All SCSD#1 eighth grade students will be taking the No Child Left Behind mandated Technology Assessment. This assessment must be completed in the May 1<sup>st</sup> – May 29<sup>th</sup> window.

## *Schools in the Spotlight*

### *Northpark Elementary*



#### *Northpark Elementary Attends Teton Science School*

Northpark Elementary 4<sup>th</sup> grade teachers have taken their students to the Teton Science School for the past seven years. The trip started as a three-day, two-night trip and evolved into a four-day, three-night trip to enhance student learning. Since the first trip in the 2007-2008 school year, over four hundred Northpark Elementary students have visited Teton Science School along with close to eighty parent chaperones as well.

Northpark teachers want students to come away with an understanding of the diversity, habitats and communities of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. This includes the different plants, animals, tracks, etc. that are found in the Alpine, Sage, Conifer, Aspen, Riparian (ASCAR) communities. Students need to know and understand why those animals and plants are found in those habitats. Journaling and sketching are priorities for students and used as a form of assessment for teachers to evaluate student engagement on a daily basis.

Each team conducts a two-day research project, based on the scientific method, of one of the communities while investigating different communities. The questions for the investigation might be something like - *What plants and animals live or are found in the Aspen community? How can we determine what lives here? Why do they live here? What abiotic and biotic influences affect what is found in that community?*

Each team then prepares a presentation for the whole group at the end of the two-day study. Students also present this program once they are back at Northpark for their parents.

This experience is one that many students would not have the opportunity or resources to attend individually. Teaching science by going into the field and allowing authentic learning to take place, as well as integration of other curricular areas makes the information meaningful to students.

*Information provided by Lorna Bath, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher, Northpark Elementary*

#### *Desert School Science Fair*

Desert School in Wamsutter will be holding a Science Fair May 7<sup>th</sup> from 6:30pm-7:30pm. Fifth through eighth grade students will compete for prizes awarded to the top three projects. More information, results and pictures will be in the June CIA newsletter!

#### *Graduation Dates*

**Farson-Eden High School**—Friday, May 29, 2015 at 6:30pm in the Farson-Eden gym

**Black Butte High School**—Tuesday, June 2, 2015 at 7:00pm in the WWCC Theatre

**Rock Springs High School**—Saturday, June 6, 2015 at 10:00am in Tiger Stadium





## MAY 2015

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				1	2	3
4	5	6 Community Curriculum Council (AM)	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Memorial Day 25	26	27 Reading Placement Decisions Meeting	28	29	30	31

## JUNE 2015

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	2	3	4 Last day for students	5 Last day for teachers	6	7
8 CFA Committee Summer Academy	9 CFA Committee Summer Academy	10 CFA Committee Summer Academy	11 Kagan ELL Workshop	12 Kagan ELL Workshop	13	14
15 CFA Committee Summer Academy	16 Technology Ed Camp	17 Rozlyn Linder: Chart Sense Summer Academy/6-8 Summer School PD Technology Ed Camp	18 Ken O'Connor Standards-Based Grading	19 Ken O'Connor Standards-Based Grading	20	21
22 Write Tools I/E Summer Academy	23 Write Tools I/E Summer Academy Cross Curricular Training Summer Academy/K-5 Summer School PD	24 Write Tools O/A Summer Academy Cross Curricular Training Summer Academy/K-5 Summer School PD	25 Write Tools Narrative Summer Academy	26	27	28
29 ELA/Math Engagement Summer Academy	30 ELA/Math Engagement Summer Academy					