



# School Board Memo

Week of May 2, 2022 – Happy May

## Legislative Meetings

Select Committee on Capital Financing & Investments: [Meeting Notice & Agenda](#), May 18, 2022

Joint Appropriations Committee: [Updated Meeting Agenda](#), June 2, 2022

## Wyoming Innovations in Learning

The sixth-annual Wyoming Innovations in Learning Conference seeks engaging virtual session proposals from educators in kindergarten through postsecondary education that will be delivered in an online format. The Innovations Planning Committee would like presenters from all fields who are willing to share their ideas and experiences to help inspire educators to bring the best teaching practices to K-20 learning. Session proposals have been extended and will now be accepted through **May 13, 2022**. Selected presenters will be notified of their inclusion in the conference by June 1st and will receive free registration for the conference. Submit your proposal [here](#).

## Carnegie Hall

**Oliver Soulek**, a 14-year-old student at **Centennial Middle School in Casper (Natrona County School District No. 1)**, has been selected to perform with the Middle School Honors Junior Choir at the 2022 Middle School Honors Performance Series at Carnegie Hall in New York. “We process thousands of nominations annually, selecting only the most talented

performers,” Honors Performance Series Program Director Marion Gomez said in a press release. Oliver will join singers from 39 states, the District of Columbia and Canada for the June 18th performance at Carnegie Hall.

## **Congressional Art Award**

“Sisters,” an oil painting created by **Lander Valley High School (LVHS – Fremont County School District No. 1)** sophomore **Jordan Armajo**, was recently announced as the recipient of the [Congressional Art Award](#), and her work will now be on display at the US Capitol Building for the next year. Jordan is the first LVHS student in 26 years to earn the award. Each spring, the [Congressional Institute](#) sponsors a nationwide high school visual art competition to recognize and encourage artistic talent in the nation and in each congressional district. Since the Artistic Discovery competition began in 1982, more than 650,000 high school students have participated.



## **School Construction Needs and Coal**

Wyoming will receive no coal lease bonus money to help fund its schools and their construction needs in the next two years, a loss of hundreds of millions of dollars compared to past budget cycles. And income from other minerals isn't looking good either, Matt Wilmarth, education expert with the Legislative Service Office, told the Legislature's Revenue Committee. "Coal lease revenue is gone," said Wilmarth, who was presenting figures from the Consensus Revenue Estimating Group's latest report. CREG is a group of state economic analysts who quarterly predict what the state's income will look like. Read full article [here](#).

## **Parents Opinions on Schools**

[Math textbooks axed](#) for their treatment of race; a [viral Twitter account](#) directing ire at LGBTQ teachers; a state law [forbidding classroom discussion](#) of sexual identity in younger grades; a board book for babies [targeted as "pornographic."](#) Lately it seems there's a new controversy erupting every day over how race, gender or history are tackled in public school classrooms. But for most parents, these concerns seem to be far from top of mind. That's according to [a new national poll by NPR and Ipsos](#). By wide margins – and regardless of their political affiliation – parents express satisfaction with their children's schools and what is being taught in them. Read full article [here](#).

## **All Aboard**

Diligent is dedicated to providing the best user experience for BoardDocs subscribers. Diligent is excited to announce a new webinar series, "**All Aboard**" that will offer best practice recommendations and cover content most requested in BoardDocs training. In these webinars, you can learn how your BoardDocs platform will help you efficiently perform your governance duties, promote organization, and maintain transparency. Sessions will be every second and fourth Tuesday of each month at noon MT.

- Session 1: Tuesday, March 8, 2022 – Pro Minutes (MCP, minutes lifecycle)
- Session 2: Tuesday, March 22, 2022 – LT Minutes (minutes lifecycle)
- Session 3: Tuesday, April 12, 2022 – LT/Pro Agenda Creation (all tips for efficiency creating agendas)
- Session 4: Tuesday, April 26, 2022 – Pro Workflow (creating approval trees and submitting items for approval)
- Session 5: Tuesday, May 10, 2022 – LT Options (in depth view of BoardDocs Options)
- Session 6: Tuesday, May 24, 2022 – Pro Options (in depth view of BoardDocs Options)

You can register by clicking [here](#). You only need to register once, and you are set for all sessions. Sessions will be 45 min to an hour long depending on the topic.

## **News Articles**

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

## **WSBA Partners**

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