School Board Memo

Week of August 28, 2023 – Happy School Year!

Be Well: Centering Mental Health in Schools

The "Be Well: Centering Mental Health in Schools" campaign from the National Association for Secondary School Principals will be hosting a discussion on September 13, 2023 with school leaders, mental health experts and partners, administration officials, and students. The presenters will discuss policy as well as practice, and they'll share helpful resources for educators. You can register to attend here.

Wyoming Economic Indicators

The August 2023 issue of the Wyoming Economic Indicators report is available at the State of Wyoming's Economic Analysis Division website http://eadiv.state.wy.us/. This report contains the Wyoming Economic Health Index (WEHI), a coincident economic indicator designed to provide a current assessment of the state's economy.

McGrath Title IX Training

BOCES 5 will be hosting a McGrath Title IX two-day training in Casper on October 10-11, 2023. Sexual Harassment and Misconduct, Discrimination, and Bullying, thoroughly addresses the intake and investigation of concerns and complaints ensuring Title VI, VII, and IX compliance. The McGrath Response System goes beyond compliance and provides the "how" of reporting, investigation, and record keeping including example cases, forms, and checklists. McGrath provides a consistent, easy-to-use system and when implemented correctly will shift the culture around sexual harassment and misconduct and encourage reporting. Please click here to register. Booking link for rooms at Casper Hilton Garden Inn.

Summary of August Joint Education Interim Committee Meeting

The Joint Education Interim Committee met on August 8th and 9th at the Wyoming State Capitol for their second meeting of the interim. Please click here for a summary of the meeting.
New ECHO Registration and Session Log-ins

Starting this fall 2023, most ECHO sessions will be held on the new iECHO content management platform. (Geriatrics and ECHO for Families/Familias will not be on the new iECHO.) There are a few new procedures. Registering for and joining sessions now requires an iECHO account. You’ll be prompted to create your account when you register the first time. Sessions will still occur via Zoom, but you will access the Zoom link through the iECHO platform.

The iECHO platform will allow you to:
- Directly connect to Zoom to join a session
- Access all session materials (also available in the Canvas course)
- Register one time for all sessions during the semester

A short training video is available on how to register in iECHO.

SchoolSafety.gov Back-to-School Campaign

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), in partnership with the U.S. Departments of Education (ED), Health and Human Services (HHS), and Justice (DOJ), has launched a public awareness campaign to highlight federal school safety resources and evidence-based practices available through SchoolSafety.gov. As part of the campaign, SchoolSafety.gov will release a range of resources, including a video, communications toolkit, and infographics, to help schools learn more about how to enhance school safety, access support, and easily share information about the campaign with others in their community. The campaign will feature an informational webinar showcasing federal training and technical assistance centers focused on issues related to school safety, school climate, and mental health supports. Campaign information and materials will be accessible through a dedicated hub on SchoolSafety.gov throughout August and September. Visit SchoolSafety.gov/back-to-school-campaign to learn more and get involved.

2023 Fall Virtual Series: Build Your Board Knowledge

Beginning Thursday, October 5th, WSBA will host a virtual training series for members who are interested in building their knowledge about the following topics: School Finance 101, Overview of Governance Standards, Understanding Accountability, Roles & Responsibilities, and Advocating for your District. The sessions will be held at noon and last an hour. You can register for this free series here.

Legislative Meetings

Select Committee on School Facilities: Meeting Notice, September 14, 2023.
Joint Education & Joint Appropriations Committee: Meeting Notice and Agenda, September 27, 2023.

Safe Student Alliance Conference

Join the Wyoming Department of Education for the Safe Student Alliance Conference! This in-person conference will take place on September 25-26, 2023 at the University of Wyoming Conference Center. At this conference, administrators, educators, law enforcement and other experts will come together to discuss and address important issues related to student safety and mental health. This event aims to provide valuable insights, strategies, and resources. For more information or to register please click here.
WDE Seeks Comment on Chapter 36 & 37 Rules – CTE

The Wyoming Department of Education seeks public comment on the proposed Chapter 36 and Chapter 37 Rules pertaining to W.S. 21-12-105 and 21-13-337: Career and Technical Education. Public comment may be submitted online, or via email until 11:59 p.m. on September 18, 2023. All public comments will be recorded verbatim, including the submitter’s name and city of residence, on the Secretary of State’s website as part of the rules promulgation process. See the public comment form to view the Statement of Reasons for the changes and the strike and underline versions of the rule sets. For more information contact Michelle Aldrich at michelle.aldrich@wyo.gov or 307-777-3655 with any questions.

UW Literacy Conference

Each fall, the University of Wyoming Literacy Research Center and Clinic (LRCC) hosts the Fall Literacy Conference to expose teachers from Wyoming and beyond to the latest research and best practices in literacy education. The 2023 conference on September 16, 2023 will focus on High-Quality Vocabulary Instruction in Grades P-12 and will feature keynote presentations from best-selling author Gary Soto and nationally recognized literacy researchers Dr. Dianna Townsend and Dr. Doris Baker. Wyoming PTSB credit is available for conference attendees.

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


WSBA Contact Information

Boyd Brown, Director of Member Engagement – boydbrown82@gmail.com
Ken Decaria, Director of Government Relations – ken@wsba-wy.org
Sheila Ducello, Financial Programs Specialist – sheila@wsba-wy.org
Brian Farmer, Executive Director – bfarmer.wy@gmail.com
Jona Fletcher, Accounting Associate – jona@wsba-wy.org
Rod Kessler, Director of Leadership Training – rod@wsba-wy.org
Charis Kipper, Office/Business Manager – charis@wsba-wy.org
Julie Kocourek, Director of Member Services – julie@wsba-wy.org
Terry Sterling, Director of Financial Services – terry@wsba-wy.org

WSBA Directory

Members, Superintendents, Attorneys, Business Managers

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