



WDE Assessment Updates

November 28, 2014

Volume 2, Issue 35

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ACT Test Accessibility and Accommodations System

As many of you are preparing for the ACT assessment this year, you may also be gearing up for the submission of accommodations information to ACT. The Wyoming Department of Education must ask you to hold off on sending this information at this time. We are still in contract negotiations and until the contract is finalized, NO confidential student information should be shared with ACT. We will let you know when the contract is final and it's ok to submit supporting information for the accommodations requests.

PAWS/SAWS Test Order Management System Webinar

Save the Date: Test order Management System (TOMS) Training

Wednesday, December 3, 2014, 1:00 – 3:00 PM, MST

Educational Testing Service (ETS) will be hosting a training webinar for all Building Coordinators to review the Test Operations Management System (TOMS), the demographic collection database to be used for the 2015 PAWS and SAWS Administrations.

Please make sure all key staff who use the TOMS system attend the training and share with colleagues in your district or at private schools. The webinar will also be posted to the ETS – TOMS site as well as the WDE homepage to view if staff are unable to attend the live training.

In this training, ETS will review and walk through the current TOMS system.

Register now!

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4298327765672110338>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

[View System Requirements](#)

School Improvement Leadership Conference: Register NOW!

School leadership expert Dr. Sue Szachowicz is coming to Wyoming! Sign up now for the WDE's School Improvement Leadership Conference, *Leading for Change*, an event that will arm you with the knowledge and tools you need to improve your school. Attached is a flyer you can share with colleagues.

details:

Tuesday, December 9th, 9:00am - 4:00pm
Little America, Cheyenne

event link:

<http://edu.wyoming.gov/event/school-improvement-leadership-conference>

registration link:

https://docs.google.com/a/wyo.gov/forms/d/1wfO6zv-rIBkkLEnf_0GJLHtQ6KvKd4c2-Z05gwsqtjM/viewform

Assessment Professional Development, December 10, Casper - Register Now!

The WDE Standards and Assessment teams will be providing a full day of professional development for elementary and middle grades early and pre-service educators. This session, oriented to those who are relatively new to the profession or to Wyoming, will focus on statewide assessments (esp. PAWS and SAWS) and provide information about the following topics:

- Balanced assessment systems (inc. formative, summative, and interim assessments)
- Wyoming assessment program and associated resources
- Fusion reports (public and confidential, assessment and accountability)
- Wyoming growth model
- Lexiles and Quantiles
- Using resources and data to improve instruction

The day will begin promptly at 8:00 and conclude by 4:30

WHAT: Assessment Professional Development
WHO: Early and pre-service educators and those who are new to Wyoming
WHEN: December 10, 2014
TIME: 8:00 – 4:30
WHERE: Central Services Building, 970 N. Glenn Road, Casper, WY 82601

Please use the link to register:

<http://goo.gl/forms/aag6E3E0SH>

Alternate Assessment Training

In the spring of 2015, a new alternate assessment will be administered in Wyoming. The new test, called the Wy-ALT, will not require a second scoring for every test administered. Instead, 25% of the students statewide will be selected for second scoring. We will also design the sample so that at least one student per grade span (3-5, 6-8, 9-11) has a second scorer in each district. The new second scorer plan will reduce burden in districts with many students with significant cognitive disabilities.

WDE is pleased to announce that registration is now open for the training for the new test. Test Administrators and Second Scorers are REQUIRED to attend one of the face-to-face sessions. To register for training, go to this link: <http://wyoassessment.org/wy-alt-training-registration>

Registration sign-in will open at 8:30 a.m. at each location, and training will begin promptly at 9:00 a.m. The training will adjourn no later than 4:30 p.m. Training locations have limited capacities, so TAs may only register for one date.

Please note that there will be no on-line training opportunities for this test. All staff administering the test must attend face-to-face training. Any questions can be directed to the Wy-ALT Help Desk – wyalthelpdesk@air.org

Tuesday, January 6th – CHEYENNE

Capacity: 100 participants
Location: LCCC CCI
Building –Centennial Room
1400 E College Dr.
Cheyenne, WY 82007

Tuesday, January 13th – RIVERTON

Capacity: 100 participants
Location: Holiday Inn
900 E Sunset Dr.
Riverton, WY 82501

Thursday, January 8th – GILLETTE

Capacity: 100 participants
Location: Gillette College –
Presentation Hall
300 W. Sinclair St.
Gillette, WY 82718

Thursday, January 15th – GREEN RIVER

Capacity: 100 participants
Location: Hampton Inn &
Suites
1055 Wild Horse Canyon Rd
Green River, WY 82935

Monday, January 12th – JACKSON

Capacity: 75 participants
Location: Teton County Ag – 4
-H Center 255 W Deloney Ave.
Jackson, WY 83001

Friday, January 30th -- CASPER

Capacity: 50 participants
Location: District Office
970 North Glenn Road
Casper, WY 82601

PAWS/SAWS Building Coordinator Training - Save the Date!

Educational Testing Service (ETS) and the Wyoming Department of Education will be hosting two Building Coordinator Training sessions to review the responsibilities of the Building Test Coordinator for the 2015 PAWS/SAWS administrations.

◆ Tuesday, January 27th , Afton

◆ Thursday, January 29th , Casper

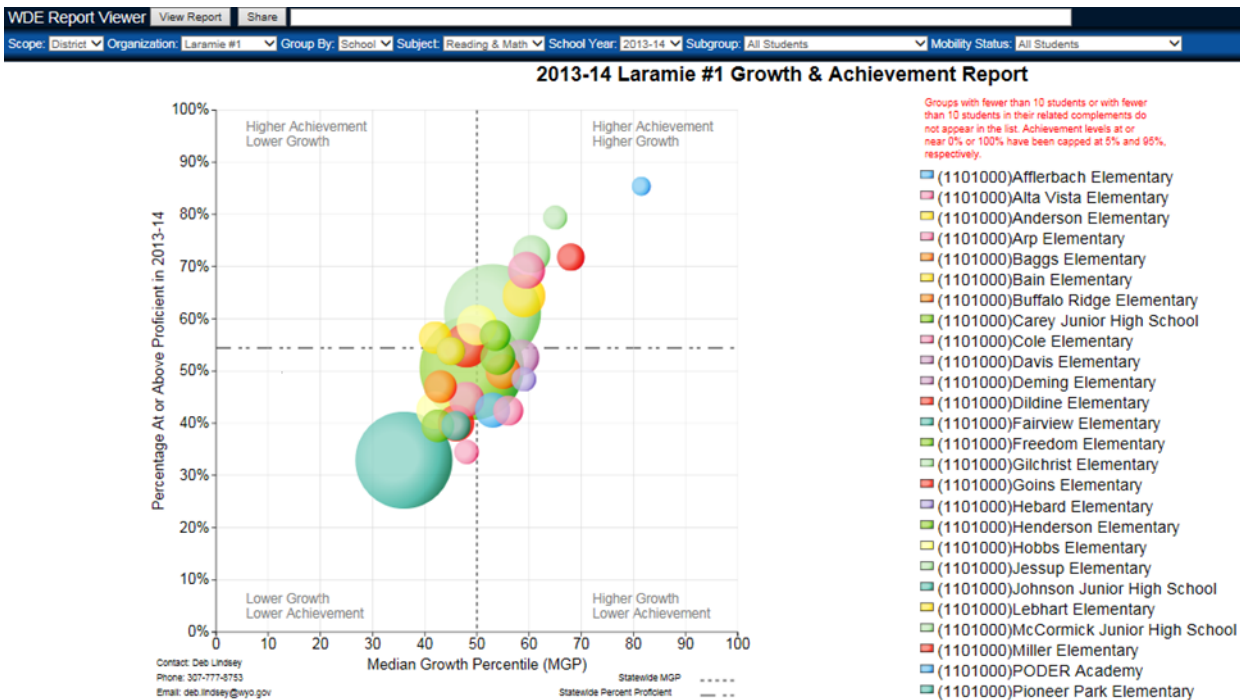
New Report Available in Fusion

The WDE data and assessment teams are pleased to announce a new report has been added to the Fusion repository. The new report, called Growth and Achievement, employs data visualization techniques to present information on both achievement (reported in terms of the percent of students proficient) and growth (reported in terms of the median growth percentile from the Wyoming growth model). Both growth and achievement data are presented simultaneously so that viewers can see schools (or student groups within schools) in one of four quadrants: high growth, high achievement; low growth, low achievement; high growth, low achievement; and low growth, high achievement.

In the example below, each bubble represents a school. School size determines the size of the bubble. In addition to the legend that appears on the right, users can hover over a bubble to see the name of the school it represents. Users can employ multiple filters to look at reading or math results, disaggregate by different student groups, and select a year to depict (only 2013-14 appears now) for districts, schools, and grades within schools.

At a glance, it's easy to see which schools/grades have similar achievement but very different patterns of growth. Educators might find it useful to work with peer schools to identify particular instructional support strategies that help students with similar achievement to grow more quickly academically.

These reports will be fully accessible to the public under the Accountability folder in Fusion; suppression rules have been applied to ensure confidentiality for individual students. If you have questions about the information in these reports, please contact Deb Lindsey at 777-8753.



Important Dates

Dec. 3 -- Test Order Management System Training

Dec. 8 -- ACT Test Administration webcast available on ACT Wyoming State Testing website

Dec. 10 -- ACT Test Accommodation Q&A session

Dec. 10 -- Assessment Professional Development

Jan. 6-15 -- Alternate Assessment Administration Training

Jan. 27 & 29 -- PAWS/SAWS Building Coordinator Training

Feb/Mar -- ALT Standards Professional Development

School Improvement Leadership Conference

Leading for Change and Infusing Literacy Across Content Areas

9:00am - 4:00pm | Tuesday, December 9
Little America, Cheyenne



Featuring
Dr. Susan Szachowicz

Luncheon Keynote
Brandon Busteed, Gallup
State of America's Schools:
The Path to Winning Again
in Education



[more information here](#)
[register here](#)



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