



# Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Newsletter



**Sweetwater County School District #1 will create and foster academic success through partnerships with its schools, community and families.**

- Increase student and family awareness of educational and career opportunities in Sweetwater County and beyond.
- Instill and reinforce employability skills and a drive for learning.
- Recognize and celebrate student, family, community and employee contributions.



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

- Promote positive behaviors and relationships among students, staff, families and the community.
- Ensure schools are safe and secure.
- Proactively support physical, mental and emotional health.

CIA Newsletter

May 2020

Sweetwater County School District #1

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SCSD #1 Mission: To provide a quality education for all students.

SCSD #1 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.

## Sweetwater#1 Teacher Efficacy Survey Results

Efficacy is the ability to produce a desired or intended result. Teacher efficacy means that a teacher believes that they can guide students to success. Teachers who have a high self-efficacy are teachers who can push through failure, are more open minded and supportive with students. They are teachers who work together, feel valued, confident and successful.

In February, a collective efficacy survey was administered to all certified staff in Sweetwater #1 as well as Head Start and the District Leadership Team. The collective efficacy survey has 21 questions and asks teachers a variety of questions on how they feel about motivating students, teaching students and teacher impact on student learning, to name a few. In the survey, ten of the items in the scale were reversed, so high efficacy responses were the disagree options i.e.. *“If a child here doesn’t want to learn, teachers give up.”* The high efficacy response would be *“Strongly Disagree”* meaning our teachers don’t give up on student’s learning. On the remaining 11 questions, high efficacy are the *“strongly agree”*, *“agree”* and *“somewhat agree”* responses. This first year is baseline data. We will continue to administer the survey and analyze teacher efficacy. These results will be used to inform district decisions about professional development or identify support needed for teachers/schools.

All building results were aggregated to get district results. Also, the three agree responses and the three disagree responses were each combined to help identify trends. To highlight a few of the district findings, results indicate that 87% of teachers are confident they can motivate their students, 91% of teachers believe they have the skills needed to produce meaningful student learning and 98% of teachers will try another way to teach students who are not learning. Also, 96% of teachers believe that they are skilled in various methods of teaching and 97% of teachers are prepared to teach their subjects. Some of the lower efficacy results indicate that 58% of staff feel they have adequate instructional materials and

supplies needed for teaching and 72% of teachers would like additional training on how to deal with struggling students. District results will be analyzed and acted upon by leadership teams. To view all aggregated district results, [click here](#). Principals have individual school results and will review the results with their staff. The results will be used to support school improvement efforts. More efficacy information will be coming out in the upcoming school year.

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## KINDERBOOST

KinderBoost is the first year of a two-year kindergarten experience designed to promote social and academic success. This program is designed to be an intervention and support for early childhood and not a retention effort. KinderBoost gives children the gift of time to develop fundamental skills needed for success in school. KinderBoost provides an opportunity for students to develop socially, emotionally and academically to help them transition to kindergarten. .

### KinderBoost Details

KinderBoost is a full-day program 8:15 to 3:25. In addition, it follows the District's calendar for the school year. Students attending KinderBoost are served breakfast and lunch. Students may apply for free and/or reduced meal benefits as a KinderBoost student. Students may also bring a lunch from home if preferred. KinderBoost is funded through the Special Education VI-B grant as an early intervention. KinderBoost is recommended for students who parents feel may not be developmentally ready for kindergarten. Students who attend KinderBoost will participate in music, physical education, art and library. KinderBoost is a play-based program that focusses on teaching students social skills. Frequently KinderBoost students have summer birthdays. KinderBoost classes endeavor to maintain a 12:1 student teacher ratio. KinderBoost classes are offered at two District elementary schools, Desert View and Stagecoach. Students attending KinderBoost who demonstrate advanced progress are integrated into general education kindergarten classes. Students who exhibit first-grade readiness, at the end of the KinderBoost year, have the option of being placed in a first-grade classroom as opposed to kindergarten classroom.

### KinderBoost Eligibility

To be eligible for KinderBoost a student must:  
Turn five years old by September 15, 2020. Be registered for kindergarten at their home school. Not be currently served under an Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

### KinderBoost Screening

All incoming kindergarten students are academically screened. KinderBoost students will participate in additional academic and social screening to determine potential eligibility. Two KinderBoost screening will take place one in May and one the first week of August. Parents will be notified of KinderBoost placement/nonplacement August 7, 2020.