

It is hard to believe that we are nearing the end of February, with only three months of the school year remaining. Winter sports are nearing the end of their seasons and we look forward to much sunnier, less snowy days ahead!

During this past year, districts in Wyoming have been looking at reduced enrollment due to the decline in coal and oil. In Upton, we have remained almost flat with a few reductions for which we have been preparing for in our budget.

The Wyoming Legislature, however, has continued to force us to look for even deeper cuts for the 2017-2018 year and beyond. In addition to cuts to education funding, several pieces of legislation have looked to increase revenue through taxes and shifting of other state funds, neither of which appears to make the cuts that the legislature is certain need to be made.

With that, the district began reviewing expenditures in early January and continues to meet with staff and develop ideas that make appropriate cuts to our work in the district. We also would like to reach out to students, parents, and community members for your input in this process. As a school community, we want to include everyone in the conversation and want to ensure that we leave no stone unturned when it comes to seeking out ideas on the budget. We want to ensure that we continue to move forward with excellent opportunities for our students.

Please consider taking the survey at the following link:

<https://goo.gl/forms/rFyiFtNggJKkd8CL2>

prior to Friday, February 24th. It is an anonymous survey that will help us look for common thinking throughout the district and community. We appreciate your input! These ideas also provide us with concerns and ideas that we can share with our legislators.

Thank you!