

Wyoming School Boards Association

Board of Trustees Leadership Development Programs



“Promoting excellence in school board leadership through comprehensive learning experiences that enhance school board effectiveness and lead to improved student achievement for all students.”



Wyoming School Boards Association
2011-2012

The WSBA Board of Trustees Leadership Development Program seeks to present the learning opportunities in an integrated, interactive, and student focused way that will meet the needs of busy and capable adults.

Program Delivery

School Board members will have two options when participating in the Leadership Development Program:

Option 1. Individual Board Member Training

- A. One day programs
 - 1) New Board Member Workshop
 - 2) Board Leadership Workshops
 - 3) Board Chairman Workshop
- B. Annual Conference

Option 2. Whole Board Leadership Training

- A. Leadership Governance Training
One year intensive program designed to allow boards to review and implement a governance process.
- B. Board Leadership Tri-Level Academy
Three year program designed to meet needs identified by local board.
- C. Individual Facilitation Workshops
A single topic workshop designed to focus on requested individual subjects such as consensus building, roles and responsibilities or other board issues.

TRI LEVEL BOARD ACADEMY

Level I -- Session 1

Boardsmanship and Performance:

- ▶ Realities of Boardsmanship
- ▶ Responsibilities of the Board
- ▶ Team Building Strategies

Level I -- Session 2

Precision Leadership:

- ▶ Using Differences Creatively
- ▶ Board/Superintendent Assessments

Level II -- Session 3

Communication Strategies:

- ▶ Collaboration and Consensus Building
- ▶ Covenants of Effective School Boards

Level II -- Session 4

Strategic Decision Making:

- ▶ Profiling High Performing Boards
- ▶ Elements of Effective Decisions
- ▶ Monitoring of Decisions

Level III -- Session 5

Vision, Expectations and Structure:

- ▶ Developing District's Vision
- ▶ Structuring an Organization
- ▶ Envisioning Educational Future
- ▶ Developing District Expectations

Level III -- Session 6

Standards of Performance:

- ▶ Board Accountability/Performance
- ▶ Adopting Clear, Concise Policies
- ▶ Monitoring District Expectations
 - a. Focus of Board Meetings
 - b. Committing Financial Resources
 - c. Monitoring Student Performance

LEADERSHIP GOVERNANCE

Leadership Governance is a commitment to effective and accountable board governance. It is a process that focuses board effort on student and district expectations, provides written policies that clarify roles/responsibilities, and pledges accountability for the district.

Why Adopt Leadership Governance?

- ▶ Focuses board on expectations
- ▶ Delineates roles and responsibilities
- ▶ Increases accountability
- ▶ Focuses board on policy based leadership
- ▶ Promotes collaborative decision making
- ▶ Boards govern proactively rather than reactively
- ▶ Enhances board leadership

So What's Different?

- ▶ Board and Superintendent are directly involved in the writing, monitoring, and assessing of policies.
- ▶ Policies are written in language that fits the needs of individual districts.
- ▶ Board implements an on going process of collaborative governance and professional development.
- ▶ Boards are accountable to written expectations.

Leadership Development Programs

The Key Work of School Boards

The content of the WSBA Board of Trustees Leadership Development Program is designed to cover the critical areas that determine the effectiveness of school boards. The activities and content of the workshops train trustees to identify and implement essential leadership skills, develop sound policies, and prioritize fiscal responsibilities. Effective leadership skills will focus school districts on student performance and student achievement.

Essential Skills

- Developing expectations for student achievement for all students
- Working effectively as a governing body
- Aligning roles and responsibilities
- Developing strategic decision making skills
- Promoting accountability
- Working to establish partnerships with parents and the community

The Key Roles of School Board Member

The leadership program focuses on exploring the two roles of school trustees:

- Role as an individual
- Role as a member of a governing body

Other Training That Meets the Needs of the District

WSBA will tailor make any presentation that will meet the specific needs of a district.



The Wyoming School Boards Association believes that whole-board trainings are more productive than area workshops as they can be customized to meet the individual district's needs. Other advantages include: Individualized handouts, practical suggestions and guidelines addressing local issues and availability of follow-up activities.



For more information or to schedule training for your district email/call Von Dahl at vdahl@wyoming.com / 307.684.2908 or Mark Higdon at mhigdon@bresnan.net / 307.634.1112.

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