WSBA History
“1934-2013”

“Touching the Lives of Children”

Wyoming School Boards Association
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Introduction

There comes a time in every great organization’s life when a record of the achievements of those that have made significant contributions to the organization’s success need to be recognized and their history recorded for all time. Storytelling was the way many cultures provided guidance to their young and preserved the lessons learned from past efforts. The Wyoming School Boards Association has a rich history of dedication and achievement by school board members over the last 70 plus years. The selfless dedication and commitment of school district trustees who founded the Wyoming School Trustee’s Association in the 1930’s and proceeded to build the Wyoming School Boards Association upon that foundation over the last 70 plus years is exemplary. During all of that time the main focus was on the needs and education of the children of our great state.

This document is dedicated to all past and currently serving school district trustees’ hopes and dreams for an ever improving education system in Wyoming that will continue to meet the needs of each child. We commend all who have served as school trustees in Wyoming and applaud your efforts to ensure the highest levels of student achievement for each student. Your legacy is demonstrated each day by the success of those who have attended your schools and received the benefits of your dedicated service.

Dr. Myron Basom
Dr. Mark Higdon
“Seven Decades of Leadership for Children”

The

Story

Of

The

Wyoming School Boards Association
In the depths of the Great Depression, a small band of pioneering school trustees formed an association they called, The Wyoming School Trustees Association. That group of pioneers in the fall of 1934 could not have foreseen what they had spawned in the 1930’s would become some 70 years later. Perhaps they unwittingly subscribed to Churchill’s assertion that, “you create your own universe as you go along.”

The minutes of that mid-depression meeting revealed an infant organization that would meet once yearly and that one member from each school district could become a member of the association. Through an organization that would collectively harness the resources of individuals they hoped to accomplish more for children than they could in acting in isolation one from another.

One can only speculate about what would drive a group of board members to enter into an agreement to launch a fledgling organization, when the nation’s energy and attention was focused on survival. The basic needs of a vast majority of citizens of the State of Wyoming and the nation were one and the same, how to secure food,
shelter and clothing. There must have been a feeling of a higher purpose than providing for the material needs of the people. Perhaps that purpose is best described by Charles MacCormack who opined, “With every generation of children comes the hope for a better world, but only through the provision of education for all.” Hope for the future for those pioneering school trustees was found in bettering schools for the benefit of all children. They would further this cause by mutually agreeing to harness the individual and collective strengths of their members into The Wyoming School Trustees Association.

Any organization must function within the bounds of societal ethos. The newly formed WSTA found itself in the midst of a depressed state of the union, but nearing the beginning of World War II. The early days of the Association must have been trying times for the organizers. The topics that found their way into the minutes sound familiar even in the current context. Over and over official minutes of the Association reflected the concern of the Association for vocational education, teacher supply and demand coupled with teacher effectiveness and competence, school transportation, building programs, the sale and/or lease of state lands, compulsory education for all children through the age of 18 and the completion of the 12th grade. The role that the federal government should play in the state and local operations of schools was, and is, a thorny issue for local
districts and the state agencies. State support for all schools was a constant and reoccurring theme

Over the decades, leadership has been provided for local school districts. Leadership activities were always posited as ways to help local leaders advance learning opportunities for all students. Early in the existence of the Association, emphasis was placed on teaching effectiveness. The Association urged the State Department of Education, the College of Education at UW and state agencies to attract and develop the quantity and quality of instructional facilitators needed for local schools to meet its commitments to better education for all. WSTA alliances with groups that could influence or help influence actions were always utilized.

LEADERSHIP

From 1934 to 1959 the Association was called The Wyoming School Trustees Association. In 1960, the minutes refer to the association as the Wyoming School Boards Association, a title still in vogue. The reason for the change in the title of the Association may have been due to the Association’s connection with the National School Boards Association.
Much credit must be given to C.L. Morton from Guernsey for keeping the Association focused on its mission of helping schools provide education for all students. He was the president from 1934 to 1937. His four-year record at the helm of the Association has not been eclipsed into the 21st century. Leadership in the early years of the organization was in the hands of the board of directors and its president for some 22 years. In 1956, Dr. Harold Webb was appointed to be the on-going executive secretary-treasurer of WSTA in an office at the University of Wyoming. Dr Webb later became the long time executive director of the National School Boards Association.

There seems to have been a long time relationship with the University of Wyoming. Speakers at conventions and meetings often included the president and various faculty members and/or deans of colleges from UW. Harold Webb was an employee of the University. That relationship continued until 1986 when Dr. James Andersen long-time UW faculty member left the employment of UW to become a full time executive director for WSBA. The office remained in Laramie until Jerry Maurer was hired as Executive Director in 1994. The Board gave him the choice of moving the office to Casper or Cheyenne. Mr. Maurer chose Cheyenne and moved the office during his first year as Executive Director.
Over the years, leadership within the Association has abounded. If there were no specific instances to have been cited, it would have been logical that there must have been leadership for there to have been over seventy years of existence and growth for WSBA. Some individuals, but certainly not all, are noted here as examples of leadership at the state and national levels that was exhibited by members of the Association in other venues.

Dr. George Ewan from Sheridan, who was president of WSBA in 1964, was elected to be the treasurer of the NSBA in 1966. The campaign to help Dr. Ewan and his candidacy was centered around the slogan, “Let George Do It.” The campaign buttons featured the slogan and the bucking horse. Dr. Ewan passed through the elective chairs of NSBA and was named president of NSBA in 1970.

Many officers of WSBA later served in the governments of Wyoming and the nation. Harry Roberts, once president of WSBA, became State School Superintendent where he marshaled forces for school district re-organization. Through his leadership and foresight the first Wyoming School Code was published.

Tom Strook, president of WSBA in 1966, became president of the Wyoming Senate and later was named the US ambassador to Guatemala.
Harold Hellbaum, who was a long time member of the WSBA board of directors, declined the presidency of WSBA because he thought he might have a conflict with his duties in the Wyoming House of Representatives. Harold later became Speaker of the Wyoming House of Representatives.

Tom Wright, a veteran board member from Newcastle and president of WSBA in 1990, was elected to the National School Boards Association’s board of directors in the spring of 1990.

Many former and present officers and members of the board of directors of WSBA were or are members of the State Legislature and/or boards and agencies of county and state government.

**WSBA AND THE ISSUES**

Wyoming school board members are not paid for being a board member. They truly are citizens who serve to make life better for young people. Serving on a local board of education is an often trying and criticized activity. Tip O’Neal who was a long-time U.S. Speaker of the House, once proclaimed, that of all the political positions he had held, being a school committeeman in Massachusetts was the most difficult. Board members through the offices of the WSBA have long
enjoyed being the catalyst for causes that promulgate better schools for all children. The Association has been able over the years to join with other like-minded people and organizations to promote public awareness, which often resulted in some kind of governmental action.

Adequate funding for schools has been a constant issue for the Association since its first meeting. In the 1930’s it was all about survival since the funding for schools was a local responsibility. The local property tax was the major source of revenue for school operations. When Wyoming became a state, the federal government mandated that sections 16 and 36 in each township in the new state be devoted to the support of public schools. The State’s contribution to the local school district was through monies realized from the lease and/or sale of state school lands. In the 40’s and 50’s the Association, along with other interests proposed a state-funding model that would relieve local property tax payers of virtually being the sole financial supporter of its schools.

Dr. Walter Reusser, a nationally recognized expert on school finance, met on numerous occasions with the Association to prepare a plan that would bring the total state resources to bear for local school support. Out of all those efforts the state foundation program was voted into law and became effective in 1955. The program promised a basic education program for each child in the State. The
dollar amount that was set to accomplish this feat was set at $5500.00 per classroom unit. The classroom unit popularly known by its acronym, the CRU, was based on the number of students in a typical classroom. The size of the school dictated what the typical class size was. For instance, in a small school, a CRU might have been eight students. While in a large school, 20 or more students constituted a CRU. The foundation program utilizing the CRU concept provided the basis for school financing for over four decades.

The minutes and reports of the Association are replete with discussions, arguments, resolutions and actions about the program. Classroom units that set the base for school entitlements were studied, changed and revised upward. Units for vocational education, auxiliary services, and administration were changed, eliminated or modified with seemingly every legislative session. It was often suggested that the legislature postponed setting a value for the classroom unit until the last hour of the last day of the session. Some cynics even said the legislature balanced the state budget by adding up their proposed expenditures, and subtracting those from the projected available resources and the difference was what was allocated for the operation of school districts.

In 1978, a Worland board member told the board of directors, of which she was a member, that her school district was contemplating a suit against the State over in-
adequate school funding. The suit was duly filed. The case or similar cases were to be in the courts for the next 30 years. The judge in the Worland case said in effect, the wealth of the State must be the wealth of the school district. On appeal, the Wyoming Supreme Court agreed with the district court’s judgment and directed the state legislature to align school funding with the State’s Constitution. A financially equal education for all students would be written into law. In subsequent legal actions, capital construction was also deemed to be constitutionally joined with the basic school funding decision.

In the formative years of the Association, WSBA formed a close knit relationship with UW, the WEA, the WASA and the State Department of Education to further the cause of education for all. Later, the PTA also became a part of the coalition in search of bettering the prospects for young people. This closely held bond of relationships was somewhat diminished when the NEA and its affiliates (WEA) declared that the interests of teachers would be its guiding principle. The WASA, which had been a department within the WEA, was separated from the WEA and became its own entity. The split among the educational fraternity, teachers from governing boards, manifested itself in issues regarding teacher rights and responsibilities. The WASA, which always had a strong bond with the Association,
forged even stronger relationships with WSBA, which resulted in common meetings and legislative agenda.

WSBA records show relationships of local boards with their faculty members were of an on-going nature. Such things as dates for teacher notification of reemployment, termination of teachers, certification of teachers, teachers breaking contracts and negotiations appear in almost every report of the Association. Heated arguments about each issue seemed to be common.

The role that the federal government should play in local school district operations was a most heated bone of contention in the 60’s and 70’s. The State of Wyoming had gone on record at the state level as refusing to accept federal funds for schools. The Association urged its delegates to the NSBA regional and national meetings to oppose the involvement of the “feds” in school operations. Local control of schools was threatened by federal involvement according to school leaders at the state and local levels. By resolution, the Association declared, “education is a local function, a state responsibility and a national concern.” A major issue seemed to be that in some way the federal government would set a national curriculum, which would negate local control by the community and its elected board representative. The fears of those opposed to federal involvement may have been prescient.

National programs promulgated under the guise of national concerns have become
common. No Child Left Behind (who could argue with the wordage?), national assessment of educational progress, commissions, reports and think tanks have asserted that the needs of the nation may outweigh the wants of the local citizenry. Probably no action of the Association, caused as much internal conflict among its members as that of school district reorganization. For years there had been contentious discussions about small school districts versus larger school districts. Conventions, meetings and work sessions were devoted to what was the ideal school district size for effective learning. The Association took a stand for unified school districts. Of course, some member districts of the WSBA were strongly opposed. The old adage, “whose ox is being gored,” became the contentious issue. As mentioned earlier, Harry Roberts, a board member from Kaycee who became president of WSBA in 1959, successfully ran for State Superintendent of Public Instruction. His office proposed a plan to the legislature. The plan set minimum standards for a school district. County committees were established in each county to propose a plan to a state reorganization committee for approval. The county committees were composed of one member from each of the then existing school districts. The large school districts complained about their numerical lack of membership on the committees but the compromise was that a set of standards had to be met, which in effect protected the large district’s interests. The end result of
the reorganization legislation was that very few schools were closed, but school
districts became larger. Not all school districts in the Association were enamored
over the reorganization laws. The minutes of the Association noted instances of
members withholding dues to the WSBA in protest. At one time there were over
200 school districts in the State, after the reorganization law became effective there
were 49.

A PARTNERSHIP

Ralph Waldo Emerson once wrote, “Our chief want is someone who will inspire us
to be what we know we could be.” The WSBA has acted as a catalyst with the
local school districts and its membership to forge an inspiring organization to assist
all in knowing “what could be.” WSBA has attempted through the years to
develop board members’ innate abilities with a larger view of the role of a board
member. Boardsmanship became the impetus for almost all WSBA programs and
initiatives.

Through the distribution of pamphlets, books and bulletins, WSBA has attempted
to bring to the attention of its members the best practices that were in place
somewhere in the country.
The Association in the early 60’s caused the popular handbook, WORDS TO THE WISE, to be printed. Since there was no coded law for schools, the early versions of the handbook were replete with sections of educational law winnowed from various state statutes. In some small way, WORDS TO THE WISE was the forerunner of the present Education Laws of Wyoming. Later editions of the handbook, while still referring board members to cogent school law, have emphasized boardsmanship. The Association has over the years used the printed page to keep members apprised of the latest happenings. More recently, the electronic medium has shortened the time lapse between a happening and the reported action. During the legislative sessions, almost all of the daily happenings of the session are reported to members via E-mail. Announcements, reminders of meetings and calls to action are electronically transmitted.

Helping individual board members and school boards discharge their duties is a hallmark of the Association. Early minutes of the Association reveal that workshops have always been important activities of the organization. Throughout the recorded happenings of the Association, mention of new board member workshops, workshops for school attorneys, board chair workshops and special topics workshops abound.
Special committees have been formed to promote school district operations. Constitutional committees have been formed to form, reform and amend the WSBA constitution. For many years finance committees have flourished. As mentioned earlier, the old foundation program was partially a result of WSBA’s insistence on an equitable distribution of funding for local school districts. For several years, a capital facilities committee worked to bring the problem of financing and building school structures to legislative bodies. In fact, a form of state support for school facilities was embedded for a time into the foundation program.

SERVICES

Specialized services to local school districts have been provided when a need presents itself. During the 80’s and 90’s, an architect from the engineering school at UW was made available to school districts. His consultation with boards that were planning a building program was without cost to the local board. Dr. Jim Rose volunteered his services to those who wanted an independent review of their projects.

Legal services have long been available through the Association. Ross and Tracy Copenhaver have been instrumental in giving advice to local boards as well as to WSBA.
The annual convention of WSBA and WASA has become the premier educational meeting of the year. Each year about 200-300 people meet to hear from the experts, engage in small group sessions and participate in recognition ceremonies. WSBA, WASA and WASBO have joined forces to sponsor a trade fair at the annual convention. Here board members and administrators can see on one floor the latest in curricular materials, facilities, equipment and services. Almost all the vendors at this show are from the Equality State. They, too, have an investment in helping board members help young people.

Through the decades of its existence, WSBA has been a true adherent to the admonition of Horace Mann, “Let us not be content to wait and see what will happen, but to give us the determination to make the right things happen.”

In 2007, the mission, vision, and core values of the Association are highlighted in the handbook, “Words to the Wise.” The mission outlines in succinct form what for 70 years has been the guiding principle of the WSBA. The mission of the Wyoming School Boards Association is to ensure the highest level of student achievement for all students by providing visionary leadership and high quality services to school districts.
WSBA Board of Directors

A History Of Service
History of Wyoming School Boards Association

Board of Directors

1934 – Wyoming School Trustees Association, 1 meeting yearly

(Open to all school districts in state, one member per school district)

President, C.L. Morton, Guernsey

1935 – Wyoming School Trustees Association

President, C.L. Morton, Guernsey

1936 – Wyoming School Trustees Association

President, C.L. Morton, Guernsey

1937 – Wyoming School Trustees Association

President, C.L. Morton, Guernsey

1938 – Wyoming School Trustees Association

President, F.L. Duvall, Cheyenne

1939 – Wyoming School Trustees Association

President, F.L. Duvall, Cheyenne

1940 – Wyoming School Trustees Association

President, O.E. Knight, Cody

1941 -Wyoming School Trustees Association

President, O.E. Knight, Cody; Florence Sorensen, Vice Chairman; Florence Kinnaman, Secretary
Pro tem; W.O. Wilson, R. J. Rymill; Mr. Shelton; Nova Child; Mary Nelson; Mrs. Armstrong; F. L. Duvall Secretary-Treasurer; Mrs. Smith; and Mrs. Elmer C. Wiley
Speakers: Dr. L.C. Hunt, Secretary of State; Dr. O.C. Schwiering, Dean of the College of Education at the University of Wyoming; Mr. Jesse Goins, Superintendent of Schools in Laramie County, and Senator Robert Rymill,

1942 - Wyoming School Trustees Association

President, R.J. Rymill, Ft. Laramie

1943- Wyoming School Trustees Association

President, J.I. Williams, Evanston

1944 – Wyoming School Trustees Association

President, J.I. Williams, Evanston

1945 – Wyoming School Trustees Association

President R. J. Rymill, Ft. Laramie; F. L. Duvall, Secretary-Treasurer; and Florence Sorensen

Speakers: Ray Robertson, Commissioner of Education; Dr. O. C. Schwiering, Dean of the College of Education at the University of Wyoming; Earl Wright, State Treasurer; Dr. George D. Humphrey, President of the University of Wyoming; Dr. Walter Reusser, Professor of Education at the University of Wyoming; Miss Esther Anderson, State Superintendent of Public Instruction; Mr. M.F. Griffith, Dean of the Casper Junior College.

1946 – Wyoming School Trustees Association

President, David Foote, Casper; F.L. Duvall, Secretary-Treasurer; Mrs. J.R. Mitchell; Clinton Bradshaw, Lyman; Jack Costin, Laramie; Harold Ackerly, Storey; Mrs. Marvin Zimmerman, Lyman; O.S. Shelton, Little Bear Route, Cheyenne; J. Baird Janney, Sheridan.

*Discussed forming a county organization of trustees, became a member of the National Council of School Boards Association.

1947- Wyoming School Trustees Association. 1 yearly meeting, Casper

President, David Foote, Casper; Jack Costin, Vice-President, Laramie; Mrs. McLean, Secretary; Harold Ackerly, Storey; Mrs. Holmes, Cheyenne, Secretary-Treasurer

*Moved yearly meeting to November
1948- Wyoming School Trustees Association

President, Jack Costin, Laramie

1950- Wyoming School Trustees Association, Casper

President, Everett Anderson, Huntley; David Foote, Casper, J. A. Shaw; Chester Frederick; Mrs. Alta Carroll, Sheridan; Mrs. Keith Holmes, and Mr. Rymill.

1951-Wyoming School Trustees Association, Casper

President, Everett Anderson, Huntley; Mrs. Alta Carroll, Sheridan; Vice President; Mrs. Jake Chaffin, Mrs. Irv Fornstrom; H.R. Thornton; Allen Hunter; Mrs. Roy Nearing; W.E. Cook; David Foote; James Patton; William Weisenberger, Bairoil; Nancy J. Rymill, Secretary-Treasurer; William F. Smith, Buffalo; Mr. Swendenborg, Casper; and Margaret LeVasseur.

*Moved yearly meeting to two days, unhappy with High School Athletic Association.

1952-Wyoming School Trustees Association- Casper

President, Alta Carroll, Sheridan; Vice-President, William O. Smith, Buffalo; Mrs. Patton; Mr. Baker; Mr. Lucas; Mrs. Beuf; Richard Flint; Stanley Reser; Vance Lucas; Mrs. Hillyhard; Mrs. Brug; Harold Biggerstaff, Gillette; Mrs. Hugh Sanburn; Cecil M. Paulus, Secretary-Treasurer.

*Adopted Constitution

1953-Wyoming School Trustees Association-Casper

President, William O. Smith, Buffalo; Mrs. Bufl, Vice-President; C. Vance Lucas, Secretary-Treasurer; Alta Carroll, Sheridan; C.H. Thompson; P.S. Weber; Gordon Kann, Niobrara; Mrs. Helen G. Fernald; Mrs. Lois Koch; John T. Jensen; Jack Moberly; Paul O. Hines; Vernon H. Johnston; David E. Foote, Sr.; Mrs. Conely; Harold Dierks; Chelsea Werner; C.R. Snyder; John Jensen; Mrs. Elsie Scott, Goshen County; George T. Beck.

1954-Wyoming School Trustees Association-Casper

President, William O. Smith, Buffalo; Vernon H. Johnston, Rawlins, Vice-President; C. Vance Lucas, Secretary-Treasurer, George T. Beck; Mrs. Etta McCargar; Mrs. Earnest Lynde; Chelsea G. Werner; C.L. McHolland; Ray Webber; Eugene C. Taylor; Vernon Johnson; Alta Carroll; David Kidd; George T. Beck; Mrs. Pansy Dunn; Dr. Everett D. Lantz

*Determined to hold annual meeting jointly with Wyoming School Administrators Association
1955-Wyoming School Trustees Association, Casper

President, Vernon Johnston, Rawlins; Mrs. Aslyne C. Nott, Vice-President; Mr. Willard Rhoads, Cody.

*Dues established on a per school basis ranging from $10.00 to $80.00

1956-Wyoming School Trustees Association, Casper

President, Dr. Everett D. Lantz, Laramie; Mr. Willard Rhoads, Vice-President, Cody; Mr. Robert Hastings, Second Vice-President, Dr. Harold Webb, Supervisor of School Projects at the University of Wyoming, Secretary-Treasurer; Jay Brown, Pine Bluffs; Mrs. K.D. Knapp, Casper; K.H. Roberts, Kaycee; Mr. Westbrook.

*January 20, 1956, Started publishing Wyoming Trustees Bulletin

1957-Wyoming School Trustees Association

President, Jay Brown, Pine Bluffs; Willard Rhoads, Vice-President, Cody; K.H. Roberts; Second Vice-President, Kaycee; Dr. Everett D. Lantz, Immediate Past-President, Laramie; Dr. Harold K. Webb, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Laramie; S. Reed Dayton, Cokeville; J. Ralph Hylton, Sheridan; Mrs. Dexter Bush, Ten Sleep; Mrs. K.D. Knapp, Casper.

*Revised Constitution, Board membership, required meeting twice a year

*Newly Elected board members: J. Ralph Hylton, Sheridan; Donald Northrup, Powell; John Peryam, Encampment; C. Stuart Brown, Afton; Orval Greaser, Bosler

*Board of Directors- President, Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Immediate Past-President, and one individual member from the five WSTA areas as described in the Bylaws shall constitute the Board of Directors.

Northwest – Park, Big Horn, Washakie, Hot Springs, Fremont

Northeast – Crook, Weston, Campbell, Johnson, Sheridan

Central – Converse, Natrona, Niobrara, Carbon

Southwest – Teton, Lincoln, Sublette, Uinta, Sweetwater

Southeast – Albany, Laramie, Goshen, Platte
1958-Wyoming School Trustees Association

President, K. H. Roberts, Kaycee; 1st Vice President, Senator S. Reed Dayton, Cokeville; 2nd Vice-President Mrs. K.D. Knapp, Casper; Immediate Past-President Jay Brown, Pine Bluffs; Dr. Oscar W. Snarr, Executive Secretary-Treasurer; Board of Directors: J. Ralph Hylton, Sheridan; L. Donald Northrup, Powell; John Peryam, Encampment; C. Stuart Brown, Afton; Orval Greaser, Bosler; Dr. Otto W. Snarr, Executive Secretary-Treasurer.

Dr. Otto W. Snarr, became Executive Secretary-Treasurer, University of Wyoming, College of Education

1959-Wyoming School Trustees Association

President, K. H. Roberts, Kaycee; 1st Vice President, Senator S. Reed Dayton, Cokeville; 2nd Vice-President Mrs. K.D. Knapp, Casper; Immediate Past-President Jay Brown, Pine Bluffs; Dr. Oscar W. Snarr and John W. Gates, Executive Secretary-Treasurer; Board of Directors: William L. Vaught, Gillette; L. Donald Northrup, Powell; John Peryam, Encampment; C. Stuart Brown, Afton; Orval Greaser, Bosler; Dr. John S. Gates, Executive Secretary-Treasurer

*Dr. John S. Gates became Executive Secretary-Treasurer, University of Wyoming, College of Education

*Committee appointed to study changing name of organization to Wyoming School Boards Association

*Committee appointed to develop a handbook for school board members.

Seated: G.D. Humphrey, Harry Roberts, Dorothy Bush, Velma Linford; Standing: Robert Kumelos, Bill Vaught, James Harlan, Tom Snarr
**1960-Wyoming School Boards Association**

President, William Vaught, Gillette; 1st Vice President, Mrs. Gwen Knapp, Casper; 2nd Vice-President, Mrs. Dorothy Bush, Tensleep; Immediate Past-President, K.H. Roberts, Kaycee; Dr. John W. Gates, Executive Secretary-Treasurer; Board of Directors: Dr. George Ewan, Sheridan; L. Donald Northrup, Powell; John Peryam, Encampment; James Greenwood, Big Piney; Orval Greaser, Bosler.; H.K. Roberts, Kaycee, Immediate Past-President; Dr. John S. Gates, Executive Secretary-Treasurer

*Name changed to Wyoming School Boards Association, November 21, 1959, dues raised to $25 to $105, and enabling legislation drafted to allow school districts to join WSBA and pay dues and make other contributions relating to their educational activities.*

**1961-Wyoming School Boards Association**

President, Mrs. Gwen Knapp, Casper; 1st Vice President, Mrs. Dorothy Bush, Tensleep; 2nd Vice-President, Eldon M. Spicer, Rock Springs; Immediate Past-President, K.H. Roberts, Kaycee; Dr. John W. Gates, Executive Secretary-Treasurer; Board of Directors: Dr. George Ewan, Sheridan; L. Donald Northrup, Powell; John Peryam, Encampment; James Greenwood, Big Piney; LeRoy Meininger, Torrington; William Vaught, Gillette, Immediate Past-President; Dr. John S. Gates, Executive Secretary-Treasurer

*WSBA moves its funds out of University of Wyoming Accounting System.*

**1962- Wyoming School Boards Association**

President, Dorothy Bush, Tensleep; 1st Vice-President Eldon Spicer, Rock Springs; 2nd Vice-President, Dr. George Ewan, Sheridan; Robert Wright, Newcastle; Thomas Strook, Casper; Paul Hines, Ft. Washakie; Walter Dybowski, Kemmerer; LeRoy Meininger, Torrington; Mrs. Gwen Knapp, Casper, Immediate Past-President; Dr. John S. Gates, Executive Secretary-Treasurer

*Discussed regional workshops, Policies and Beliefs document developed

*Dr. E.D. O’Dell became acting Executive Secretary, Nov. 15, 1962, University of Wyoming, College of Education*
1963-Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Eldon Spicer, Rock Springs; 1st Vice-President, Dr. George Ewan, Sheridan; 2nd Vice-President, LeRoy Meininger, Torrington; Jes Jessen, Rozet; R.C. Richardson, Lovell; Mrs. Sun, Lamont; Robert Thompson, Big Piney; Norman N. Spear, Cheyenne; Robert L. Wright, Newcastle; Paul Hines, Ft. Washakie; Tom Strook, Casper; Dorothy Bush, Tensleep, Immediate Past-President; Dr. E.D. O’Dell, Executive Secretary-Treasurer

*Dr. Arvin C. Blome became Executive Secretary, July 27, 1963, University of Wyoming, College of Education.

*Director Areas Added

Area 1 - Laramie, Goshen, Platte

Area 2 – Albany, Carbon, Sweetwater

Area 3 – Lincoln, Teton, Sublette, Uinta

Area 4 – Campbell, Johnson, Sheridan

Area 5 – Big Horn, Hot Springs, Park, Washakie

Area 6 – Crook, Niobrara, Weston

Area 7 – Converse, Fremont, Natrona

1964- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Dr. George Ewan, Sheridan; 1st Vice-President, LeRoy Meininger, Torrington; 2nd Vice-President, Tom Strook, Casper; Norman Spear, Area One Director; Joe Chasteen, Area Two Director; Mrs. Nancy Wallace, Area Three Director; Jes R. Jessen, Area Four Director; R.C. Richardson, Area Five Director; Lawrence Materi, Area Six Director; R.E. Root, Area Seven Director; Eldon Spicer, Rock Springs, Immediate Past-President; Dr. Arvin C. Blome, Executive Secretary
1965- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, LeRoy Meininger, Torrington; 1st Vice-President, Tom Strook, Casper; 2nd Vice-President, Jes R. Jessen, Gillette; Harold Hellbaum, Area One Director; Joe Chasteen, Area Two Director; Mrs. Nancy Wallace, Area Three Director; Hollis Voiles, Area Four Director; Willard Wilson, Area Five Director; Lawrence Materi, Area Six Director; R.E. Root, Area Seven Director; Dr. George Ewan, Sheridan, Immediate Past-President; Dr. Arvin C. Blome, Executive Secretary

*Dr. Myron Basom became Executive Secretary on September 17, 1965, University of Wyoming, College of Education.

*Words to the Wise Published

1966- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Tom Strook, Casper; 1st Vice-President, Jes R. Jessen, Rozet; 2nd Vice-President, Lawrence Materi, Upton; Harold Hellbaum, Area One Director; Joe Chasteen, Area Two Director; Dr. D.R. Lyman, Area Three Director; Burton C. Kerns, Area Four Director; Willard Wilson, Area Five Director; Dr. Willis Franz, Area Six Director; William “Rory” Cross, Area Seven Director; LeRoy Meininger, Torrington, Immediate Past-President; Dr. Myron Basom, Executive Secretary

*Dr. George Ewan, Sheridan, elected Treasurer of National School Boards Association

1967- Wyoming School Boards Association President

President, Lawrence Materi, Upton; 1st Vice-President, Harold Hellbaum; 2nd Vice-President, William “Rory” Cross, Douglas; Joe Maier, Area One Director; Joe Chasteen, Area Two Director; Dr. D.R. Lyman, Area Three Director; Burton Kerns, Parkman; Area Four Director; Eugene Hyatt, Area Five Director; Dr. Willis Franz, Area Six Director; Robert Novotny, Area Seven Director; Tom Strook, Casper, Immediate Past-President; Dr. Myron Basom, Executive Secretary

*Code of Ethics for Board Members developed by WSBA.
*Dr. James D. Andersen became Executive Secretary on Sept. 22, 1967

*Dr. George Ewan, Sheridan, re-elected Secretary/Treasurer of National School Boards Association

**1968 – Wyoming School Boards Association**

President, Jes R. Jessen, Rozet; 1st Vice-President, William A. Cross; 2nd Vice-President, Harold Hellbaum; Joe Maier, Torrington, Area One Director; Joe Chasteen, Laramie, Area Two Director; Dr. D.R. Lyman, Area Three Director; Burton Kerns, Parkman, Area Four Director; Eugene Hyatt, Area Five Director; Verne Barton, Jr., Area Six Director; Robert Novotny, Area Seven Director; Lawrence Materi, Upton, Immediate Past-President; Dr. James Andersen, Executive Secretary

*Dr. George Ewan, Sheridan, Elected to office of 1st Vice-President of the National School Boards Association

**1969- Wyoming School Boards Association**

President, William A. Cross, Douglas; 1st Vice-President, Joseph Maier, Torrington; 2nd Vice-President, Lloyd Snider; Carl Lathrop, Area One Director; Joe Chasteen, Area Two Director; Dr. D.R. Lyman, Area Three Director; James Harlan, Area Four Director; Fred Legler, Area Five Director; Verne Barton, Jr., Area Six Director; Robert Novotny, Area Seven Director; Jes R. Jessen, Immediate Past-President; Dr. James Andersen, Executive Secretary

*Dr. George Ewan, Sheridan, Elected to office of President-Elect of the National School Boards Association

**1970- Wyoming School Boards Association**

President, Joseph Maier, Torrington; 1st Vice-President, Lloyd Snider; 2nd Vice-President, Carl Lathrop; Mrs. Alice Renner, Area One Director; Joe Chasteen, Area Two Director; Dr. D.R. Lyman, Area Three Director; Jes Jessen, Area Four Director; Fred Legler, Area Five Director; Verne Barton, Jr., Area Six Director; Robert Novotny, Area Seven Director; William A. Cross, Douglas, Immediate Past-President; Dr. James Andersen, Executive Secretary

*Dr. George Ewan, Elected to office of President-Elect of the National School Boards Association

*Golden Bell Award and Certificate of Commendation Initiated

*Words to the Wise Published
1971- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Denis R. Lyman, Jackson; 1st Vice-President, Joe Chasteen, Laramie; 2nd Vice-President, Kenneth Kennedy, Wheatland; Harold Brethour, Torrington, Area One Director; Gerald Palm, Hanna, Area Two Director; Bern Whittaker, Robertson, Area Three Director; James Harlan, Kaycee, Area Four Director; Bob Becker, Worland, Area Five Director; Verne Barton, Jr., Area Six Director; Robert Novotny, Area Seven Director; Joe Maier, Torrington, Immediate Past-President; Dr. James Andersen, Executive Secretary

*Constitution Updated

*Dismissal Book Published

1972- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Denis R. Lyman, Jackson; 1st Vice-President, Joe Chasteen, Laramie; 2nd Vice-President, Kenneth Kennedy, Wheatland; Lawrence Anderson, Burns, Area One Director; Gerald Palm, Hanna, Area Two Director; Mrs. Avis Ranck, Jackson, Area Three Director; James Harlan, Kaycee, Area Four Director; Bob Becker, Worland, Area Five Director; Mrs. Cleo Roberts, Sundance, Area Six Director; Maurice Good, Douglas, Area Seven Director; Joe Maier, Torrington, Immediate Past-President; Dr. James Andersen, Executive Secretary

*Budget $26,000  Cash Reserve $25,000

1973- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Joe Chasteen, Laramie; 1st Vice-President, Kenneth Kennedy, Wheatland; 2nd Vice-President, James Harlan, Kaycee; Lawrence Anderson, Burns, Area One Director; Gerald Palm, Hanna, Area Two Director; Mrs. Avis Ranck, Jackson, Area Three Director; Fay Bethurem, Sheridan, Area Four Director; John Rankine, Thermopolis, Area Five Director; Mrs. Cleo Roberts, Sundance, Area Six Director; Maurice Good, Douglas, Area Seven Director; Denis R. Lyman, Jackson, Immediate Past-President; Dr. James Andersen, Executive Secretary

1974- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Kenneth Kennedy, Wheatland; 1st Vice-President, James Harlan, Kaycee; 2nd Vice-President, Lawrence Anderson, Burns; John Simons, Torrington, Area One Director; Henry Chadey, Rock Springs, Area Two Director; Mrs. Avis Ranck, Jackson, Area Three Director; Fay Bethurem, Sheridan, Area Four Director; John Rankine, Thermopolis, Area Five Director; Mrs. Cleo Roberts, Sundance, Area Six Director; Maurice Good, Douglas, Area Seven Director; Joe Chasteen, Laramie, Immediate Past-President; Dr. James Andersen, Executive Secretary
1975- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, James Harlan, Kaycee; 1st Vice-President, Lawrence Anderson, Burns; 2nd Vice-President, Mrs. Avis Ranck, Jackson; Dr. John Simons, Torrington, Area One Director; Henry Chadey, Rock Springs, Area Two Director; Donna Sedey, Kemmerer, Area Three Director; Fay Bethurem, Sheridan, Area Four Director; John Rankine, Thermopolis, Area Five Director; Mrs. Cleo Roberts, Sundance, Area Six Director; Maurice Good, Douglas, Area Seven Director; Kenneth Kennedy, Wheatland, Immediate Past-President; Dr. James Andersen, Executive Secretary

1976 Wyoming Delegates to the National School Boards Association Delegate Assembly
Mrs. Avis Ranck, Dr. Jim Andersen, Exec. Dir., WSBA President Mr. Lawrence Anderson
1976- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Lawrence Anderson, Burns; 1st Vice-President, Mrs. Avis Ranck, Jackson; 2nd Vice-President, Dr. John Simons, Torrington; William Johnson, Glendo, Area One Director; Henry Chadey, Rock Springs, Area Two Director; Donna Sedey, Kemmerer, Area Three Director; Fay Bethurem, Sheridan, Area Four Director; John Rankine, Thermopolis, Area Five Director; Mrs. Cleo Roberts, Sundance, Area Six Director; Maurice Good, Douglas, Area Seven Director; James Harlan, Kaycee, Immediate Past-President; Dr. James Andersen, Executive Secretary

1977- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Lawrence Anderson, Burns; 1st Vice-President, Dr. John Simons, Torrington; 2nd Vice-President, Mrs. Cleo Roberts, Sundance; William Johnson, Area One Director; Henry Chadey, Rock Springs, Area Two Director; Bob Tanner, Big Piney, Area Three Director; Fay Bethurem, Sheridan, Area Four Director; John Rankine, Thermopolis, Area Five Director; Mrs. Mary Lou Barton, Upton, Area Six Director; Maurice Good, Douglas, Area Seven Director; James Harlan, Kaycee, Immediate Past-President; Dr. James Andersen, Executive Secretary

*Aligned Board of Director’s Areas with newly established judicial districts, moving to 9 areas.

Area 1 – Laramie County

Area 2 – Albany and Carbon Counties

Area 3 – Lincoln, Sweetwater, and Uinta Counties

Area 4 – Johnson and Sheridan Counties

Area 5 – Big Horn, Hot Springs, Park, and Washakie Counties

Area 6 – Campbell, Crook, and Weston Counties

Area 7 – Natrona County

Area 8 - Converse, Goshen, Niobrara, and Platte Counties

Area 9 – Fremont, Sublette, and Teton Counties
1978- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Dr. John Simons, Torrington; 1st Vice-President, Mrs. Cleo Roberts, Sundance; 2nd Vice-President; Mrs. R. L.Hunt, Cheyenne, Area One Director; Mike McNamee, Area Two Director; Henry Chadey, Rock Springs, Area Three Director; Fay Bethurem, Sheridan, Area Four Director; John Rankine, Thermopolis, Area Five Director; Mrs. Mary Lou Barton, Upton, Area Six Director; Maurice Good, Douglas, Area Seven Director; William H. Johnson, Area Eight Director, Garve Chapman, Lander, Area Nine Director, Lawrence Anderson, Burns, Immediate Past-President; Dr. James Andersen, Executive Secretary

1979- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Mrs. Cleo Roberts, Sundance; 1st Vice-President, Maurice Good, Douglas; 2nd Vice-President; Byron Russell, Cheyenne, Area One Director; Mike McNamee, Area Two Director; Henry Chadey, Rock Springs, Area Three Director; Mrs. Liz Michelena, Area Four Director; John Rankine, Thermopolis, Area Five Director; Mrs. Mary Lou Barton, Upton, Area Six Director; Mrs. Johnnie Burton, Casper, Area Seven Director; Charlie Coleman, Area Eight Director, Garve Chapman, Lander, Area Nine Director, Dr. John Simons, Torrington, Immediate Past-President; Dr. James Andersen, Executive Secretary

1980- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, John Rankine, Thermopolis; 1st Vice-President; 2nd Vice-President, Mary Lou Barton, Upton; Byron Russell, Cheyenne, Area One Director; Mike McNamee, Area Two Director; Henry Chadey, Rock Springs, Area Three Director; Mrs. Liz Michelena, Area Four Director; John Rankine, Thermopolis, Area Five Director; Bill Fulkerson, Gillette, Area Six Director; Mrs. Johnnie Burton, Casper, Area Seven Director; William H. Johnson, Area Eight Director; Garve Chapman, Lander, Area Nine Director; Mrs. Cleo Roberts, Sundance, Immediate Past-President; Dr. James Andersen, Executive Secretary

1981- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Henry F. Chadey, Rock Springs; 1st Vice-President, Mary Lou Barton, Upton; 2nd Vice-President, Mike McNamee, Laramie; Byron Russell, Cheyenne, Area One Director; Howard Brokaw, McFadden, Area Two Director; Dave Orgtega, Green River, Area Three Director; Mrs. Liz Michelena, Area Four Director; Mrs. Nancy Cook, Area Five Director; Bill Fulkerson, Gillette, Area Six Director; Mrs. Johnnie Burton, Casper, Area Seven Director; William H. Johnson, Area Eight Director; Garve Chapman, Lander, Area Nine Director; Dr. James Andersen, Executive Secretary
1982- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Mrs. Mary Lou Barton, Upton; 1st Vice-President, Mike McNamee, Laramie; 2nd Vice-President, William T. Fulkerson, Gillette; Art Mercer, Cheyenne, Area One Director; Howard Brokaw, Mc Fadden, Area Two Director; Dave Ortega, Green River, Area Three Director; Paul Millhouse, Buffalo, Area Four Director; Wesley Eugene Shuler, Powell, Area Five Director; Clell Claar, Moorcroft, Area Six Director; Mrs. Johnnie Burton, Casper, Area Seven Director; Nedalyn Testolin, Bosler, Area Eight Director; Mrs. Patricia Schueler, Big Piney, and Tom Youtz, Riverton Area Nine Director; Mrs. Cleo Roberts, Sundance, Immediate Past-President; Dr. James Andersen, Executive Secretary

1983- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Mike McNamee, Laramie; 1st Vice-President, William T. Fulkerson, Gillette; 2nd Vice-President, Art Mercer, Cheyenne; Leonard Anderson, Albin, Area One Director; Howard Brokaw, Mc Fadden, Area Two Director; Dave Ortega, Green River, Area Three Director; Paul Millhouse, Buffalo, Area Four Director; Wesley Eugene Shuler, Powell, Area Five Director; Tim Barritt, Upton, Area Six Director; Bill McDowell, Casper, Area Seven Director; Tom Stock, Douglas, Area Eight Director; Tom Youtz, Riverton, Area Nine Director; Mrs. Mary Lou Barton, Upton, Immediate Past-President; Dr. James Andersen, Executive Secretary

1984- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, William T. Fulkerson, Gillette; 1st Vice-President, Art Mercer, Cheyenne; 2nd Vice-President, Howard Brokaw, McFadden; Leonard Anderson, Albin, Area One Director; Dean Merrit, Area Two Director; Dave Ortega, Green River, Area Three Director; Paul Millhouse, Buffalo, Area Four Director; Wesley Eugene Shuler, Powell, Area Five Director; Tim Barritt, Upton, Area Six Director; Joan Street, Casper, Area Seven Director; Kathryn Kelly, Torrington, Area Eight Director; Tom Youtz, Riverton, Area Nine Director; Mike McNamee, Laramie, Immediate Past-President; Dr. James Andersen, Executive Secretary

1985- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Art Mercer, Cheyenne; 1st Vice-President, Howard Brokaw, Mc Fadden; 2nd Vice-President, Tim Barritt, Upton; Wanda Toombs, Area One Director; Bill Goodrich, Area Two Director; Karl Kurtz, Rock Springs, Area Three Director; Jack Pilch, Sheridan, Area Four Director; Tom Hinman, Greybull, Area Five Director; Tom Wright, Newcastle, Area Six Director; Joan Street, Casper, Area Seven Director; Kathryn Kelly, Torrington; Area
Eight Director; Craig Tolman, Riverton, Area Nine Director; William T. Fulkerson, Gillette, Immediate Past-President; Dr. James Andersen, Executive Secretary

*Board recognition award of excellence program started

*Board Areas modified, to add an Area 10

Area Three – Sweetwater and Uinta Counties

Area Nine – Fremont County

Area Ten – Lincoln, Sublette, and Teton Counties

1986- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Art Mercer, Cheyenne; 1st Vice-President, Howard Brokaw, Mc Fadden; 2nd Vice-President, Tim Barritt, Upton; Wanda Toombs, Area One Director; Bill Goodrich, Area Two Director; Karl Kurtz, Rock Springs, Area Three Director; Jack Pilch, Sheridan, Area Four Director; Tom Hinman, Greybull, Area Five Director; Tom Wright, Newcastle, Area Six Director; Joan Street, Casper, Area Seven Director; Kathryn Kelly, Torrington, Area Eight Director; Craig Tolman, Riverton, Area Nine Director; Jody Allen, Afton, Area Ten Director; William T. Fulkerson, Gillette, Immediate Past-President; Dr. James Andersen, Executive Secretary

*Executive Director is employed by the WSBA. WSBA Office leaves University of Wyoming location after 41 years of support from the University of Wyoming.

1987- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Howard Brokaw, Mc Fadden; 1st Vice-President, Tim Barritt, Upton; 2nd Vice-President, Joan Street, Casper; Donna Petsch, Meridan, Area One Director; Bill Goodrich, Area Two Director; Henry Chadey, Rock Springs, Area Three Director; Jack Pilch, Sheridan, Area Four Director; Tom Hinman, Greybull, Area Five Director; Tom Wright, Newcastle, Area Six Director; Carol Vlastos, Area Seven Director; Kathryn Kelly, Torrington, Area Eight Director; Craig Tolman, Riverton, Area Nine Director; Jody Allen, Afton, Area Ten Director; Art Mercer, Cheyenne, Immediate Past-President; Dr. James Andersen, Executive Director

1988- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Tim Barritt, Upton; President-Elect, Joan Street, Casper; Vice-President, Kathryn Kelly, Torrington; Donna Petsch, Meridan, Area One Director; Bill Goodrich, Area Two Director; Henry Chadey, Rock Springs, Area Three Director; Jack Pilch, Sheridan, Area Four Director; Donna Moberly, Worland, Area Five Director; Tom Wright, Newcastle, Area Six Director; Carol Jo Vlastos, Area Seven Director; Vern Ellis, Lusk, Area Eight Director; Doug
Thompson, Lander, Area Nine Director; Jody Allen, Afton, Area Ten Director; Howard Brokaw, McFadden, Immediate Past-President; Dr. James Andersen, Executive Director

1988- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Tim Barritt, Upton; President-Elect, Joan Street, Casper; Vice-President, Kathryn Kelly, Torrington; Donna Petsch, Meridan, Area One Director; Bill Goodrich, Area Two Director; Henry Chadey, Rock Springs, Area Three Director; Jack Pilch, Sheridan, and Mark Walker, Buffalo, Area Four Director; Donna Moberly, Worland, Area Five Director; Tom Wright, Newcastle, Area Six Director; Carol Jo Vlastos, Area Seven Director; Vern Ellis, Lusk, Area Eight Director; Doug Thompson, Lander, Area Nine Director; Jody Allen, Afton, Area Ten Director; Howard Brokaw, McFadden, Immediate Past-President; Dr. James Andersen, Executive Director

*Board developed policies for association.

1989- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Joan Street, Casper; President-Elect, Kathryn Kelly, Torrington; Vice-President, Tom Wright, Newcastle; Donna Petsch, Meridan, Area One Director; Nancy Harris, Rawlins, Area Two Director; Henry Chadey, Rock Springs, Area Three Director; Luella Stroup, Sheridan, Area Four Director; Donna Moberly, Worland, Area Five Director; Sandy Daly, Gillette, Area Six Director; Bob Keefe, Casper, Area Seven Director; Vern Ellis, Lusk, Area Eight Director; Doug Thompson, Lander, Area Nine Director; Carolynn Hawtin, Jackson, Area Ten Director; Tim Barritt, Upton, Immediate Past-President; Dr. James Andersen, Executive Director

*Dues increase from.00026 to.00032

1990- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Kathryn Kelly, Torrington; President-Elect, Tom Wright, Newcastle; Vice-President, Doug Thompson, Lander; Jon Kirkbride, Meridan, Area One Director; Nancy Harris, Rawlins, Area Two Director; Mike Sims, Evanston, Area Three Director; Luella Stroup, Sheridan, Area Four Director; Donna Moberly, Worland, Area Five Director; Sandy Daly, Gillette, Area Six Director; Judy Catchpole, Casper, Area Seven Director; T.C. Guest, Hawk Springs, Area Eight Director; Margaret Reynolds, Riverton, Area Nine Director; Carolynn Hawtin, Jackson, Area Ten; Joan Street, Casper, Immediate Past-President; Dr. James Andersen, Executive Director
1991- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Tom Wright, Newcastle; President-Elect, Doug Thompson, Lander; Vice-President, Sandy Daly, Gillette; Jon Kirkbride, Meridan, Area One Director; Nancy Harris, Rawlins, Area Two Director; Charles E. Fagnant, Mountain View, Area Three Director; Luella Stroup, Sheridan, Area Four Director; Dan Frederick, Worland, Area Five Director; Chris Jespersen, Moorcroft, Area Six Director; Judy Catchpole, Casper, Area Seven Director; T.C. Guest, Hawk Springs, Area Eight Director; Mary G. Nash, Dubois, Area Nine Director; Carolynn Hawtin, Jackson, Area Ten Director; Kathryn Kelly, Torrington, Immediate Past-President; Dr. James Andersen, Executive Director

1992- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Doug Thompson, Lander; President-Elect, Sandy Daly, Gillette; Vice-President, Carolynn Hawtin, Jackson; Jon Kirkbride, Meridan, Area One Director; Nancy Harris, Rawlins, Area Two Director; Charles E. Fagnant, Mountain View, Area Three Director; Kim Love, Sheridan, Area Four Director; Dan Frederick, Worland, Area Five Director; Chris Jespersen, Moorcroft, Area Six Director; Judy Catchpole, Casper, Area Seven Director; T.C. Guest, Hawk Springs, Area Eight Director; Mary G. Nash, Dubois, Area Nine Director; Robert McKim, Afton, Area Ten Director; Tom Wright, Newcastle, Immediate Past-President; Dr. James Andersen, Executive Director

1993- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Sandy Daly, Gillette; President-Elect, Carolynn Hawtin, Jackson; Vice-President, Jon Kirkbride, Meridan; Art Mercer, Cheyenne, Area One Director; JoAnn Richardson, Elk Mountain, Area Two Director; Terry McManus, Rock Springs, Area Three Director; Kim Love, Sheridan, Area Four Director; Dan Frederick, Worland, Area Five Director; Burke Jackson, Rozet, Area Six Director; Joan Street, Casper, Area Seven Director; Tom Strock, Douglas, Area Eight Director; Mary G. Nash, Dubois, Area Nine Director; Robert McKim, Afton, Area Ten Director; Doug Thompson, Lander, Immediate Past-President; Dr. James Andersen, Executive Director

*Jerry W. Maurer becomes Executive Director, June 25, 1993

*Board agrees to investigate starting a pooled self funded health insurance program for school districts.
1994- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Carolynn Hawtin, Jackson; President-Elect, Jon Kirkbride, Meridan; Vice-President, Judy Catchpole, Casper; Art Mercer, Cheyenne, Area One Director; JoAnn Richardson, Elk Mountain, Area Two Director; Mark Walker, Mountain View, Area Three Director; Jack Tarter, Buffalo, Area Four Director; Sherry Firnekas, Tensleep, Area Five Director; Burke Jackson, Rozet, Area Six Director; Nancy Granum, Casper, Area Seven Director; Tom Strock, Douglas, Area Eight Director; Rachel Ratliff, Riverton, Area Nine Director; Robert McKim, Afton, Area Ten Director; Sandy Daly, Gillette, Immediate Past-President; Jerry W. Maurer, Executive Director

*Charis Kipper hired as Administrative Assistant

*WSBA Health Insurance Program started on July 1, 1994.

*Greg Minter hired as Finance Director.

*Property in Cheyenne leased for WSBA Office.

*Lawrence Anderson hired as Legislative Assistant

1995- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Jon Kirkbride, Meridan; President-Elect, Burke Jackson, Rozet; Vice-President, Robert McKim, Afton; Art Mercer, Cheyenne, Area One Director; JoAnn Richardson, Elk Mountain, Area Two Director; Kenda West, Evanston, Area Three Director; Jack Tarter, Buffalo, Area Four Director; Teresa Brown, Thermopolis, Area Five Director; Reuben Rithaler, Upon, Area Six Director; Richard Jahn, Casper, Area Seven Director; Tom Strock, Douglas, Area Eight Director; Marilyn Lund, Kinnear, Area Nine Director; Robert Lonzo, LaBarge, Area Ten Director; Carolynn Hawtin, Jackson, Immediate Past-President; Jerry W. Maurer, Executive Director
1996- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Burke Jackson, Rozet; President-Elect, Robert McKim, Afton; Vice-President, Jack Tarter, Buffalo; Art Mercer, Cheyenne, Area One Director; JoAnn Richardson, Elk Mountain, Area Two Director; Kendra West, Evanston, Area Three Director; Lindy Burgess, Wyarno, Area Four Director; Teresa Brown, Thermopolis, Area Five Director; Micky Shober, Gillette, Area Six Director; Richard Jahn, Casper, Area Seven Director; Tom Strock, Douglas, Area Eight Director; Marilyn Lund, Kinnear, Area Nine Director; Robert Lonzo, LaBarge, Area Ten Director; Jon Kirkbride, Meridan, Immediate Past-President; Jerry W. Maurer, Executive Director

*Property in Cheyenne purchased for WSBA Office.

*Board moves to 16 Area Directors

Area 1 - Laramie County
Area 2 – Natrona County
Area 3 – Fremont County
Area 4 – Campbell County
Area 5 – Lincoln, Sublette and Teton Counties
Area 6 – Big Horn, Washakie, and Hot Springs Counties
Area 7 – Sheridan and Johnson Counties
Area 8 – Sweetwater County School District #1
Area 9 – Uinta Counties
Area Ten – Converse County and Platte Counties
Area 11 – Niobrara and Goshen Counties, and Laramie County School District #2
Area 12 – Park County
Area 13 – Sweetwater County School District #2
Area 14 – Albany County

Area 15 – Carbon County

Area 16 – Crook and Weston Counties

1997- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Robert McKim, Afton; President-Elect, Jack Tarter, Buffalo; Vice-President, Tom Strock, Douglas; Al Atkins, Cheyenne, Area One Director; Janet Curry, Casper, Area Two Director; Marilyn Lund, Kinnear, Area Three Director; Micky Shober, Gillette, Area Four Director; Steve Walker, Opal, Area Five Director; Chris Pearson, Lovell, Area Six Director; Jack Tarter, Buffalo, Area Seven Director; Bob Ramsey, Rock Springs, Area Eight Director; Kendra West, Evanston, Area Nine Director; Tom Strock, Douglas, Area Ten Director; Bert Macy, Pine Bluffs, Area 11 Director; Duane Edmonds, Powell, Area 12 Director; Marsha Tynsky, Green River, Area 13 Director; Susan McCormack, Laramie, Area 14; JoAnn Richardson, Elk Mountain, Area 15 Director; John Riesland, Newcastle, Area 16 Director; Burke Jackson, Immediate Past-President; Jerry W. Maurer, Executive Director

1998- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Jack Tarter, Buffalo; President-Elect, Tom Strock, Douglas; Vice-President, Janet Curry, Casper; Al Atkins, Cheyenne, Area One Director; Janet Curry, Casper, Area Two Director; Marilyn Lund, Kinnear, Area Three Director; Burke Jackson, Rozet, Area Four Director; Steve Walker, Opal, Area Five Director; Chris Pearson, Lovell, Area Six Director; Lorri Lutterman, Buffalo, Area Seven Director; Bob Ramsey, Rock Springs, Area Eight Director; Kendra West, Evanston, Area Nine Director; Tom Strock, Douglas, Area Ten Director; Bert Macy, Pine Bluffs, Area 11 Director; Duane Edmonds, Powell, Area 12 Director; Marsha Tynsky, Green River, Area 13 Director; Susan McCormack, Laramie, Area 14 Director; JoAnn Richardson, Elk Mountain, Area 15 Director; John Riesland, Newcastle, Area 16 Director; Robert McKim, Afton, Immediate Past-President; Jerry W. Maurer, Executive Director

*WSBA Board voted to approve creating a non-profit corporation entitled “Wyoming School Support Services, Inc.” and to create an insurance agency within the non-profit corporation.
1999- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Tom Strock, Douglas; President-Elect, Janet Curry, Casper; Vice-President, Al Atkins, Cheyenne; Al Atkins, Cheyenne, Area One Director; Janet Curry, Casper, Area Two Director; Marilyn Lund, Kinnear, Area Three Director; Burke Jackson, Rozet, Area Four Director; Steve Walker, Kemmerer, Area Five Director; Chris Pearson, Lovell, Area Six Director; Lorri Lutterman, Buffalo, Area Seven Director; Bob Ramsey, Rock Springs, Area Eight Director; Dan Covolo, Lyman, Area Nine Director; Jeri Smith, Wheatland, Area Ten Director; Harold Thomas, Ft. Laramie, Area Eleven Director; Duane Edmonds, Powell, Area Twelve Director; Marsha Tynsky, Green River, Area Thirteen Director; Susan McCormack, Laramie, Area Fourteen Director; Don Blakeslee, Rawlins, Area Fifteen Director; John Riesland, Newcastle, Area Sixteen Director; Jack Tarter, Buffalo, Immediate Past-President; Jerry W. Maurer, Executive Director

2000- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Janet Curry, Casper; President-Elect, Al Atkins, Cheyenne; Vice-President, Bob Ramsey, Rock Springs; Al Atkins, Cheyenne, Area One Director; Ruth Moran, Casper, Area Two Director; Tonia Burnette, Riverton, Area Three Director; Burke Jackson, Rozet, Area Four Director; Sam Bennion, Cokeville, Area Five Director; Chris Pearson, Lovell, Area Six Director; Jack Tarter, Buffalo, Area Seven Director; Bob Ramsey, Rock Springs, Area Eight Director; Dan Covolo, Lyman, Area Nine Director; Jeri Smith, Wheatland, Area Ten Director; Harold Thomas, Ft. Laramie, Area Eleven Director; Duane Edmonds, Powell, Area Twelve Director; Harold Castillon, Green River, Area Thirteen Director; Susan McCormack, Laramie, Area Fourteen Director; Don Blakeslee, Rawlins, Area Fifteen Director; John Riesland, Newcastle, Area Sixteen Director; Tom Strock, Douglas, Immediate Past-President; Jerry W. Maurer, Executive Director

*Dues increased from .00032 to .00037*

*Sue Barnard hired as Accounting Specialist.*
2001- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Al Atkins, Cheyenne; President-Elect, Bob Ramsey, Rock Springs; Vice-President, John Riesland, Newcastle; Dale Vosler, Cheyenne, Area One Director; Ruth Moran, Casper, Area Two Director; Tonia Burnette, Riverton, Area Three Director; Debbie McLeland, Area Four Director; Jim Malkowski, Daniel, Area Five Director; Monty Wardell, Lovell, Area Six Director; Jack Tarter, Buffalo, Area Seven Director; Bob Ramsey, Rock Springs, Area Eight Director; Dan Covolo, Lyman, Area Nine Director; Jeri Smith, Wheatland, Area Ten Director; Harold Thomas, Ft. Laramie, Area 11 Director; Jan Hansen, Powell, Area 12 Director; Harold Castillon, Green River, Area 13 Director; Jesse Vialpando, Laramie, Area 14 Director; Kristi Groshart, Sinclair, Area 15 Director; John Riesland, Newcastle, Area 16 Director; Janet Curry, Casper, Immediate Past-President; Jerry W. Maurer, Executive Director

2002- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Bob Ramsey, Rock Springs; President-Elect, John Riesland, Newcastle; Vice-President, Dan Covolo, Lyman; Al Atkins, Cheyenne, Area One Director; Susan Padgett, Casper, Area Two Director; Tonia Burnette, Riverton, Area Three Director; Debbie McLeland, Area Four Director; Jim Malkowski, Daniel, Area Five Director; Monty Wardell, Lovell, Area Six Director; Jack Tarter, Buffalo, Area Seven Director; Bob Ramsey, Rock Springs, Area Eight Director; Dan Covolo, Lyman, Area Nine Director; Jeri Smith, Wheatland, Area Ten Director; Harold Thomas, Ft. Laramie, Area 11 Director; Jan Hansen, Powell, Area 12 Director; Harold Castillon, Green River, Area 13 Director; Jesse Vialpando, Laramie, Area 14 Director; Kristi Groshart, Sinclair, Area 15 Director; John Riesland, Newcastle, Area 16 Director; Al Atkins, Cheyenne, Immediate Past-President; Jerry W. Maurer, Executive Director

*Wyoming Funding Model Committee Established
2003- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, John Riesland, Newcastle; President-Elect, Dan Covolo, Lyman; Vice-President, Debbie McLeland, Gillette; Al Atkins, Cheyenne, Area One Director; Susan Padgett, Casper, Area Two Director; Tonia Burnette, Riverton, Area Three Director; Debbie McLeland, Gillette, Area Four Director; Jim Malkowski, Daniel, Area Five Director; Monty Wardell, Lovell, Area Six Director; Jack Tarter, Buffalo, Area Seven Director; Bob Ramsey, Rock Springs, Area Eight Director; Dan Covolo, Lyman, Area Nine Director; Mike Nordeen, Wheatland, Area Ten Director; Harold Thomas, Ft. Laramie, Area 11 Director; Jan Hansen, Powell, Area 12 Director; Nancy Britton, Green River, Area 13 Director; Jesse Vialpando, Laramie, Area 14 Director; Kristi Groshart, Sinclair, Area 15 Director; John Riesland, Newcastle, Area 16 Director; Bob Ramsey, Rock Springs, Immediate Past-President; Jerry W. Maurer, Executive Director

*Wyoming School Funding Model presented to legislature

2004- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Dan Covolo, Lyman; President-Elect, Debbie McLeland, Gillette; Vice-President, Monty Wardell, Lovell; Al Atkins, Cheyenne, Area One Director; Elaine Scott, Casper, Area Two Director; Larry Manchester, Shoshoni, Area Three Director; Debbie McLeland, Gillette, Area Four Director; Jim Malkowski, Daniel, Area Five Director; Monty Wardell, Lovell, Area Six Director; Jack Tarter, Buffalo, Area Seven Director; Bob Ramsey, Rock Springs, Area Eight Director; Dan Covolo, Lyman, Area Nine Director; Mike Nordeen, Wheatland, Area Ten Director; Harold Thomas, Ft. Laramie, Area 11 Director; Jan Hansen, Powell, Area 12 Director; Nancy Britton, Green River, Area 13 Director; Charlie Ksir, Laramie, Area 14 Director; Sue Hewitt, Rawlins, Area 15 Director; John Riesland, Newcastle, Area 16 Director; John Riesland, Newcastle, Immediate Past-President; Jerry W. Maurer, Executive Director

Dr. Mark Higdon becomes Executive Director, August 1, 2004
2005- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Debbie McLeland, Gillette; President-Elect, Monty Wardell, Lovell; Vice-President, Mike Nordeen, Wheatland; Al Atkins, Cheyenne, Area One Director; Shannon Jackett, Casper, Area Two Director; Rita Campbell, Shoshoni, Area Three Director; Debbie McLeland, Gillette, Area Four Director; Jim Malkowski, Daniel, Area Five Director; Monty Wardell, Lovell, Area Six Director; Johann Nield, Dayton, Area Seven Director; Bob Ramsey, Rock Springs, Area Eight Director; Dan Covolo, Lyman, Area Nine Director; Mike Nordeen, Wheatland, Area Ten Director; Harold Thomas, Ft. Laramie, Area 11 Director; Jan Hansen, Powell, Area 12 Director; Nancy Britton, Green River, Area 13 Director; Jason Shogren, Laramie, Area 14 Director; Sue Parker, Rawlins, Area 15 Director; John Riesland, Newcastle, Area 16 Director; Dan Covolo, Lyman, Immediate Past-President; Dr. Mark Higdon, Executive Director

*Dr. Mark Higdon became Executive Director of Wyoming School Boards Association on February 1, 2005.

*Wyoming School Funding Model given to state consultants.

*Legislature adopts funding model similar to Wyoming School Funding Model.

2006- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Monty Wardell, Lovell; President-Elect, Mike Nordeen, Wheatland; Vice-President, Johann Nield, Dayton; Al Atkins, Cheyenne, Area One Director; Shannon Jackett, Casper, Area Two Director; Rita Campbell, Shoshoni, Area Three Director; Debbie McLeland, Gillette, Area Four Director; Jim Malkowski, Daniel, Area Five Director; Monty Wardell, Lovell, Area Six Director; Johann Nield, Dayton, Area Seven Director; Bob Ramsey, Rock Springs, Area Eight Director; Mark Walker, Mountain View, Area Nine Director; Mike Nordeen, Wheatland,
Area Ten Director; Harold Thomas, Ft. Laramie, Area 11 Director; Jan Hansen, Powell, Area 12 Director; Nancy Britton, Green River, Area 13 Director; Vacant, Area 14 Director; Sue Parker, Rawlins and Ada Kari, Elk Mountain, Area 15 Director; John Riesland, Newcastle, Area 16 Director; Debbie McLeland, Gillette, Immediate Past-President; Dr. Mark Higdon, Executive Director

*Bonnie Fortune hired as Insurance Clerk.

2007- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Monty Wardell, Lovell; President-Elect, Johann Nield, Dayton; Vice-President, Shannon Jackett, Casper, and Gregg Blikre, Vice-President, Gillette; Al Atkins, Cheyenne, Area One Director; Shannon Jackett, Casper, Area Two Director; Rita Campbell, Shoshoni, Area Three Director; Gregg Blikre, Gillette, Area Four Director; Jim Malkowski, Daniel, Area Five Director; Monty Wardell, Lovell, Area Six Director; Johann Nield, Dayton, Area Seven Director; Emma Waldner, Wamsutter, Area Eight Director; Mark Walker, Mountain View, Area Nine Director; Loren Heth, Lusk, Area Ten Director; Mike Eathorne, Douglas, Area 11 Director; Joe Hicks, Meeteetse, Area 12 Director; Terry Harding, Green River, Area 13 Director; Amy Jenkins, Laramie, Area 14 Director; Ada Kari, Elk Mountain, Area 15 Director; John Riesland, Newcastle, Area 16 Director; John Riesland, Newcastle, Immediate Past-Past-President; Dr. Mark Higdon, Executive Director

*Published “Words to the Wise”

*Published “History of WSBA”

*Reviewed and readopted the WSBA Code of Ethics of Board Members.

*Developed WSBA Code of Conduct of Board Members.
2008- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Johann Nield, Dayton; President-Elect, Greg Blikre, Gillette; Vice-President, Mike Eathorne, Douglas; Al Atkins, Cheyenne, Area One Director; Shannon Jackett, Casper, Area Two Director; Rita Campbell, Shoshoni, Area Three Director; Gregg Blikre, Gillette, Area Four Director; Jim Malkowski, Daniel, Area Five Director; Terril Mills, Ten Sleep, Area Six Director; Johann Nield, Dayton, Area Seven Director; Emma Waldner, Wamsutter, Area Eight Director; Mark Walker, Mountain View, Area Nine Director; Loren Heth, Lusk, Area Ten Director; Mike Eathorne, Douglas, Area 11 Director; Joe Hicks, Meeteetse, Area 12 Director; Terry Harding, Green River, Area 13 Director; Janice Marshall, Laramie, Area 14 Director; Juli Miller, Rawlins, Area 15 Director; John Riesland, Newcastle, Area 16 Director; Immediate Past-Past President John Riesland, Newcastle; Dr. Mark Higdon, Executive Director

2009- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Greg Blikre, Gillette; President-Elect, Mike Eathorne, Douglas; Vice-President, Mark Walker, Mountain View; Brian Farmer, Cheyenne, Area One Director; Shannon Jackett, Casper, Area Two Director; Rita Campbell, Shoshoni, Area Three Director; Gregg Blikre, Gillette, Area Four Director; Jim Malkowski, Daniel, Area Five Director; Terril Mills, Ten Sleep, Area Six Director; Johann Nield, Dayton, Area Seven Director; Emma Waldner, Wamsutter, Area Eight Director; Mark Walker, Mountain View, Area Nine Director; Loren Heth, Lusk, Area Ten Director; Mike Eathorne, Douglas, Area 11 Director; Joe Hicks, Meeteetse, Area 12 Director; Terry Harding, Green River, Area 13 Director; Janice Marshall, Laramie, Area 14 Director; Juli Miller, Rawlins, Area 15 Director; John Riesland, Newcastle, Area 16 Director; Immediate Past President Johann Nield, Dayton; Dr. Mark Higdon, Executive Director

* Add three new area directors to the board of directors.

* Revised points system for recognition for board development training activities.
2010- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Mike Eathorne, Douglas; President-Elect, Mark Walker, Mountain View; Vice-President, Loren Heth, Lusk; Brian Farmer, Cheyenne, Area Director; Shannon Jackett, Casper, Area Two Director; Carl Manning, Riverton, Area Three Director; Dave Fall, Gillette, Area Four Director; Jim Malkowski, Daniel, Area Five Director; Terril Mills, Ten Sleep, Area Six Director; Johann Nield, Dayton, Area Seven Director; Emma Waldner, Wamsutter, Area Eight Director; Mark Walker, Mountain View, Area Nine Director; Loren Heth, Lusk, Area Ten Director; Mike Eathorne, Douglas, Area 11 Director; Joe Hicks, Meeteetse, Area 12 Director; Terry Harding, Green River, Area 13 Director; Janice Marshall, Laramie, Area 14 Director; Juli Miller, Rawlins, Area 15 Director; John Riesland, Newcastle, Area 16 Director; Carla Mann, Ft. Washakie, Area 17 Director; Koleen Sponsel, Cowley, Area 18 Director; Karyn Hoopes, Afton, Area 19 Director; Immediate Past-President Johann Nield, Dayton; Dr. Mark Higdon, Executive Director
2011- Wyoming School Boards Association

President, Mark Walker, Mountain View; President-Elect, Loren Heth, Lusk; Vice-President, Dave Fall, Gillette; Brian Farmer, Cheyenne, Area One Director; Audrey Cotherman, Casper, Casper, Area Two Director; Carl Manning, Riverton, Area Three Director; Dave Fall, Gillette, Area Four Director; Jim Malkowski, Daniel, Area Five Director; Terril Mills, Ten Sleep, Area Six Director; Johann Nield, Dayton, Area Seven Director; Robert Ramsey, Rock Springs, Area Eight Director; Mark Walker, Mountain View, Area Nine Director; Loren Heth, Lusk, Area Ten Director; Mike Eathorne, Douglas, Area 11 Director; Joe Hicks, Meeteetse, Area 12 Director; Terry Harding, Green River, Area 13 Director; Janice Marshall, Laramie, Area 14 Director; Juli Miller, Rawlins, Area 15 Director; John Riesland, Newcastle, Area 16 Director; Carl Manning, Riverton, Area 17 Director; Koleen Sponsel, Cowley, Area 18 Director; Janine Bay Teske, Jackson, Area 19 Director; Immediate Past President Mike Eathorne, Douglas; Dr. Mark Higdon, Executive Director

2012-Wyoming School Boards Association

Loren Heth, Lusk, President; Dave Fall, Gillette, President-Elect; Brian Farmer, Cheyenne, Vice-President; Brian Farmer, Cheyenne, Area One Director; Audrey Cotherman, Casper, Area Two Director; Carl Manning, Riverton, Area Three Director; Dave Fall, Gillette, Area Four Director; Jim Malkowski, Daniel, Area Five Director; Terril Mills, Ten Sleep, Area Six Director; Johann Nield, Dayton, Area Seven Director; Robert Ramsey, Rock Springs, Area Eight Director; Mark Walker, Mountain View, Area Nine Director; Loren Heth, Lusk, Area Ten Director; Nita Werner, Douglas, Area 11 Director; Joe Hicks, Meeteetse, Area 12 Director; Terry Harding, Green River, Area 13 Director; Janice Marshall, Laramie, Area 14 Director; Juli Miller, Rawlins, Area 15 Director; John Riesland, Newcastle, Area 16 Director; Heidi McStay, Dubois, Area 17 Director; Koleen Sponsel, Cowley, Area 18 Director; Janine Bay Teske, Jackson, Area 19 Director; Immediate Past President, Mark Walker, Mountain View; Dr. Mark Higdon, Executive Director
2013-Wyoming School Boards Association

Dave Fall, Gillette, President; Brian Farmer, Cheyenne, President-Elect, Janine Bay Teske, Jackson; Vice-President; Brian Farmer, Cheyenne, Area One Director; Audrey Cotherman, Casper, Area Two Director; Carl Manning, Riverton, Area Three Director; Dave Fall, Gillette, Area Four Director; Mack Rawhouser, Big Piney, Area Five Director; Terril Mills, Ten Sleep, Area Six Director; Johann Nield, Dayton, Area Seven Director; Robert Ramsey, Rock Springs, Area Eight Director; Mark Walker, Mountain View, Area Nine Director; Loren Heth, Lusk, Area Ten Director; Nita Werner, Douglas, Area 11 Director; Greg Borcher, Powell, Area 12 Director; Sherie Smith, Green River, Area 13 Director; Janice Marshall, Laramie, Area 14 Director; Juli Miller, Rawlins, Area 15 Director; John Riesland, Newcastle, Area 16 Director; Heidi McStay, Dubois, Area 17 Director; Koleen Sponsel, Cowley, Area 18 Director; Janine Bay Teske, Jackson, Area 19 Director; Immediate Past President, Loren Heth, Lusk; Dr. Mark Higdon, Executive Director

Brian Farmer becomes Executive Director, January 1, 2014
Wyoming School Support Services, Inc.

Serving
The
Financial
Needs
Of
Wyoming
School
Districts
History of Wyoming School Support Services, Incorporated

In the spring of 1994, WSBA Executive Director, Jerry Maurer, shared his vision with the Board of Directors of expanding WSBA’s services by providing financial services to member districts. His vision included providing services that would be competitive with other carriers and save the member districts money. His first request was to hire a Financial Director who would administer a health insurance pool and develop other financial service programs for member districts as needs arose.

Greg Minter, Business Manager of Washakie County School District No. 1, Worland, was hired as the first Financial Director for the Wyoming School Boards Association in the fall of 1994. After implementing the health insurance program, Mr. Minter presented his plans for additional entrepreneurial financial programs for member districts to the WSBA Board of Directors. In September of 1995, the Board approved the following start-up programs: a leasing program, an Infinity Credit Card endorsement program, a pooled investment program, a Partner’s Program, an Accidental Death and Disability Insurance Program for School Board Members and staff, and a Property and Casualty endorsement program. In January of 1996, two additional programs were approved by the Board: a Student/Athlete Accident Insurance Program, and a Legal Liability Program endorsement in conjunction with the Property and Casualty Program.

On March 27, 1998, the WSBA Board of Directors filed “Articles of Incorporation” creating a non-profit corporation entitled “Wyoming School Support Services, Inc.” and created an insurance agency within the non-profit corporation. This action made WSSSI a wholly owned subsidiary of the Wyoming School Boards Association, with the WSBA Board of Directors serving as the Board of Directors of WSSSI. To save time and travel, meetings for WSSSI coincided with the dates of the meeting for the WSBA Board of Directors. On March 1, 2012 Greg Minter retired after eighteen years of service to the association and Terry Sterling assumed his duties and responsibilities for WSSS, I.
The following Financial Services offered by WSSSI, at its inception, were initiated upon requests from school board members, superintendents and business managers:

**Wyoming Government Investment Fund (WGIF)**

A comprehensive cash management program, Wyoming Government Investment Fund (WGIF), was made available to Wyoming Public Entities. WGIF provided professionally management of funds by nationally recognized financial specialists who provided safe and effective management at competitive yield rates.

**Tax Anticipation Warrants**

The tax anticipation warrant program allowed school districts to borrow money for the purpose of accommodating cash flow needs. These funds could then be reinvested in short term investments and often provide positive arbitrage for the participating school district. Along with other criteria, school districts had to show a projected cash flow deficit during the year in order to qualify for the program. George K. Baum and Company was endorsed as its investment firm.

**Leasing Program**

The lease/purchase program provided the opportunity for school districts to have the resources to make capital purchases without significant cash outlay. Capital purchases such as school buses, computers, and other equipment could be leased over time. The lease price of school buses was reimbursed by the State through its financial formula.

**Drug/Alcohol Testing**

The drug/alcohol testing program provided testing services as well as management assistance for school districts to stay in compliance with Federal DOT requirements. Sample policies, training and testing materials, and phone support assured school districts the satisfaction of knowing they could stand a challenge of any audit of their procedures.
Health/Medical Insurance Trust

WSSSI managed a pooled health insurance trust designed to stabilize rates, provide quality benefits, and ease management problems. The Trust provided school districts with a choice of Third Party Administrators, a choice of three tiers of benefits from which districts could establish their chosen program and allowed individuals employees to choose the plan of benefits on the tier that best fit their individual needs.

Group Term Life, Group AD & D, and Voluntary Life Programs

WSSSI negotiated extremely competitive rates on group term life and accidental death & dismemberment insurance. In addition, supplemental voluntary coverage was available to individuals who wish to purchase higher levels of coverage than that provided through the district. This program was available to school board members.

Property Casualty Insurance

WSSSI provided property/casualty insurance to Wyoming schools. Coverage included board legal liability (E&O), general liability, building and contents, Inland Marine, crime, auto and boiler and machine insurance. This coverage was provided through an endorsed insurance carrier.

Student Accident Insurance

This program provided an 80/20 coinsurance accident insurance coverage “envelope” program for students attending Wyoming schools. The program was provided through an endorsed insurance carrier.

Accidental Death Insurance for School Board Members

WSBA provided, and still does, a $10,000 accidental death insurance coverage on all active school board members in the State of Wyoming. The premium is paid by the Association and the policy is convertible to an individual policy when the individual leaves the board. Board members had, and still have, the option to
purchase increased limits of coverage for themselves, dependents and/or basic life at reduced rates.

**Health Insurance Consultant Services**

This program provided a comprehensive analysis of a district’s employee benefit plan. For a nominal fee the employee benefit program was analyzed to determine if it met the objectives established by the district. The analysis suggested ways districts could enhance their plans to make them more effective and efficient.

**WYOMING SCHOOL SUPPORT SERVICES, INC. TODAY**

Mr. Greg Minter has served as the Associate Executive Director for WSSSI starting at its inception in 1998. Under his leadership, there have been several changes to the programs offered by WSSSI over the years. All of the changes are a result of the needs of the districts and the marketplace for providing these important services. WSSSI is dedicated to providing quality financial services to members at a cost that beats the marketplace. WSSSI is dedicated to maximizing the buying potential of individual districts by putting together pooled programs that reduce costs by receiving bids based upon the increased size of the pool over the individual district. WSSSI is dedicated to providing low cost, high quality administrative services and involving the districts in the management of their own programs. On March 1, 2012 Greg Minter retired after eighteen years of service to the association and Terry Sterling assumed his duties and responsibilities for WSSS, I.

As of July 1, 2006, Wyoming School Support Services, Inc. offers the following financial services to WSBA member districts:

**Wyoming School Boards Association Insurance Trust (WSBAIT)**

From its modest beginnings in 1996, Wyoming School Boards Association Insurance Trust (WSBAIT) has become the largest school insurance trust in Wyoming. Through the use of network discounts and cutting edge wellness benefits, WSBAIT provides the most competitive health insurance program in
Wyoming. WSBAIT serves a wide range of individual staff member needs by providing individual choice of benefit plans. WSSSI’s commitment to local control makes this program the best choice in health insurance coverage for member districts.

WSBAIT’s Early Retirees Program offers health insurance for employees who leave active employment but are not eligible for Medicare. This gap in coverage has become a nagging problem for many Wyoming educators. WSBAIT Early Retiree Program fills that gap with affordable health coverage until early retirees reach Medicare eligibility.

**Group Term Life/AD&D Insurance**

WSBA has negotiated extremely competitive rates on group term life and accidental death & dismemberment insurance. In addition, supplemental voluntary coverage is available to individuals who wish to purchase higher levels of coverage than that provided through the district. This program is available to school board members.

**Property Casualty Insurance (SRRP)**

WSSSI provides property/casualty protection through a Joint Powers Authority known as School Risk Retention Program. Participating districts enjoy expanded coverage available through a manuscript coverage document specifically designed to the needs of Wyoming schools. Through a self insured retention structure, participants reduce the fixed costs of the program through the assumption of risk. That risk is funded through contributions to a loss fund which, if not used to pay claims, remains the property of the program. The fund keeps the “profits” to offset future contributions.

**Cash Management (WGIF)**

Wyoming Government Investment Fund (WGIF) is a comprehensive cash management program available to Wyoming Public Entities. Funds are professionally managed by nationally recognized financial specialists to provide safe and effective management at competitive rates. WGIF provides a full range of
investment/cash management services including liquid fund management, fixed term investments, and pooled investments.

**Voluntary Worker’s Compensation**

With the hardening property/casualty insurance market, private insurers that once offered Voluntary Work Comp insurance to schools pulled out of Wyoming. The resulting demand for this coverage prompted WSSSI to provide coverage. The Joint Powers Authority, called Employer’s Injury, Liability, and Compensation Program, provides Work Comp coverage for non-extra hazardous employees in Wyoming school districts.

**Universal Whole Life Insurance Program**

This program specifically designed for Wyoming educators provides the cash accumulation not available in term life products. Provided on a voluntary basis this program provides unique features including guaranteed issue within program guidelines and portability. This individually owned product goes with the employee when they leave active employment or board service as the same competitive rates they had as an active member. Universal Whole Life has a cash accumulation which will play well in your retirement planning. This program is also available to School Board Members.

**Long Term Disability**

Many districts provide insurance protection for their employees for health, life and accidental loss while they ignore perhaps the greatest risk the employee has – *the ability to earn an income*. WSSSI has negotiated with select carriers to provide member districts with the best long term coverage available.

**Retirement Planning**

WSSSI offers a free workshop that provides information about the Wyoming Retirement System and other issues facing employees considering retirement.
**Student/Athletic Accident Insurance**

This voluntary coverage is offered and available to parents at very competitive prices. Various coverages are available. All-School plans are also available to districts that choose to cover all students.

**Health Insurance Consultant Services**

This program provides, at a nominal fee, a comprehensive analysis of a district’s employee benefit plan. The analysis suggests ways districts may be able to enhance their plans to make them more effective and efficient.
Wyoming School Boards Association
Executive Directors

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<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Executive Director</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1958 – 1959</td>
<td>Dr. Otto W. Snarr</td>
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<tr>
<td>1959 – 1962</td>
<td>Dr. John W. Gates</td>
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<tr>
<td>1962 – 1963</td>
<td>Dr. E.D. O’Dell</td>
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<td>1963 - 1965</td>
<td>Dr. Arvin C. Blome</td>
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<td>1965 – 1967</td>
<td>Dr. Myron Basom</td>
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<td>1967 – 1993</td>
<td>Dr. James D. Andersen</td>
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<td>1993 – 2004</td>
<td>Mr. Jerry W. Maurer</td>
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<td>2004 – 2014</td>
<td>Dr. Mark A. Higdon</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014 -</td>
<td>Brian P. Farmer</td>
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