

**HISTORY
of the
WYOMING
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

IN 1917...

The State Board of Education shall be composed of seven members at least three of whom shall be persons actively engaged in educational work. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction shall be ex-officio a member of such board and shall have the right to vote. The other six members of said board shall be appointed from among the citizens of the state in such a manner that the different parts of the state shall be represented, and not more than four members of such board shall be from one political party, and the members shall hold office from the first of May succeeding their appointment for a term of six years, provided that the length of term of the first regular appointees under this section shall be as follows: two members shall be appointed for two years, two for four years, two for six years, but thereafter the term of each member shall be six years. They shall be appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate and shall be appointed solely because of character and fitness. All members of the board shall be persons of mature years, known for their integrity, culture, public spirit, business ability, and interest in public education. Vacancies shall be filled by the Governor and shall be for the expired term. All members shall be eligible to reappointment unless otherwise disqualified by provisions of this act. Members of the board may be removed by the Governor for immorality, misconduct, neglect of duty, or incompetence, but they shall be given at least 30 days notice in writing containing a complete statement of the charges and shall be given the opportunity of being heard in their own defense in person or by counsel. The board shall meet semi-annually on the second Monday in May and November. The first meeting of each year shall be for the purpose of organization, at which a chairman shall be elected, but the Commissioner of Education shall act as secretary. Special meetings may be held as often as the duties of the board require and the board shall meet at the call of the Governor, or the Superintendent of Public Instruction or the Commissioner of Education whenever in the opinion of these officials an emergency exists, and the chairman shall call meetings on the written request of four members. (*CHAPTER 120, SESSION LAWS OF WYOMING, 1917*)

TODAY...

There is created a state board of education composed of twelve (12) voting members, eleven (11) of whom shall be appointed members with at least one (1) member appointed from each appointment district pursuant to W.S. 9-1-218. The remaining voting member of the board shall be the state superintendent of public instruction. One (1) appointed member shall be appointed at large and shall be a certified classroom teacher at the time of appointment. One (1) appointed member shall also be appointed at large and shall be a certified school administrator at the time of appointment. Two (2) appointed members shall be appointed at large and shall be representative of private business or industry in Wyoming. The remaining seven (7) appointed members of the board shall be appointed from among the lay citizens of the state who are electors of the state, known for their public spirit, business or professional ability and interest in education. Not more than six (6) appointed members of the board shall be from one (1) political party. Members shall be appointed for six (6) year terms, except those who may be appointed to fill unexpired terms. Members shall be appointed by the governor with the approval of the senate. Vacancies shall be filled by the governor without senate approval until the next session of the legislature. No member is eligible to reappointment, except any member appointed to fill an unexpired term of less than six (6) years and the term expires on or after January 1, 1996, may be reappointed for one (1) additional six (6) year term. Appointed members of the board may be removed by the governor as provided in W.S. 9-1-202.