

# Professional Teaching Standards Board

## Mission and philosophy

The mission of the Wyoming Professional Teaching Standards Board (PTSB) is to ensure that competent, ethical educators who meet rigorous performance standards, serve every student. Its charge is to protect the residents of Wyoming by providing consumer protection for public school personnel in Wyoming. The PTSB acts in accordance with the highest standards of ethics, accountability, efficiency and openness. The board strives to provide firm and fair regulations with efficient and effective service.

## Results of outcomes

The board has 33,000 (August 2001) active files for teachers, substitutes, administrators, coaches, auxiliary professional services and other certified or permitted personnel. The board has made a strong commitment to alternative certification with a 2 percent increase during last year.

During 2000-2001, the board granted 35 temporary permits, 134 transitionals, 144 collaborations, 38 internships, nine long-term substitute permits and 23 exceptions. This represents five percent of the total teaching population in Wyoming. There was an increase in portfolio certification applications: three requests for initial certification and 17 requests for a new teaching endorsement area.

In support of Senate Enrolled Act 33, and with a subsidy grant from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS), the Wyoming board administered support for teachers seeking national board certification. In Wyoming, 14 teachers received certification after completing the certification application in 1999. During 1999-2000, 19 applicants were involved with seeking certification. The PTSB continues to sponsor the subsidy grant and facilitate with the teachers going through national board certification. To date, 17 Wyoming teachers have received NBPTS certification.

The PTSB is a member of a partnership between the University of Wyoming College of Education, Wyoming School-University Partnership and Wyoming Department of Education in a federal grant program.

During the last year, committees have worked to align teachers' standards to student standards in elementary, health education, physical education, professional education and modern foreign language. Forty-two new teachers were trained to assess alternative certification portfolios. The board granted approval of the University of Wyoming's Professional Development School's program for teacher certification.

## *General information*

Linda L. Stowers, director

## *Agency contact*

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## *Year established*

1993

## *Statutory references*

W.S. 21-2-801 and 21-2-802

## *Authorized personnel*

Seven full-time employees

## *Clients served*

Teachers, administrators, auxiliary professional services, substitute teachers, coaches and permitted individuals

## *Budget information*

*Fund 111*

**\$405,694**

## *Agency to which group reports*

Department of Administration  
and Information

## *Number of members*

13

## *Meeting frequency*

Four times a year, not less than once every three months.

In October 2000, the PTSB in conjunction with National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) did a continual approval of the University of Wyoming's teacher preparation program. In November 2000, the PTSB did a continual approval of Regis University's education programs that are offered in Wyoming. In June 2001, the PTSB did an initial approval of the middle-school endorsement program at Western Wyoming Community College, which is the first community college to offer a teacher certification program.

The PTSB continues to evaluate and approve workshops and school district staff development plans for renewal credits, review and investigate reports of FBI and state criminal background checks, evaluate and monitor teacher education programs, and remain a member of the National Clearinghouse and Interstate Compact for reciprocity with other states.

## **Strategic plan changes**

The PTSB will continue to monitor data-support trends related to teacher preparation programs, staff assignments, and supply and demand for education personnel in Wyoming. The board will continue to expand its services by developing technology capabilities to enhance communications with its clients and Wyoming school districts.