Spring 2015 Assessment Results





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2015 PAWS Assessment Results: An Introduction

The results that follow are best interpreted in context, by understanding the purpose and uses of these results as well as several important definitions. This brief introduction summarizes some of those background factors. Perhaps the most compelling is that the WDE continues to change the tests. This year, the Reading tests were made more difficult.

There are three major types of assessment information we rely on as a district and state to report students' achievement. These include the norm-referenced national test called Measures of Academic Programs (MAP), the state's Proficiency Assessments of Wyoming Standards (PAWS), and ACT. MAP gives results comparing students, schools, and districts to a national comparison group and to growth targets. PAWS and ACT give results comparing students, schools, and districts to a state average of the percent of those scoring proficient or better, where proficiency is defined in terms of mastery of state standards.

The data portrayed below summarize the PAWS results for the 2015 academic year. For comparison purposes, this report uses all students' results. These are different than the results to determine AYP status. The results are represented as "percent proficient and above," so 55% percent means that 55% are proficient and advanced, the top two score bands and that 45% are basic and below basic, the bottom two score bands. The number in () represents our distance above/below the state % proficient and advanced. It is important for the reader to recognize the cut-score defining proficiency varies from grade to grade. We also compare our district by grade level to all districts

in the state. We are in the top 10 across all districts at every grade level in both reading and mathematics.

Any single indicator of achievement is fallible, so we try to discern patterns of scores over tests and grades. Is there generally a positive trend over all grades, district-wide? How are the math scores overall? How is a grade level span like intermediate grades 3, 4, & 5 doing? How is a school site performing? Such analyses are advisable before questions posed by test, teacher, or curriculum are possible. Ultimately, no single score should have too much importance placed on it.

Elementary

	Re	ading	Mathematics			
	2015State Average 2015		2014	2015	State Average 2015	
rade ent and ove						
3rd Grade Proficient and Above	76% (+15)	61% (62)	73%	64% (+15)	49% (51)	
rade ent and ove						
4 th Grade Proficient and Above	74% (+14)	60% (64)	74%	69% (+18)	51% (47)	
rade int and ive						
5 th Grade Proficient and Above	75% (+16)	59% (58)	82%	81% (+28)	53% (54)	

Junior High

	Re	ading	Mathematics			
	2015	State Average 2015	2014	2015	State Average 2015	
rade ent and ove						
6th Grade Proficient and Above	74% (+17)	57% (57)	65%	65% (+16)	49% (49)	
rade ent and ove						
7th Grade Proficient and Above	73% (+16)	57% (59)	69%	61% (+18)	43% (43)	
rade int and ive						
8th Grade Proficient and Above	74% (+22)	52% (58)	70%	68% (+21)	47% (50)	

Coffeen

	Re	ading	Mathematics			
	2015	State Average 2015	2014	2015	State Average 2015	
trade ent and ove						
3rd Grade Proficient and Above	80% (+19)	61%	72%	58% (+9)	49%	
rade ent and ove						
4 th Grade Proficient and Above	73% (+13)	60%	64%	70% (+19)	51%	
rade int and ive						
5 th Grade Proficient and Above	81% (+22)	59%	58%	71% (+18)	53%	

Highland Park

	Re	ading	Mathematics			
	2015	State Average 2015	2014	2015	State Average 2015	
trade ent and ove						
3rd Grade Proficient and Above	78% (+18)	61%	74%	59% (+10)	49%	
rade ent and ove						
4 th Grade Proficient and Above	71% (+11)	60%	64%	72% (+21)	51%	
rade ent and ove						
5 th Grade Proficient and Above	83% (+24)	59%	89%	83% (+30)	53%	

Meadowlark

	Re	ading	Mathematics			
	2015	State Average 2015	2014	2015	State Average 2015	
trade ent and ove						
3rd Grade Proficient and Above	82% (+21)	61%	85%	83% (+34)	49%	
rade ent and ove						
4 th Grade Proficient and Above	76% (+16)	60%	82%	78% (+27)	51%	
rade int and ive						
5 th Grade Proficient and Above	73% (+14)	59%	91%	92% (+39)	53%	

Sagebrush

	Re	ading	Mathematics			
	2015	State Average 2015	2014	2015	State Average 2015	
trade ent and ove						
3rd Grade Proficient and Above	64% (+3)	61%	62%	61% (+12)	49%	
rade ent and ove						
4 th Grade Proficient and Above	77% (+17)	60%	82%	61% (+10)	51%	
rade int and ive						
5 th Grade Proficient and Above	74% (+15)	59%	88%	82% (+29)	53%	

Woodland Park

	Re	ading	Mathematics				
	2015	State Average 2015	2014	2015	State Average 2015		
trade ent and ove							
3rd Grade Proficient and Above	78% (+17)	61%	71%	57% (+8)	49%		
rade ent and ove							
4 th Grade Proficient and Above	76% (+16)	60%	77%	60% (+9)	51%		
rade int and ive							
5 th Grade Proficient and Above	65% (+6)	59%	73%	73% (+20)	53%		

Sheridan Junior High

	Re	ading	Mathematics					
	2015		2015 State 2015 Average 2015		2014	2015	State Average 2015	
rade ent and ove								
6th Grade Proficient and Above	75% (+18)	57%	65%	66% (+17)	49%			
rade ent and ove								
7th Grade Proficient and Above	74% (+17)	57%	71%	62% (+19)	43%			
rade int and ive								
8th Grade Proficient and Above	75% (+23)	52%	71%	69% (+22)	47%			

The Wright Place

	Re	ading	Mathematics			
	2015State Average 2015		2014	2015	State Average 2015	
rade ent and ove						
6th Grade Proficient and Above	43% (-14)	57%	50%	57% (+8)	49%	
rade ent and ove						
7th Grade Proficient and Above	50% (-7)	57%	25%	25% (-18)	43%	
rade ent and ove						
8th Grade Proficient and Above	50% (-2)	52%	50%	38% (-9)	47%	

2015 PAWS Sheridan County School District Two Percent Proficient and Above Comparison Chart Sheridan Junior High School Compared with 4A Junior High Schools

6th Grade+

	State Average	Centennial Junior High School (Natrona #1)	Dean Morgan Junior High School (Natrona #1)	Laramie Junior High School (Albany #1)	Riverton Middle School (Fremont #25)	Sheridan Junior High School
Reading	57	52 (4 th)	60 (3 rd)	67 (2 nd)	40 (5 th)	75 (1 st)
Mathematics	49	38 (5 th)	43 (3 rd)	56 (2 nd)	40 (4 th)	66 (1 st)

+Several districts have K-6 elementary configuration

2015 PAWS Sheridan County School District Two Percent Proficient and Above Comparison Chart Sheridan Junior High School Compared with 4A Junior High Schools

7th Grade

	State Average	Carey Junior High School (Laramie #1)	Centennial Junior High School (Natrona #1)	Dean Morgan Junior High School (Natrona #1)	Laramie Junior High School (Albany #1)	McCormick Junior High School (Laramie #1)	Riverton Middle School (Fremont #25)	Rock Springs Junior High School (Sweetwater #1)	Sage Valley Junior High School (Campbell County #1)	Sheridan Junior High School
Reading	57	59 (5th tie)	45 (9 th)	59 (5th tie)	61 (3 rd)	69 (2 nd)	50 (8 th)	60 (4 th)	52 (7 th)	74 (1 st)
Mathematics	43	45 (5 th)	29 (9 th)	41 (7 th)	59 (2 nd)	56 (3 rd)	34 (8 th)	42 (6 th)	47 (4 th)	62 (1 st)

2015 PAWS Sheridan County School District Two Percent Proficient and Above Comparison Chart Sheridan Junior High School Compared with 4A Junior High Schools

	State Average	Carey Junior High School (Laramie #1)	Centennial Junior High School (Natrona #1)	Dean Morgan Junior High School (Natrona #1)	Laramie Junior High School (Albany #1)	McCormick Junior High School (Laramie #1)	Riverton Middle School (Fremont #25)	Rock Springs Junior High School (Sweetwater #1)	Sage Valley Junior High School (Campbell County #1)	Sheridan Junior High School
Reading	52	43 (8 th)	52 (5 th)	49 (7 th)	59 (3 rd)	64 (2 nd)	40 (9 th)	53 (4 th)	51 (6 th)	75 (1 st)
Mathematics	47	39 (7 th)	33 (9 th)	48 (5 th)	50 (4 th)	67 (2 nd)	38 (8 th)	44 (6 th)	54 (3 rd)	69 (1 st)

8th Grade

2015 PAWS Sheridan County School District Two Percent Proficient and Above Comparison Chart All School District Comparisons

3rd – 5th Grade Ranking Points

Reading	Sheridan #2	Park #1	Lincoln #1	Park #6	Big Horn #1	Sublette #1	Hot Springs #1	Fremont #1	Fremont #6	Albany #1
	1st 11	2 nd 14	3 rd 21	4 th 22	5 th 24	6 th 25	7 th 30	8 th 31	9 th 38	10 th 40
Mathematics	Sublette #1	Sheridan #2	Fremont #1	Sheridan #1	Park #1	Lincoln #1	Park #6	Washakie #1	Weston #1	Lincoln #2
	1 st 11	2nd 13	3rd 17	4 th tie 19	4 th tie 19	6 th 21	7 th 24	8 th 25	9 th 39	10 th 40
Composite	Sheridan #2	Park #1	Sublette #1	Lincoln #1	Park #6	Fremont #1	Sheridan #1	Big Horn #1	Hot Springs #1	Washakie #1
	1st 24	2 nd 33	3 rd 36	4 th 44	5 th 46	6 th 48	7 th 64	8 th 68	9 th 73	10 th 80

2015 PAWS Sheridan County School District Two Percent Proficient and Above Comparison Chart All School District Comparisons

6th – 8th Grade Ranking Points

Reading	Sheridan #2	Lincoln #2	Big Horn #2	Fremont #2	Park #1	Teton #1	Fremont #1	Big Horn #3	Park #6	Albany #1
	1st 10	2 nd 11	3 rd tie 15	3 rd tie 15	5 th 20	6 th 27	7 th 29	8 th 34	9 th 35	10 th 36
Mathematics	Sheridan #2	Big Horn #2	Lincoln #2	Teton #1	Uinta #4	Crook #1	Park #1	Albany #1	Johnson #1	Sheridan #3
	1st 14	2 nd 15	3 rd 17	4th 28	5 th 29	6 th 33	7 th 35	8 th tie 41	8 th tie 41	10 th 46
Composite	Sheridan #2	Lincoln #2	Big Horn #2	Park #1	Teton #1	Uinta #4	Albany #1	Fremont #1	Park #6	Fremont #2
	1st 24	2 nd 28	3 rd 30	4 th tie 55	4 th tie 55	6 th 71	7 th 77	8 th 81	9 th 84	10 th 94

Commentary:

By any measure, these are extremely positive results for the district. Teachers have demonstrated the caliber of their instructional talents; students have been motivated to show their true achievement; other staff and certainly parents have been supportive of the educational system at all grade levels and in all subjects. The school district consistently outperforms the state average in every grade, in every subject. Reading achievement is improving considerably and has become a growth target for many more of our schools in the next academic year. We are emphasizing the improvement of reading achievement in the areas of curriculum development, professional development, and administrator focus. We also plant to pilot new, more CCSS-aligned edition of Everyday Mathematics to help improve our math scores.

While these results show the district to be the top performing institutions in Wyoming, indeed the Rocky Mountains, there is still work to be done. The achievement targets established by the 2002 No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act r0se dramatically in the last three years. The targets are now at 100% proficiency at both subjects at all grades.

These results will form the basis of two accountability systems – NCLB and the Wyoming Accountability in Education Act (WAEA). These two systems are complex ad contradictory. Both try to measure change; an impossibility given changes to the tests.

We are fully committed to embracing and responding to the accountability demands established by federal and state agencies. More than that, we are committed to improvement of student achievement results because that is what is expected by our community and ourselves