



Wyoming Department of Education

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 20, 2008
TO: Members, Joint Education Interim Committee
FROM: Matthew Willmarth, School Foundation Program Consultant
SUBJECT: Block Grant Model Administration Update – Model Version 1f

The Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) is required by W.S. § 21-2-202(e) to report any technical correction to the Wyoming education resource block grant model spreadsheets necessary for model administration to the Legislature together with the fiscal and technical impact of the correction.

This past July, as a result of completing the *Wyoming Funding Model: Guidebook and Technical Specifications*, as required by 2008 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 95, Section 8 (original Senate File 70), various technical and formatting corrections were identified and made to the Wyoming Funding Model, but did not have any substantive change or fiscal impact. Rather, they clarified the formulas contained within in the model. The corrections were made in Wyoming Funding Model Version 1f.

An example of a format change was changing the name of a heading to better identify what the cell's purpose was. Another example was deleting random cells of data to "clean-up" the Excel worksheet. A majority of the technical corrections were made to reflect the intent that, in schools with grade configurations other than those anticipated in the prototypes, have their staff resources funded at the highest grade band level of the school. The staff resources affected by this correction were instructional facilitators, supervisory aides, and clerical staff.

Version 1f also incorporates 2008 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 95, Section 7, which clarified the maintenance and operations groundskeeper component within the model. The only correction that had a fiscal impact on prior school years was the change to the alternative school per ADM activity amount. Funding for activities in alternative schools was modified on the *Inputs* worksheet so that the first year funding per ADM was \$250 not \$260. This corrects an error in the earlier versions of the model. Attached is a spreadsheet depicting the total impact of \$24,353.85 for school years 2006-07 and 2007-08.

The WDE made these correction in accordance with W.S. § 21-2-202(e), to properly reflect law establishing model components and the execution of model component computations determining district foundation program amounts. The corrections have been certified by Lawrence O. Picus and Associates and Wyoming Funding Model Version 1f has been filed with the Secretary of State.

Attachment