College of Education Research Work Group
March 20, 2017 • 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
University of Wyoming, Laramie Campus • Wyoming Hall, Room 312
Zoom (Online) Meeting Access: https://zoom.us/j/742134979
Or Telephone at 855 880 1246 or 877 369 0926
Meeting ID: 742 134 979

1. **Review recommendation form**

    a. Recommendation

    b. Research

    c. Budgets

    d. Timing

2. **Current recommendations – What do we start formalizing?**

3. **Discussion of Mursion Simulation program**

    a. What does the literature say?

    b. Demonstration?

    c. Discussion

4. **Presentation from Audrey Kleinsasser**

    a. Wyoming School University Partnership (see attached memo)

    b. Discussion

5. **Literature Review**

    a. Methods

    b. Access – file will be on TEI website

    c. Begin scanning

6. **Other business**

    a. Jan Segerstrom – Strategic Plan Goal Setting Action Planning Document

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March 17, 2017

To: Members of the UW TEI College of Education Research Work Group

From: Audrey Kleinsasser, Director, Wyoming School-University Partnership, and Professor, College of Education

               Jubal Yennie, Superintendent, Albany County School District 1

Subject: Rough draft proposal to the work group

Colleagues,

Attached, you will see a rough draft proposal from Jubal and me. Both of us serve on the TEI Coordinating Council. After that group's February 6 organizational meeting, we talked through the idea that is presented here, planning to bring the proposal to the Coordinating Council. Ray Reutzel suggested that Rebecca Watts add the item to your group's March 20 meeting agenda.

Be assured, a proposal collaborate does not come out of thin air! Rebecca has participated in the Partnership's governing board meetings since her September, 2016, arrival in Wyoming. The governing board asked for and received TEI updates well before that time. Ray and I have talked through the need and promise of Partnership collaboration repeatedly. Then, in early January, Ray convened a meeting that included Rebecca, Leslie Rush, and me to brainstorm particular possibilities.

With that background, we appreciate this item being placed on the March 20 agenda. We look forward to your questions, comments, and encouragement before we go any further.

Proposal to the UW TEI College of Education Research Work Group
submitted by Audrey Kleinsasser and Jubal Yennie
on behalf of the Wyoming School-University Partnership
Draft 3-17-17

Three-Year Goal, 2017-2020
Forge a collaboration- and communications-driven system between the UW Trustees Education Initiative and the Wyoming School-University Partnership. Together, we will create a statewide, PK-20 education network by building on current Partnership membership (45% of school districts, all of postsecondary education, the Wyoming Department of Education, Wyoming Education Association, Wyoming Professional Teaching Standards Board) while expanding to all 48 Wyoming school districts, along with the Wyoming State Board of Education, the Wyoming School Boards Association, and the Wyoming Community College Commission.

Rationale
Over the last 18 months, Wyoming's economic downturn has had a dramatic and drastic impact on the state's 48 public K-12 school districts, seven community colleges, and single four-year university. Budget cuts have resulted in a loss of instructional personnel and programs at each level. Each level anticipates additional losses. Agencies such as the Wyoming Department of Education have been negatively affected as well. In such an environment, maintaining student achievement gains is threatened even as increasing expectations for students and their teachers is made more challenging. Despite a daunting challenge, Wyoming's education future is not and should not be bleak. Indeed, in an economic climate unlikely to change soon, it is more important than ever to maintain robust educational networks, promote continued collaboration and communication across elementary, secondary, and postsecondary levels, and support one another on behalf of public education opportunities for Wyoming's PK-20 students and their teachers.

The Wyoming School-University Partnership, founded in 1986, is one such robust network. Current Partnership work is compatible with aims of the UW Trustees Educational Initiative and the Partnership is in the position to collaborate. To achieve those aims, the Partnership must remain intact and, despite extreme budgetary challenges across Wyoming's public education system, grow.

The sole budget item requested here supports three years of membership dues, 2017-2020, in effect, waiving membership costs to all current and potential members. The item is based on a dues structure approved by the Partnership's governing board, January, 2016. By waiving membership dues for three years, we assure that school districts and other members stay at the table and continue working toward the kind of student achievement and professional development successes we own together. In the words of one district superintendent (currently a non-member school district) who provided feedback to an early draft of this document, the proposal illustrates attention to *"…human capital, social capital, program coherence, and resources. Statewide collaboration promoting coherence with PreK-20 is critical to TEI's success, in my opinion."*

Membership dues support Partnership work so that educators in school districts and others are not assessed participation or registration fees for Partnership sponsored activities. In an environment of severe budget cuts, direct services to students are cut last. That is only right. Organizational memberships are easy prey even as the need to collaborate and communicate becomes ever more important. The TEI is evidence of that. TEI funding support assures that necessary inclusion,

collaboration, and communication continue until a time that dues might be assessed once again or restructured by the Partnerships governing board.

Membership dues, through TEI funding, will support five objectives (listed below) with specific deliverables, stepped in over three years.

Objectives met through all inclusive, statewide Partnership membership; Measureable Deliverables

1. Broaden Partnership impact to include all 48 Wyoming school districts, Wyoming postsecondary education, and all state-level educational agencies by affirming the principles of education for democracy and the experiences that prepare all students for life and work in a democracy. Use digital communication systems whenever feasible. ***Deliverable: A common and necessary language measured by the goals, objectives, feedback loops, and transparency for all Partnership meetings.***

2. Maintain and expand the Partnership's Grades 11, 12, 13, 14 transition from high school to college and university initiative by continuing work in English/language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, and world languages, and adding librarians/instructional media and PK-12 counselors . Expand the transition website to reflect this work. Use digital communication systems whenever feasible. ***Deliverable: 10% increase of participation in transition colloquia and institutes every year. Reinforcement of smoother transitions for high school students to the state's community colleges and university and the collaborative role everyone in the PK-20 education systems plays. Five percent increase in college and university freshman to sophomore year retention rates, increased by an additional two percent in year 2 and again in year 3.***

3. Support the University of Wyoming and Wyoming Community College PK-12 teacher education program by expanding the base of mentor teachers to include National Board Certified teachers and teachers of the year from all 48 school districts. Collaborate with the Ellbogen Foundation in this work. ***Deliverable: 5%, 10%, and 15% incremental increase of mentor teachers from the NBCT teaching ranks to increase capacity and expertise by opening a valuable bridge to the documented success of a private-public partnership. Take advantage of Ellbogen Meritorious Schools where a critical mass of NBC teachers practice (e.g., Johnson County School District 1, Park County School District 6).***

4. Contribute to the state's ever increasing professional development school model by leading 3-5 Zoom online video book studies, per year, for multi-level groups, including the public. ***Deliverable: At least 30 participants, across levels, for each of 3-5 PLC type study groups designed to improve communication and support for PK-20 education in Wyoming by blurring lines between and among educational levels and lowering barriers.***

5. Host, in collaboration with all members, a yearly, face-to-face statewide conference for our combined publics that is focused on the enhancement and improvement of research-based strategies to support instruction, improve student achievement, and document the results. Explore the possibility of an e-conference, following the model of the UW Outreach School's annual online e-Volution meeting. ***Deliverable: A May or June state-level conference with 10% increase in attendance over three years to create an inclusive approach to improve communication and collaboration and to increase the likelihood of effective joint efforts to support PK-20 student achievement.***

Budget
The Partnership seeks TEI commitment in the amount of membership dues (2017-2018 through 2019-2020) for all current and potential school district members, current postsecondary members, and relevant state-level agencies.

For Wyoming school districts, dues are assessed based on a flat amount plus school district enrollments (Fall, 2016 enrollment figures). Postsecondary institutions and agencies are assessed a flat amount. Given the importance of keeping and building a statewide network, we invite the Wyoming State Board of Education, Wyoming School Boards Association, and Wyoming Community College Commission to join us. The three are not current members but have expressed interest and often send representatives to Partnership governing board meetings.

Based on this information, a 1, 2, and 3 year Partnership membership proposal totals:

1 year	$129,348
2 years	$258,696
3 years	$388,044

Assessment and Evaluation
Mirror TEI language for assessment, based on feedback from the research work group and David Yanoski, Marzano Research.

Impact
Mirror TEI language for impact, based on feedback from the research work group and David Yanoski, Marzano Research.