

Draft Only  
Approval Pending  
**SUMMARY of  
PROCEEDINGS**



ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE  
SELECT COMMITTEE ON STATEWIDE EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY

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**ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING INFORMATION**

June 8, 2016

By WebEx and Conference Call

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

Judy Catchpole, Chairwoman, Business Industry Representative  
Tony Anson, Big Horn County School District #4, Secondary School Principal Representative  
Janine Bay-Teske, Teton County School District #1, School Board Member Representative  
Sue Belish, Wyoming State Board of Education Member Representative  
Diana Clapp, Fremont County School District #6, Small District Superintendent Representative  
Kris Cundall, Sweetwater County School District #1, Elementary School Principal Representative  
Mary Kay Hill, Governor's Office Representative  
Tess Hopkin-Egger, Park County School District #6, Elementary School Teacher Representative  
R.J. Kost, Park County School District #1, Assessment Director Representative  
Deb Lindsey, Wyoming Department of Education Representative  
Terry Snyder, Fremont County School District # 25, Large District Superintendent Representative

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT**

Christina Mills, Fremont County School District #24, Secondary School Teacher Representative

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICE OFFICE STAFF**

Tania Hytrek, Operations Administrator

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Advisory Committee met by WebEx and conference call to discuss the work to be conducted over the 2016 interim and the deliverables to be provided for the September 20 meeting of the Select Committee on Statewide Education Accountability (Select Committee). The Advisory Committee received information from the National Center for the Improvement of Educational Assessment (NCIEA) in relation to the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and the interrelation with the Wyoming Accountability in Education Act (WAEA). The Advisory Committee discussed the tasks necessary to provide the Select Committee with guidance to ensure Wyoming is compliant with the ESSA.

## CALL TO ORDER (JUNE 8, 2016)

Chairwoman Catchpole called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The following sections summarize the Advisory Committee proceedings by topic. Please refer to [Appendix 1](#) to review the Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda topics. Chairwoman Catchpole provided opening remarks to the Advisory Committee and thanked members for serving. She encouraged members to provide comments as the work is undertaken over the course of the 2016 interim.

## FEDERAL EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT

Dr. Scott Marion, NCIEA, explained the transition timeline for ESSA and the basic framework of the state plan to be submitted to the United States Department of Education (USDE), including assessment and accountability components. See [Appendices 2, 3, 4 and 5](#). Dr. Marion also discussed the framework of the district plan each school district will be required to submit to the Wyoming Department of Education (WDE). He highlighted additional provisions contained in the ESSA, which prohibits any federal office from mandating or incentivizing states to adopt or maintain any particular standards, removes requirements related to highly qualified teachers or teacher evaluation, provides more flexibility in Title I funds, does not noticeably change student privacy matters and repeals forty-nine programs to create a \$1.7 billion student support and academic enrichment grant. Dr. Marion also discussed additional provisions contained in the ESSA related to educator quality, which authorizes, but does not require, states to implement teacher and leader evaluation systems, reform certification systems, improve and report on equitable access to effective teachers and leaders, and develop mechanisms to recruit and retain teachers. Dr. Marion stated the ESSA contains nearly the same assessment requirements as the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) and allows the use of a college readiness assessment for the high school assessment. He noted there is the potential for states to use interim assessments under ESSA, but it is a complicated endeavor.

Dr. Marion discussed the accountability implications related to the ESSA, noting states must still report all required subgroups specified under the NCLB and school accountability scores will be made on state determined goals and methodology, including academic achievement, graduation rate and struggling sub-groups. He summarized the five school accountability indicators required under the ESSA: academic achievement (e.g. proficiency); another valid and reliable academic indicator (e.g., growth); graduation rate (specifically adjusted cohort rate, but extended graduation rates can be included at state discretion); English language proficiency; and an indicator of school quality or success that differentiates and is valid, reliable and comparable. Dr. Marion stated the ESSA requires a much greater weight must be given to the first four indicators and the USDE is in the rulemaking process to establish parameters for the fifth indicator to assist states in formulating and implementing that indicator. The Advisory Committee engaged in discussion of the fifth indicator and possible mechanisms or data to satisfy the ESSA requirement. Members suggested utilization of data currently collected at the state level, if possible. It was suggested career and technical education data may be an option for the fifth indicator. Dr. Marion stated he and his staff will prepare reading material for the July 6 meeting that will help inform the discussion on the fifth indicator and identify options that may be available. He stated the July 6 meeting will, in part, be dedicated to defining the parameters for the fifth indicator and discussing in detail possible data or mechanisms to satisfy this requirement of the ESSA.

Dr. Marion moved on to a more detailed discussion of subgroups and the requirements associated with this aspect as contained in the ESSA and the draft rules and regulations under consideration by the USDE. He indicated states will be required to, at least once every three years, produce a statewide category of schools for comprehensive support and improvement for the lowest performing 5% of schools, high schools with graduation rates less than 67% and schools with low performing subgroups. Dr. Marion stated the system can produce determinations more frequently or include more performance categories. He also indicated the details of these determinations will be more fully developed as the rules and regulations are finalized by the USDE and noted the draft rules dated May 31, 2016 provide some guidance on assessment and accountability indicator reporting, as well as accountability summative rating reporting. Dr. Marion stated the draft rules also include guidance on targeted and comprehensive support identification and exit criteria. He further described the reporting requirements related to a summative rating for each school that meaningfully differentiates among schools and is based on performance on accountability indicators in relation to the State's measurement of interim progress goals. Dr. Marion indicated states will be required to define how to combine performance on indicators to produce a summative rating that includes at least three categories/levels for a single summative rating that is not disaggregated. He noted the goal will be to balance validity and reliability in undertaking this work.

Dr. Marion discussed the motions passed at the May 9-10 meeting by the Select Committee related to this work, noting the Select Committee supports the WAEA and directed the Advisory Committee and the WDE to adhere as much as possible to the components of the WAEA in complying with the ESSA given the significant investment in this work by all stakeholders. He stated the work will be collaborative and in conjunction with the WDE and the State Board of Education. Dr. Marion indicated LSO staff was also directed to prepare a draft bill for the September 20 meeting to incorporate any proposed changes to the WAEA necessary to comply with the ESSA.

Dr. Marion listed several areas to be addressed in the WAEA to comply with the provisions of the ESSA, including revision of the goals in the WAEA to include objective performance measures and a focus on subgroups that fall below proficient. He also indicated additional guidance will be necessary regarding the English language proficiency indicator and other measures of school quality. The Advisory Committee examined a side-by-side comparison of the requirements of ESSA and the design features of the WAEA and found the WAEA is well-designed to serve as a strong basis for any accountability system designed to meet the requirements of ESSA.

In response to inquiry, Mrs. Deb Lindsey, Assessment Director, WDE summarized the progress on the request for proposals (RFP) related to securing a statewide student assessment that complies with legislation passed during the 2016 session. Mrs. Lindsey stated the draft RFP will be provided to LSO and the NCIEA for review in early July with an anticipated release of November 1, 2016. She stated the WDE is finalizing the process related to the RFP, which will include an advisory group and school district officials in scoring the proposals received by the WDE.

## **MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chairman Catchpole adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mrs. Judy Catchpole  
Chairwoman

# Committee Meeting Materials Index

Appendix	Agenda Item	Appendix Description	Appendix Provider
1	Committee Meeting Agenda	Provides an outline of the topics the Committee planned to address at meeting	Legislative Service Office
2	Requirements of the Every Student Succeeds Act and the Wyoming Accountability in Education Act	PowerPoint: "Overview of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and Implications for WY" dated June 8, 2016	Dr. Scott Marion, National Center for Improvement of Educational Assessments
3	Requirements of the Every Student Succeeds Act and the Wyoming Accountability in Education Act	Whitepaper: "Considerations for State Leaders in the Design of School Accountability Systems under the Every Student Succeeds Act" dated February 19, 2016	Dr. Scott Marion, National Center for Improvement of Educational Assessments
4	Requirements of the Every Student Succeeds Act and the Wyoming Accountability in Education Act	Report: "Transitioning to the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA): Frequently Asked Questions" by the United States Department of Education , dated February 26, 2016	Dr. Scott Marion, National Center for Improvement of Educational Assessments
5	Requirements of the Every Student Succeeds Act and the Wyoming Accountability in Education Act	Whitepaper: "ESSA Innovative Assessment and Accountability Pilot: Recommendations of Federal and State/Local Implementation" by the Educational Counsel, dated May 18, 2016	Dr. Scott Marion, National Center for Improvement of Educational Assessments