

Welcome

BACK to SCHOOL



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
September 2020

Sweetwater County School District #1

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New Chief Academic Officer



We want to welcome our new Chief Academic Officer, Jodie Garner. Jodie is a career educator from Arizona, who recently retired after 31 years. Before taking the job as our Chief Academic Officer, Jodie spent the last six years as an elementary school principal. She has extensive classroom experience as an academic coach, a reading specialist, and a classroom teacher.

Jodie and her husband Wayne have two adult children: a son, Wesley, and a daughter, Amber (and son-in-law Richard), and one precious granddaughter Blakely. They have relocated to Wyoming to be closer to their children.

Jodie is passionate about effective instructional practice and strategic leadership. She brings a wealth of

experience to her new position and is extremely excited to be a part of Sweetwater #1.

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.

Protocol for Entering the CAB



Anyone entering the CAB will be required to take their temperature upon arriving. For staff, if 6 ft social distancing is unable to be sustained, a mask or face shield is required. Public entering the CAB will be required to wear a mask while in the building. The public will need to check in with the front desk to inform of their name and reason for entering the building. There is a sign in sheet at the front desk. The front desk attendee will notify the person/department of their arrival. An employee of the CAB will need to meet the person at the front to walk all visitors to where they are going.

Google Shared Drive



The CIA Office has updated the District Expectations, Curriculum Maps, Common Assessments and Intervention Handbooks for Reading and Math. In response to teachers feedback, the Teacher Resource Groups have been moved to a Google Shared Drive. This allows teachers to access the documents off-site. Please ensure that you are visiting the correct site and using the most up-to-date documents.



Where do I find curriculum documents?

- Updated Curriculum Maps
 - Updated curriculum maps are available on the district website under the Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment department or by clicking [here](#). Updates have been made to many content areas based on state revision of

standards or by teacher feedback via validation forms. Be sure to check out the second cycle Math Curriculum Map which includes a Cross Curricular Standard References section. If you have questions, please contact the Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Office.

- Important Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Links
 - Please click on the links below to view documents that structure and communicate our shared beliefs. Curriculum Expectations ([LINK](#)) Instructional Framework ([LINK](#)). An instructional framework is a shared and coherent belief system, mission, and understanding of a set of instructional principles, based on inquiry, and their visible implementation within and across classrooms to which all members of the school community are committed and accountable. Curriculum expectations are communicated to all staff and planned well in advance to guide curriculum development, resource adoptions and assessment practices.
- Google Drive: Assessments
 - The CIA office has been creating shared google drives for teacher resources. Within the google drives are the Curriculum Expectations, WYTOPP Blueprints, Intervention Handbooks and District Common Assessments. Download and use the District Common Assessments from these google shared folders as they are the most current. In addition, the Reading Intervention Handbook has been updated and added to each folder.

For further assistance on the google shared folders you can contact Tammy Macy at macyt@sw1.k12.wy.us.

New EL Teacher

Welcome New EL Teacher at Desert View - Kristin Legerski Doerr!

WYTOPP Interim and Modular Windows Open September 1

WYTOPP: The WYTOPP window for ELA and Math Fall Interims and Modulars will open on Tuesday, September 1. The Modulars are on demand, online formative assessments available for all students grades 1 – 10. New this year, the Science modulars (aligned to 2016 standards) will be available for students in grades 4th, 8th and 10th. Remember, the WYTOPP interim assessments for Fall and Winter are optional. Prioritize your assessments to support instructional decisions and actions making sure it is meaningful. Formative assessments (modulars) are the quickest and most effective way to identify problem



areas and instructional needs. Principals will have accommodations updated in the WYTOPP database before testing. Also, please check with your principal for building testing decisions/recommendations

Security: In preparation for testing, teachers must complete the test administration training and review/sign the security letter. Please keep the signed letters on file for WDE to review during the summative assessment visit in April. Virtual education students cannot test at home with interims or modulars. This is a violation of the security agreement. However, testing can be offered and administered at a school site. Staff will be receiving emails from Cambium Assessment, Inc. (CAI) to reset passwords and gain access to the training site. WYTOPP information and log-in information can be found at <https://wyoassessment.org/>

Testing Options from WDE: *"In addition this year, WDE is offering off-grade testing which means your students can take the interim test for the previous grade level so teachers can gain additional information on where the students' gap may be in the previous year's curriculum. The extended interim will allow teachers to put measures in place to fill gaps before choosing to test on the current grade-level material. Remember that these interims in isolation are not intended to help you identify all gaps/concerns. As you start this school year, filling the gap in opportunity to learn (OTL) due to COVID-19, keep in mind the following:*

- *Don't over-remediate; we don't want to lose too much time for the OTL current grade-level content.*
- *Consider waiting to assess students and take time to re-acclimate them to the school setting; focus on all skills, including social-emotional."*

Testing Support: Class rosters will be loaded on Monday, August 31. If you need testing support or specialized class rosters loaded, please contact Debbie Varras or Shelly Taylor. If you have questions, please let us know.

Science Resource Adoption

Science Resource adoption will begin in September 2020. Science SAC will be reviewing teacher recommended resources, research-based resources and then narrow the choices. Science staff piloting opportunities will be available in October. Survey data analysis will drive making the final resource recommendation being made in November. If you have questions, please contact Shawna Willmore.

Canvas PD Resources

Over 150 elementary and secondary teachers participated in the August 2020 Canvas Professional Development. The Wyoming Canvas consultant presented introductory level material to advanced material with several question and answer mini-sessions. The recorded links are



available by [clicking here](#). Also available at this site are many on-demand professional development topics.

Draft Sweetwater #1 Assessment Calendar

Draft 2020-2021 SCSD#1 Assessment Calendar Draft											
Assessment	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
Universal Screening (Required by District) K - 3	Begin: August 18					Begin: TBD			Begin: TBD	End: TBD	
District Common Assessments (Required by District)	Begin: August 18									End: May 20	
ACCESS 2.0 (Required by WDE) The ACCESS is a English Language proficiency test administered annually. Grades: K-12						Begin: Jan. 19	End: Feb. 26				
WIDA (Required by WDE) The ACCESS is a English Language proficiency test administered annually to students who do not have an ACCESS score. Grades: K-12	Begin: August 18									End: May 20	
ACT (Required by WDE) The ACT is a standards-based exam that assesses students in Grade 11 for academic readiness for college. The College and Career Readiness System measures a student's skills in English Language Arts, Math, Reading, Writing, and Science.			19-20 Make-up Choices: September 22 or October	19-20 Make-up Choices: October 6, October 22				Begin: TBD March 23 or	Begin: TBD April 6 or April 20	End:	
WYTOPP Modular (Optional) On demand formative assessments aligned to Wyoming State Standards (ELA, Math) used (WYtopp) for grades 1-11		Begin: Sept. 1									End: June 18
WYTOPP Interim Fall (Optional) ELA: Grades 1-10 Math: Grades 1-10 Writing: Grades 3, 5, 6, & 9		Begin: Sept. 1	End: October 23								
WYTOPP Interim Winter (Optional) ELA: Grades 3-10 Math: Grades 3-10 Writing: Grades 3, 5, 6, & 9						Begin: Jan. 12	End: Feb. 5				
WYTOPP Interim Spring (Required by WDE) Reading: K-2 Math: K-2									Begin: April 13	End: May 7	
WYTOPP Summative (Required by WDE) ELA: Grades 3-10 Math: Grades 3-10 Science: Grades 4, 8 and 10 Writing: Grades 3, 5, 7, and 9									Begin: April 13	End: May 7	
WY-ALT (Required by WDE) Wyoming Alternate Assessment for students with significant cognitive disabilities. ELA: Grades 3-10 Math: Grades 3-10 Science: Grades 4, 8, 10								Begin: March 2	End: April 23		
WorkKeys (Optional) Grades: 11-12		Begin: September 14	End: October 2						TBD	TBD	
NAMP Grades: 4 and 8						Begin: January 25		End: March 5			

ACT Make-up Scheduled

The ACT measures students' general learning outcomes in English, math, reading, writing, and science. Since junior students were not able to participate in the Spring of 2020, a makeup ACT will be administered this fall to Spring 2020 junior students (current seniors). The date is scheduled for Tuesday, October 6, 2020 at Black Butte, Farson-Eden, and Rock Springs High Schools. For the first time in years, students will be taking the assessment via paper and pencil instead of an online format. If students are unable to participate on October 6, vouchers can be issued to students and they can participate offsite during scheduled ACT National Testing dates. Spring 2021 ACT testing dates for current junior students will take place in April 2021.



Fall Universal Screening



We completed the fall universal screening this year by August 31!!