STATUTORY CHANGES IN COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION

During the 2018 legislative session, the Wyoming Legislature passed Senate Enrolled Act 48, which made significant impacts to K-12 computer science education. This legislation impacts everyone from students to state level education related agencies.

SCHOOL DISTRICTS

- Add computer science to the common core of knowledge requiring districts to offer computer science in K-12 no later than the start of 2022-2023 school year.
- Remove applied technology from the common core of knowledge on July 1, 2018.
- Replace keyboarding with computational thinking in the common core of skills, requiring school districts to integrate computational thinking into K-12 courses on July 1, 2018.

STUDENTS

- Will have the opportunity to take computer science, but will NOT BE REQUIRED to take computer science courses.
- May count computer science toward one year of their science graduation requirements.
- May count computer science as science or additional fourth year of math for the Hathaway Scholarship Program requirements.
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

- Promulgate computer science content standards by January 1, 2022.

WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

- Conduct a thorough analysis of all changes and costs necessary to implement computer science education in every school district in the state and report to the Legislature by October 31, 2018.
- Conduct site visits and consult with Wyoming school districts currently offering computer science programs and courses, which will be used to inform the report to the Legislature.
- Work with the Professional Teaching Standards Board to continue the work focused on computer science endorsements for elementary, middle and high school teachers.
- Convene a Standards Review Committee, facilitate committee work, and communicate committee work to State Board of Education, school districts, and the public.

PROFESSIONAL TEACHING STANDARDS BOARD

- Work with the Wyoming Department of Education to continue the work focused on computer science endorsements for elementary, middle and high school teachers.