



WYOMING SENATE DISTRICT 30

Memorandum

DATE October 30, 2023

TO Members, Joint Education Interim Committee

FROM Senator Charles K. Scott, Chairman, Senate Education Committee

SUBJECT WY-TOPP Results – 3rd Grade English Language Arts (Reading) and 4th Grade Math

Please find enclosed analysis ranking Wyoming school district's 3rd grade results on the school year 2022/23 Wyoming Test of Proficiency and Progress (WY-TOPP) for English Language Arts in Table 1. Table 2 contains 4th grade results on Math for school year 2022/23. The following notes are provided:

1. Rank = District ranking the percentage of students who scored proficient or advanced.
2. District = the county and number within the county of the district + the principal city or town.
3. Proficient & advanced = the percentage of students who scored proficient or advanced on the last WYTOPP assessment given during the 2022/23 school year. The Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) reports the participation rate which is uniformly high.
4. Basic and Below = the percentage of students who scored Basic or Below Basic on this same test. The advice Wyoming got from our 2020 consultants in their final report was that "These performance levels [basic level or below] are not adequate for graduates to access jobs in the higher skill, higher wage economy Wyoming is trying to build."¹ Third grade reading is used because after 3rd grade, school teaching on other subjects assumes the pupil's ability to read adequately.
5. Per pupil operating expenses = state financial guarantee each districts gets plus additional state funding for K-12 operations. This is very close to the state and local money each district spends. It does not include federal funds which are about 8% of all funds in most years.
6. District enrollment WDE figure, snap shot as of first workday of October.
7. Poverty % = the percentage of total district enrollment that has qualified for free and reduced lunch. WDE data, snapshot as of first workday of October.
8. Statewide = the average of all students, not the average of the 48 district scores.

*I have reservations about the accuracy of the free and reduced lunch percentages for both Shoshoni and Upton. For the past 4 testing years (starting with 2018/19 and skipping 2019/20 the respective figures are Shoshoni 31, 24, 9, 16; Upton 39, 30, 7, 7. I think it is possible the figures reflect a lack of vigor local school personnel in getting all the eligible students identified and qualified. This is unusual as extra students qualified can ear the schools more federal title 1 funds. Upton has a new distance education program which may be impacting its percentage and has reduced its per pupil operating expenditures amount.

¹ See Picus Odden & Associates. December 2020. The 2020 Recalibration of Wyoming's Education Resource Block Grant Model. https://wyoleg.gov/docs/SchoolFinance/Combined2020RecalibrationReports_Final.pdf.

Table 1. WY-TOPP Results - 2022/23 3rd Grade English Language Arts (Reading).

Rank	District Name (City)	Percent Proficient and Advanced	Percent Basic and Below	Per Pupil Operating Expenses	Student Enrollment	Poverty
	Wyoming (Statewide)	48.25%	51.75%	\$16,423	91,640	34%
1	Park #16 (Meeteetse)	>= 80%	<= 20%	\$37,676	95	30-34%
2	Sheridan #2 (Sheridan)	69.09%	30.91%	\$13,743	3,599	27%
3	Lincoln #2 (Afton)	68.78%	31.22%	\$15,465	3,043	17%
4	Park #1 (Powell)	67.55%	32.45%	\$14,962	1,876	39%
5	Sheridan #3 (Clearmont)	66.67%	33.33%	\$40,532	82	25-29%
6	Weston #1 (Newcastle)	66.67%	33.33%	\$16,839	778	24%
7	Fremont #24 (Shoshoni)	64.29%	35.71%	\$20,433	384	16%
8	Washakie #1 (Worland)	63.04%	36.96%	\$17,940	1,138	36%
9	Teton #1 (Jackson)	63.03%	36.97%	\$20,128	2,797	11%
10	Albany #1 (Laramie)	62.86%	37.14%	\$15,722	3,858	24%
11	Platte #1 (Wheatland)	62.71%	37.29%	\$19,174	913	30%
12	Park #6 (Cody)	62.67%	37.33%	\$15,612	2,049	25%
13	Sheridan #1 (Ranchester)	61.45%	38.55%	\$15,549	1,163	20%
14	Uinta #6 (Lyman)	60.00%	40.00%	\$17,256	725	21%
14	Washakie #2 (Ten Sleep)	60.00%	40.00%	\$32,435	105	26-27%
16	Crook #1 (Sundance)	57.14%	42.86%	\$17,861	1,238	31%
17	Big Horn #4 (Basin)	55.56%	44.44%	\$27,558	234	42%
17	Fremont #2 (Dubois)	55.56%	44.44%	\$24,191	182	36-37%
19	Fremont #1 (Lander)	54.08%	45.92%	\$16,442	1,727	28%
20	Sublette #1 (Pinedale)	53.75%	46.25%	\$15,884	1,092	4%
21	Carbon #2 (Saratoga)	52.38%	47.62%	\$24,587	607	33%
22	Converse #2 (Glenrock)	50.98%	49.02%	\$16,271	680	31%
23	Sublette #9 (Big Piney)	50.00%	50.00%	\$21,625	441	29%
24	Lincoln #1 (Kemmerer)	48.08%	51.92%	\$18,923	598	20%
25	Campbell #1 (Gillette)	47.89%	52.11%	\$15,847	8,636	37%
26	Uinta #4 (Mt. View)	47.62%	52.38%	\$17,453	748	21%
27	Carbon #1 (Rawlins)	47.37%	52.63%	\$16,925	1,643	36%
28	Johnson #1 (Buffalo)	47.19%	52.81%	\$18,474	1,194	22%
29	Uinta #1 (Evanston)	45.54%	54.46%	\$15,334	2,656	52%
30	Fremont #25 (Riverton)	44.20%	55.80%	\$16,076	2,433	44%
31	Big Horn #2 (Lovell)	43.94%	56.06%	\$15,601	728	42%
32	Natrona #1 (Casper)	43.88%	56.12%	\$15,343	12,833	36%
33	Sweetwater #2 (Green River)	42.61%	57.39%	\$15,874	2,406	26%
34	Laramie #2 (Pine Bluffs)	42.11%	57.89%	\$18,363	1,081	33%
35	Laramie #1 (Cheyenne)	41.56%	58.44%	\$15,366	13,641	39%
36	Niobrara #1 (Lusk)	41.54%	58.46%	\$17,643	842	34%
37	Converse #1 (Douglas)	41.41%	58.59%	\$18,455	1,700	27%
38	Hot Springs #1 (Thermopolis)	40.00%	60.00%	\$18,055	642	38%
39	Big Horn #1 (Cowley)	39.13%	60.87%	\$16,880	1,210	37%
40	Goshen #1 (Torrington)	39.06%	60.94%	\$17,853	1,657	41%
41	Sweetwater #1 (Rock Springs)	35.23%	64.77%	\$15,306	5,051	37%

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Table 1. WY-TOPP Results - 2022/23 3rd Grade English Language Arts (Reading).

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	Wyoming (Statewide)	48.25%	51.75%	\$16,423	91,640	34%
42	Weston #7 (Upton)	34.21%	65.79%	\$11,222	725	7%
43	Fremont #6 (Pavillion)	32.35%	67.65%	\$22,276	379	42%
44	Fremont #21 (Ft. Washakie)	25.81%	74.19%	\$26,521	371	>=98%
45	Big Horn #3 (Greybull)	17.14%	82.86%	\$19,698	469	49%
46	Platte #2 (Guernsey)	<= 10%	>= 90%	\$27,494	211	46%
47	Fremont #14 (Ethete)	8.70%	91.30%	\$23,307	572	82%
48	Fremont #38 (Arapahoe)	<= 5%	>= 95%	\$26,318	408	>=98%

Source: WDE data from WY-TOPP Assessment and Statistical Report Series No. 2; LSO calculations of per pupil funding from the School Foundation Program.

Table 2. WY-TOPP Results - 2022/23 4rd Grade Math.

Rank	District Name (City)	Percent Proficient and Advanced	Percent Basic and Below	Per Pupil Operating Expenses	Student Enrollment	Poverty
	Wyoming (Statewide)	51.10%	48.90%	\$16,423	91,640	34%
1	Sheridan #1 (Ranchester)	83.78%	16.22%	\$15,549	1,163	20%
2	Fremont #24 (Shoshoni)	78.26%	21.74%	\$20,433	384	16%
3	Sheridan #2 (Sheridan)	77.25%	22.75%	\$13,743	3,599	27%
4	Sublette #1 (Pinedale)	71.88%	28.13%	\$15,884	1,092	4%
5	Park #1 (Powell)	70.29%	29.71%	\$14,962	1,876	39%
6	Sheridan #3 (Clearmont)	66.67%	33.33%	\$40,532	82	25-29%
7	Albany #1 (Laramie)	64.21%	35.79%	\$15,722	3,858	24%
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