

# Department of Education

## ❖ *Mission and philosophy*

The Department of Education's mission is to lead, model and support continuous improvement of education for everyone in Wyoming.

The department works as a partner with students, parents, citizens, government and public agencies, industry, education communities and local decision-makers to ensure that all learners have an opportunity to master an ambitious common core of knowledge and skills. It is expected that all those involved in the learning process perform to the best of their abilities; participate as active, healthy citizens and productive workers; and continue to learn throughout life.

The Department of Education understands that it is a service agency. The department serves the people of Wyoming and believes that quality education for the people of Wyoming is at the heart of a strong citizenry, economy and an improved quality of life. Services are supported by the following agency core values.

### **The Department is committed to:**

- Accountability, responsibility and being self-directed, productive employees;
- Promoting and providing staff development and on-the-job training for all employees;
- Honesty and integrity;
- Building partnerships within and outside of the agency;
- Open and honest communication in all of the department's dealings; and
- Granting employees at all levels the decision making authority to perform their jobs.

## ❖ *Results of outcomes*

Annual accrediting of 48 school districts, with site visits and desk audits to 10 of those districts:

- Full accreditation, no follow-up - 19,
- Full accreditation, with follow-up - 27,
- Full accreditation, with warning - 1, and
- Conditional accreditation, with follow-up - 1.

Annual accrediting of nine institutional schools, with site visits and desk audits to two of those institutions:

- Full accreditation, with follow-up - 9.

Commendations awarded\* in 1998-99 visits to 10 districts:

- Standards - 2.

Exemplars awarded\* in 1998-99 visits to 10 districts:

- Standards - 3,

## **General information**

Judy Catchpole,  
State Superintendent of Public Instruction

## **Agency contact**

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## **Other locations**

Casper, Rawlins, Riverton, Sheridan, Laramie,  
Lander, Evanston and Powell

## **Year established**

1890

## **Statutory references**

Wyoming Constitution and W.S. 21-2-201 and  
W.S. 21-2-202

## **Number of authorized personnel**

100 full-time, 11 part-time

## **Organizational structure**

Administration Unit, School Improvement  
Unit, Health and Safety Unit, Finance and  
Personnel Unit, Data and Technology Unit,  
Special Programs Unit, North Central  
Association

## **Clients served**

The general public, including students, par-  
ents, educators and legislators.

## **Budget Information**

Goal 1	\$58,013,899.13
Goal 2	1,478,806.13
Goal 3	21,640.33

State	\$3,925,756.18
Federal	55,588,589.41
Trust	431,167.80
Other	\$441,508,249.42

- Measures - 3
- School improvement - 0,
- Parent involvement - 2,
- Staff development - 5,
- At-risk - 2,
- School climate - 3, and
- Facilities and budget - 2.

Corrective actions awarded\* in 1998-99 visits to 10 districts:

- Standards - 2,
- Measures - 6,
- School improvement - 6,
- Parent involvement - 0,
- Staff development - 5,
- At-risk - 6,
- School climate - 0, and
- Facilities and budget - 1.

Corrective actions awarded\* in 1998-99 visits to two institutional schools:

- Standards - 0,
- Measures - 1,
- School improvement - 2,
- Parent/guardian involvement - 0,
- Staff development - 1, and
- Services - 0.

*\*It is important to note that the accreditation requirements in some categories were higher in 1998-99 than in previous years.*

#### **Carl Perkins overall results (secondary)**

The following statistics show the percent of students achieving mastery in the subskills pertaining to the six content areas:

- 1) Applied communication,
- 2) Applied math,
- 3) Affective and thinking skills,
- 4) Applied science,
- 5) Pre-employment skills, and
- 6) Employability skills.

Note that not all students are assessed on applied science, pre-employment and employability skills; therefore, the percents mastering these areas are reported out of those students who were assessed (e.g., valid percents).

#### Applied communication

- Listening for directions - 64 percent,
- Listening for information - 64 percent,
- Speaking to convey information - 61 percent,
- Speaking to convey ideas - 53 percent,
- Reading for information - 61 percent,
- Reading critically - 51 percent,
- Writing to convey information - 55 percent, and
- Writing to convey ideas - 49 percent.

#### Applied mathematics

- Basic operations - 67 percent,

- Statistics - 50 percent,
- Measurement - 58 percent, and
- Advanced math - 39 percent.

#### Affective and thinking skills

- Cooperation - 67 percent,
- Flexible thinking - 57 percent,
- Problem solving - 54 percent,
- Work ethic - 60 percent,
- Critical thinking - 50 percent, and
- Decision making - 55 percent.

#### Applied science

- Safety - 73 percent,
- Tool use - 70 percent,
- Chemicals - 54 percent,
- Assemble - 65 percent,
- Scale - 60 percent,
- Variables - 54 percent,
- Maintain data - 58 percent, and
- Keep records - 61 percent.

#### Pre-employment skills

- Career decisions - 59 percent,
- Labor market information - 53 percent,
- Resume preparation - 60 percent,
- Job application - 62 percent, and
- Job interviewing - 45 percent.

#### Employability skills

- Punctuality - 63 percent,
- Good attendance - 62 percent,
- Interpersonal relations - 57 percent,
- Positive attitude - 60 percent,
- Appearance - 69 percent, and
- Task completion - 58 percent.

### ❖ *Strategic plan changes*

During 1998-99, the Wyoming Comprehensive Assessment System, a statewide assessment in the areas of math, writing and reading, was given to all 4th, 8th and 11th grade students. Because of the statewide assessment data, several outcome measures will change. Student results were made available in September, 1999.

## Department of Education organization chart

