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Teacher input wanted: WDE to assemble a Teacher Cabinet

CHEYENNE – Teachers across the state will have a regular opportunity to provide input to state education leadership by participating in the Director's Teacher Cabinet, sponsored by the Wyoming Department of Education (WDE).

Cabinet members will be asked to share perspectives from their classrooms and provide input and feedback on key policy decisions

"It does not matter where I travel or what conference I attend, the message is always the same; a high quality teacher drives student success," said WDE Director Richard Crandall. "With that said, we want to make sure we are taking our cues from great teachers as we chart the direction of Wyoming education."

The Cabinet will be made up of 10-to-12 members representing diverse geographic regions, grades, and subjects. Members of the Cabinet will be asked to commit to an 18-month term beginning January 2014. During their term, Cabinet members will participate in bi-monthly teleconference meetings, travel in-state twice to attend half-day sessions with Director Crandall and WDE leadership, and commit two to three hours monthly for associated tasks.

"We're asking all Wyoming teachers with an interest in state-level leadership to submit their applications by December 1," said WDE Chief Strategy Officer Leighton Thomas. "We hope to gather a diverse group and bring together a cabinet that is rich with different perspectives and experience, united by a passion for excellence."

"We're looking forward to engaging further with teachers across Wyoming to obtain feedback on a diverse array of policy and communication strategies to improve student outcomes," Thomas continued.

In addition to providing input on policy implementation, Cabinet members will support statewide communication efforts, including contributing to a new teacher newsletter, and assist with recruitment efforts for teachers and leaders needed for professional development opportunities.

"I'm excited about working with a cadre of teachers who want to strengthen their leadership skills while providing critical feedback on education policies," added Crandall.

All Wyoming teachers in Wyoming are encouraged to apply. For more details on the Cabinet and to complete the application, click here. Applications are also available on the WDE website.

Please contact Sarah Murphy at <u>sarah.murphy@wyo.gov</u> with any questions regarding the application process or cabinet membership.

For more information, contact Tom Lacock at 307-777-5399 or tom.lacock@wyo.gov.