



WYOMING

State Board of Education

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For Immediate Release:

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Wyoming Board of Education names finalists for WDE Director position

CHEYENNE - The Wyoming State Board of Education announced its three finalists for the position of Director of the Wyoming Department of Education (WDE), today in Cheyenne.

The State Board of Education received 84 applications for the position of Director and over the past two days has interviewed six semifinalists. Today, the State Board of Education pared its list of candidates to three names which will go to Governor Matt Mead who will appoint the Director of the WDE prior to Dec. 1.

The three candidates the State Board of Education will recommend to the Governor include:

Tony Apostle – A retired Superintendent of Puyallup Public Schools in Puyallup, WA. Apostle oversaw a district with 21,000 students and a budget of \$230 million. Apostle holds his Education Doctorate from Washington State University. He was also the Director of Administrative Services and Elementary Education for Puyallup Schools.

Richard Crandall –Crandall holds an MBA from Notre Dame and is the CEO and CFO of CN Resources and Crandall Corporate Dietitians in Mesa, AZ. He is a current State Senator in Arizona and the past chair of the Arizona Senate and House Education Committees. He is also a former member of the Mesa Schools Governing Board.

Norman Ridder - Ridder is the current Superintendent of the Springfield Public Schools in Springfield, MO. Ridder oversees an enrollment of 24,876

students and a budget of \$273 million. He holds his Education Doctorate from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and is the former Superintendent of the Colorado Springs School District 11, during which he oversaw a district with an enrollment of 31,000.

Today, Governor Mead offered his appreciation to the State Board of Education for their work.

“The Board of Education provided an excellent pool of candidates. I am impressed with their credentials. I thank each member of the Board of Education,” Governor Mead said. “The Board has done a yeoman’s job to make sure that the Director of the Department of Education will be an individual who knows education and can move education in Wyoming forward.”

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State Board of Education offers names and times for semifinal interviews

CHEYENNE - The Wyoming State Board of Education announced the list of candidates it will interview for the position of the Director of the Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) today in Cheyenne.

Today, the State Board of Education reviewed applications for the position before naming its list of semifinalists. The State Board of Education will interview semifinalists May 31 and June 1 in closed session. The State Board will interview candidates at the following time:

During its March meeting in Rock Springs, the State Board of Education named Ray and Associates of Cedar Rapids (Ia.) as a consultant in the Director of the WDE Search. The firm received applications from around the country and performed background checks of the candidates before bringing the applications to the State Board of Education.

In addition to the closed session interviews, semifinalists for the position of Director of the WDE will be asked to participate in a time of questions-and-answers with the public, May 31 and June 1. Stakeholders attending the meetings with Director candidates will be asked to offer their opinion on the candidates to the State Board. That feedback will be made available to the Board of Education prior to their second round of interviews.

The semifinal candidates will be available to meet the public in Room 126 of the Hathaway Building at the following times:

