



WYOMING SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

School Board Memo

Week of May 14, 2018

Arch Coal Teacher Achievement Award

Drew Peregoy, Kindergarten Teacher at **Fremont County School District No. 24 (Shoshoni)** was the recipient of an Arch Coal Teacher Achievement Award and presented with the award by a representative of Arch Coal, Inc. at an all-school assembly on May 9th. Teachers are nominated by students, peers and members of their community for their outstanding teaching. This prestigious award is presented to 10 deserving teachers in Wyoming and West Virginia annually.

U.S. News & World Report Best High Schools

The U.S. News & World Report has released its rankings for the 2018 Best High Schools and Wyoming has 17 high schools on the list. Three schools earned a silver badge and 14 schools earned bronze badges. Less than 30% of the schools earned the right to display a badge and to be called Best High Schools. U.S. News badges are widely recognized as symbols of excellence in education. Please click [here](#) to see list of the Wyoming schools recognized.

State Board of Education Meeting

The Wyoming State Board of Education (SBE) will hold a half-day meeting electronically on May 18, 2018 beginning at 8:00 a.m. The SBE will first hear a short presentation from Rebecca Watts, Executive Director of the University of Wyoming Trustees Education Initiative. Board coordinator Dr. Thomas Sachse will then present on SBE governance policies sections 1-7, a state accountability report to the JEIC, and an update on the BETA contract for the Professional Judgement Panel. The SBE plans to take action on Alternative Schedules, Chapter 29 rules on leader evaluation, SBE governance policies sections 1-7, the board coordinator's contract, technology device for board coordinator, and will consider changing the next meeting date. The complete May meeting agenda is available [here](#). All meetings are open to the public and can be joined on [Zoom](#), or by calling (646) 558-8656 using access code 452-354-8969.

Public Comment Open on Proposed WDE Rules

The Wyoming Department of Education seeks public comment on changes to several rules and regulations including accreditation, statewide standards, graduation requirements, the Hathaway Scholarship Program, and a school nutrition project.

Public comment on all the proposed rules is open through June 29, 2018. All public comments will be recorded, filed, and posted on the Secretary of State website as part of the rule promulgation process. Please click [here](#) for more information.

Wyoming Reads

This week nearly 8,000 books will be given to first graders across Wyoming as part of the Wyoming Reads literacy celebration. First graders will be able to choose on book from six selections. More information on Wyoming Reads can be found at www.wyomingreads.org.

Legislative Interim Committee Meetings

Joint Revenue Committee, June 4 & 5, 2018 in Riverton, [Meeting Notice & Agenda](#)

Joint Education Committee, June 6 & 7, 2018 in Lander, [Meeting Notice & Agenda](#)

Select Committee on School Facilities, June 8, 2018 in Lander, [Meeting Notice & Agenda](#)

NSBA 2019 Annual Conference Call for Proposals

The 2018 NSBA Annual Conference was a great success! This year's conference included approximately 7,000 attendees and more than 300 exhibitor representatives. Thank you to all who were able to attend and present!

The educational component of the conference proved to be invaluable by exceeding attendee needs and expectations. This was due, in large part, to the contributions made by state association member presenters and many of your outstanding member districts. The conference offered more than 200 educational sessions and state association members played key roles in the education programming. On behalf of NSBA, thank you!

NSBA is now accepting proposals for the 2019 conference and all proposals must be submitted by **June 1, 2018**. Please click [here](#) to make a submission.

State of the Art Educational Strategies

The [Education Week](#) (5/8) "Digital Education" blog reports the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative are teaming on a new R&D project aimed at identifying "state-of-the-art" educational strategies and implementing them in classrooms. The initiative focuses on the development of "new measures, new ways of teaching, and new technologies for tracking and supporting students' writing ability, math skills, and 'executive functions,' such as self-control and attention." In particular, the focus of the new efforts is identifying new ideas in three main areas: improving students' writing (especially non-fiction); improving students' "mathematical understanding, application, and related mindsets"; and tracking and improving students' executive function.

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News Articles

Does your district have news worthy of statewide interest? If so, please email your news articles to wsba@wsba-wy.org. The articles will be included in the next weekly WSBA Memo.

WSBA Partners

Arthur J. Gallagher & Company – www.ajg.com, **BoardDocs** – www.boarddocs.com,
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