Welcome and Thank You!

WSBA would like to welcome newly elected school board members and to thank school board members who continue to serve or who have left their school board for other adventures. All of you are greatly appreciated for what you do for Wyoming kids!!

January Board Member Workshops

With the new health orders that begin this week, WSBA will soon present a new board member virtual training series for January. “The Keys to Effective Board Chairmanship” workshop will be offered virtually in January and the time will be determined in the near future.

Retired Educator/School Board Member Dies

Lee Dunham, a lifetime resident and educator in Wheatland, passed away on November 23, 2020 at the age of 89. Lee served as an educator in the Platte County School District No. 1 (Wheatland) for 46 years as a teacher and principal. He continued his service to the district and community by serving on the Platte #1 School Board for 12 years. He was a Certified Master Board Member and was selected to be a member of the 2008 All Wyoming School Board.

School Board Member Donates to Food from the Farm+Ranch

Jay Butler, who just finished his term as a school board member for Converse County School District No. 1 (Douglas) has donated seven beef to the Wyoming Hunger Initiative to be distributed to eight Boys & Girls Clubs across Wyoming. The beef was donated by Jay and other local ranchers in the area.
Wyoming Insight November Issue

The November 2020 issue of the Wyoming Insight is available at the State of Wyoming’s Economic Analysis Division website http://eadiv.state.wy.us/. The Wyoming Insight serves as an energy index and business indicators report for the state.

Legislative Meetings

Joint Appropriations Committee:
December 7-11, 2020, Agenda
December 14-18, 2020, Agenda (Updated December 1, 2020)

Joint Revenue Committee: December 17-18, 2020, Meeting Notice & Agenda. (Updated December 4, 2020)

Select Committee on School Finance Recalibration: December 21-22, 2020, Meeting Notice & Agenda (Updated December 4, 2020)

Recruiting Substitute Teachers

Students in UW’s College of Education have received a letter from Governor Mark Gordon and Superintendent of Public Instruction Jillian Balow asking students who are certified as substitute teachers – several hundred upperclassmen are in that category – to consider serving their local K-12 school districts in this capacity. Additionally, UW has encouraged all of its students who have at least 60 hours of college credit – the minimum required to be a substitute teacher – to pursue certification from Wyoming’s Professional Teaching Standards Board. UW students who serve as substitute teachers are eligible for a service credit from the university, in addition to the wages paid by local school districts. UW students are encouraged to reach out to their local school districts to pursue student teaching opportunities. Contact information for the districts may be found on WSBA’s website – www.wsba-wy.org/contact-info. The Professional Teaching Standards Board may be reached by phone at (307) 777-7291 or email at wyoptsb@wyo.gov.

We Care Grant Program

The pandemic has added emergency responsibilities and increased operating costs for school districts across North America. Because of this, BoardDocs is helping offset expenses of educational institutions by offering our “We CARE Grant” to help move school board operations to the cloud to create efficiencies and modernize governance.

Increasing transparency is a hallmark of school district boards. Educational institutions hard hit by pandemic related expenses still seek to communicate effectively with stakeholders while keeping community members and employees safe and informed. This grant award of $1000, used to offset the implementation costs of a new BoardDocs or Community by Diligent contract, is available to any K-20 education organization if they apply by December 15, 2020.

Complete the form to apply and a Governance Advisor will contact you and help you on the road to digital transformation and modern governance for your school board.
**Fund for Teachers**

Fund for Teachers works with the John P. Ellbogen Foundation to support Wyoming educators’ efforts to develop skills, knowledge and confidence that impact student achievement. Fund for Teachers invites teachers to design a summer learning experience that will transform classrooms by bringing out the scholar, explorer, scientist or artist in them - and then, their students! Individuals may request up to $5,000, and teams may request up to $10,000 for a unique and self-designed professional development learning experience.

Applications must be completed online by January 21, 2021. Only high-quality, thoughtful applications will be funded. Eligibility requirements must be met. Teachers can learn more, access resources, and submit an application at www.fundforteachers.org. Please contact Becca Steinhoff at the John P. Ellbogen Foundation for more information: ellbogenfoundation.wy@gmail.com  307-575-2443.

**News Articles**

Does your district have newsworthy 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**


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