



**WYOMING**  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

*Creating Opportunities  
for Students to Keep  
Wyoming Strong*

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April 27, 2017

The Honorable Matthew Mead  
Governor, State of Wyoming  
2323 Carey Avenue  
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Governor Mead:

Thank you for your vision and action related to Wyoming's future. ENDOW was a smart and timely idea and I am pleased to see it moving forward. I received notice last Friday of the executive council members. Many individuals on there are personal friends and professional acquaintances, and all of them are very qualified for the task at hand. However, I was a bit concerned at the fact that there is no one on the executive council representing K-12 public education. Speaker Harshman is a local school district employee but his title designation indicates his capacity on the council is as Speaker of the House, not as education professional.

It is no secret that public education funding is the most pressing financial issue facing our state now, and presumably for years to come. In addition to the fiscal situation, no single system in our state more directly impacts our future workforce and economic diversity than our public school system. The public school system is also one of the largest employers in our state, often times providing the most jobs of any employer in communities across Wyoming.

I respectfully request that an additional member be added to the executive council that represents K-12 public education. It would be unfortunate not to include such a person considering the overwhelming role our public school system plays in the future of our economy.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

  

Jillian Balow  
State Superintendent of Public Instruction

In support:

  

Dan Stephen  
Executive Director  
Wyoming Association of School Administrators

  

Brian Farmer  
Executive Director  
Wyoming School Boards Association