



Wyoming Department of Education


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MEMORANDUM

TO: Representative Del McOmie, Co-Chair
Joint Education Interim Committee

Senator Hank Coe, Co-Chair
Joint Education Interim Committee

FROM: Matthew Willmarth, School Foundation Program Consultant
Finance Unit 

DATE: December 5, 2007

SUBJECT: Average Daily Membership (ADM) Computation Policy

During the September 24 meeting the Joint Education Interim Committee was informed about a proposed rule change to the computation of ADM for the 2008-09 school year. This change would have required school districts to calculate student membership for part-time students (students who are enrolled in one or more, but not all of the normally scheduled periods in a school day) for the time the students were actually enrolled in school.

Since the September 24 meeting, the Department has withdrawn the proposed Chapter 8 Rules and Regulations and held a meeting with the School Finance Data Advisory Committee (SFDAC) on November 6. Concerns regarding the consistency and accuracy of the current methods of calculating student membership were discussed. The discussion illustrated an example of a district calculating membership two different ways in a single school and it was apparent from the discussion that all districts do not calculate membership the same way.

The Department proposed four different methods of calculating student membership in schools. None of the proposals were recommended by the SFDAC. However, they did recommend that the current Chapter 8 Rules and Regulations be clarified to require districts to apply a single method of calculating membership for part-time students in each school. They also recommended that the SFDAC and the Department revisit the calculation of student membership during the next recalibration to precise the calculation. The Department has accepted these recommendations.