

Department of Education

Mission and philosophy

The Wyoming Department of Education's mission is to lead, model and support continuous improvement of education for everyone in Wyoming. The Wyoming Department of Education is a service organization dedicated to the people of the state. The department believes that continuous improvement of education is at the heart of strong communities, economy and an improved quality of life. The department is committed to ensuring that all learners have appropriate opportunities to master an ambitious common core of knowledge and skills.

Our service is supported by the following agency core values: performing to the best of our ability, participating as active, healthy citizens; fostering a positive work environment based upon honesty, integrity, loyalty and respect; accountability, responsibility, and being self-directed, productive employees; promoting and providing professional development and on-the-job training for all employees; building and supporting partnerships; open and honest communication with others and ourselves; empowering employees at all levels with the decision-making authority to perform their jobs; and being lifelong learners.

Results of outcomes

The overarching goal for the Wyoming Department of Education is to increase student learning by helping educators build the capacity to provide high-quality instruction and services to students. Accreditation results and the Wyoming Comprehensive Assessment System (WycAS) results are the two categories the department monitors to evaluate the effectiveness of its efforts as an agency.

Accreditation Results

The following is the percentage of districts that received a corrective action for a common core area during an accreditation review in 2001-2002 school year. A total of nine districts were subject to accreditation visits during the year.

School Improvement%

Approach	22%
Deployment	11%
Results	56%

Parent/Community Involvement

Approach	11%
Deployment	11%
Results	N/A

Professional Development

Approach	22%
Deployment	44%
Results	44%

General information

Judy Catchpole, state superintendent of public instruction

Agency contact

Timothy Lockwood, public information officer
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2nd Floor
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Other locations

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

Year established

1890

Statutory references

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

Number of authorized personnel

96 full-time employees, seven part-time employees and nine AWEC

Organization structure

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

Clients served

The public including students, parents, educators and legislators

Budget information

Department operations	\$68,345,057
School finance	\$513,695,212
Total	\$582,040,269
State	\$63,231,895
Federal	\$61,769,129
Other	\$457,039,245

At-Risk

Approach	44%
Deployment	44%
Results	56%

School Climate

Approach	33%
Deployment	44%
Results	0%

Facilities, Technology and Budget

Approach	56%
Deployment	44%
Results	N/A

Standards

APPROACH

Alignment	11%
Embedded	11%
Monitoring	0%
Correctives/Enrichments	56%

DEPLOYMENT

Embedded	11%
Monitoring	22%
Correctives/Enrichments	89%

Measures

APPROACH

Alignment	67%
Consistency	78%
Fairness	78%
Multiple Measures	44%

DEPLOYMENT

Reports	56%
RESULTS	
Fairness	89%

WyCAS Results

WyCAS was given to fourth, eighth and 11th grade students in Wyoming school districts from March 13-29, 2002. The test measures the effects of districts program work in math and language arts (the latter embodies reading and writing skills). The results for the four years WyCAS has been administered are listed in the following tables.

4th Grade WyCAS Results - % Proficient or Advanced

<i>School Year</i>	<i>Reading</i>	<i>Writing</i>	<i>Math</i>
1998-99	44%	41%	35%
1999-00	38%	36%	28%
2000-01	45%	45%	34%
2001-02	44%	43%	33%

8th Grade WyCAS Results - % Proficient or Advanced

<i>School Year</i>	<i>Reading</i>	<i>Writing</i>	<i>Math</i>
1998-99	39%	56%	30%
1999-00	36%	48%	31%
2000-01	39%	51%	32%
2001-02	38%	53%	33%

11th Grade WyCAS Results - % Proficient or Advanced

<i>School Year</i>	<i>Reading</i>	<i>Writing</i>	<i>Math</i>
1998-99	48%	60%	33%
1999-00	44%	52%	37%
2000-01	50%	58%	40%
2001-02	47%	58%	41%

Strategic plan changes

Revised unit objectives and outcomes.

Department of Education organization chart

