



WYOMING SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

School Board Memo

Week of September 9, 2019

WSBA Is Hiring

The **Wyoming School Boards Association (WSBA)**, located in **Cheyenne, Wyoming**, is accepting applications for a **Director of Member Services**. The successful candidate should have demonstrated successful education, management, and administrative experience in order to provide support in developing and delivering programs and services for member districts and in supporting the advocacy agenda of the association. This position will be undergoing a revision and the candidate selected will be, in part, responsible for reshaping the position. Salary will be commensurate with education and experience and includes a comprehensive benefits package. Please click [here](#) for position announcement.

2019 WSBA Fall Regional Meetings

The schedule for the 2019 WSBA Fall Regional Meetings is now posted on the website. Last meeting is in Douglas on Wednesday. Please click [here](#) to view the schedule.

Board Member Resigns

Tammy Walker, a board member for **Uinta County School District No. 1 (Evanston)**, has resigned from the Board of Trustees. The district will advertise, interview and appoint a new trustee in the next few weeks.

Quality Counts 2019

Education Week's 23rd annual report card, [Quality Counts 2019](#), ranks Wyoming sixth nationally in education quality - up one spot from seventh nationally in 2018. Once again, Wyoming scored the highest among western states, and first in the nation in school finance. The 2019 grades are based on three key indices: Chance-for-Success Index; K-12 Achievement Index; and school finance.

Legislative Meetings

The **Joint Revenue Committee** will meet on September 18-19, 2019 in Pinedale. [Meeting Notice & Agenda](#) (updated 8/27/2019) [Meeting Materials](#) (updated 8/27/2019)

The **Joint Education Committee** will meet on September 26-27, 2019 in Cody. [Meeting Notice & Agenda](#) (updated 9/3/2019)

The **Wyoming's Tomorrow Task Force** will meet on September 30, 2019 at Casper College.

National Winner

Qingfeng Li, a 2019 graduate of **Laramie Senior High School (Albany County School District No. 1)**, is the national winner of the Trig-Stars competition sponsored by the National Society of Professional Surveyors. The event tests high school students on trigonometry. Li was one of 36 state winners who competed in the event.

Region V BOCES Webinars

Region V B.O.C.E.S. Outreach Services has created a number of indepth webinars in an effort to address the ongoing needs of educators and special education professionals within our region and throughout the state of Wyoming. These webinars provide viewers with valuable insight and techniques to work with students who present with challenges ranging from physical, mental and behavioral disorders to those brought on by traumatic brain injury and trauma or neglect. Our highly knowledgeable presenters have over sixty years of cumulative experience and are widely considered experts in the field. Our sincere hope is that participants will find these presentations helpful and reach a deeper level of understanding and gain both personal and professional insight within the field. Please go to WSBA website (www.wsba-wy.org) under Conferences/Workshops for more information.

Center for Safe Schools Toolkits

As the school year begins please be aware of the following resources that can be utilized as tools to help prepare for students and staff to have a safe and successful school year:

[Mental Health America: Back to School Toolkit](#) provides free resources, tools, tips, and information on early identification mental health themes and Before Stage 4 messaging.

[Safe and Sound Schools: Assess, Act, and Audit Toolkit](#) is designed to facilitate conversations, problem-solving, and partnerships in your school community around each active area of focus.

[National Safety Council: Back to School Safety Checklist](#) provides key tips to help ensure that students safely travel to school.

Alliance for Excellent Education Webinars

Building Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Schools – September 17, 2019 – 12 Noon-1:00 pm. In this webinar, panelists will share their experiences as leaders committed to equity and tips to foster conversations about race and inclusion that break down walls and strengthen school communities. They will share promising practices for: culturally responsive educator training, professional learning to address implicit biases, recruiting and hiring faculty and staff of color, and supporting equitable changes at the school, district, and state levels. Panelists also will respond to questions submitted by viewers from across the nation. Please click [here](#) for more information.

How Lessons from Brain Science Can Support District and School Level Transformation – September 19, 2019 – 1:00-3:00 pm. This webinar will describe profound changes in student engagement and engagement at ABC Unified School District resulting from the district's efforts to align its strategic vision with research on how students learn and develop—what we at All4Ed call the “Science of Adolescent Learning.” Please click [here](#) for more information.

National Preparedness Month (NPM)

National Preparedness Month (NPM), is recognized each September to promote family and community disaster and emergency planning now and throughout the year. The 2019 theme is "**Prepared, Not Scared.**" For additional information and resources visit [National Preparedness Month 2019](#).

2019 WY-TOPP Results Available Online

Results for the second administration of the Wyoming Test of Proficiency and Progress (WY-TOPP) are now available [online](#). The results indicate an increase in proficiency rates over most grade levels and content areas. Overall student proficiency rates have increased in English Language Arts (ELA) by 2.6%, Math by 2.1% and Science by .9%. WY-TOPP results will be used to inform accountability determinations, which will be released on September 16, 2019.

Along with the WY-TOPP results, the 2019 state, district, and school-level results for the ACT taken by students in grade 11 are also available [online](#). The largest increases occurred in grade 9 ELA, rising 8.3%, grade 3 ELA, rising 3.4% and grade 6 Math, rising 3.1%.

WYOTalks Day of Prevention

[Register now](#) for WYOTalks Day of Prevention on October 4, 2019 at Casper College. Top state leaders will address the critical role of prevention when dealing with mental health, education, youth, suicide, law enforcement and other current issues. There will be a panel discussion featuring top national and state leaders sharing their perspectives on the important role of prevention efforts in Wyoming.

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

Arthur J. Gallagher & Company – www.ajg.com, **BoardDocs** – www.boarddocs.com, **George K. Baum & Company** – www.gkbaum.com, **Horace Mann Companies** – www.horacemann.com, **HUB International Mountain States LTD** – www.hubinternational.com, **k12itc, Inc.** – www.k12itc.com, **Long Building Technologies** – www.long.com, **NE Wyoming BOCES CO-OP** www.newboces.com, **Pine Cove Consulting** – www.pinecc.com, **Software Unlimited, Inc.** – www.su-inc.com

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