



WYOMING

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State Board of Education to interview candidates for Director of State Department of Education

CHEYENNE - The Wyoming State Board of Education will interview six candidates for the position of the Director of the Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) May 31 and June 1 in Cheyenne. That decision came today after the State Board examined applications from 84 candidates for the position today in Cheyenne.

The State Board is now contacting applicants they wish to interview and will publicly announce the names of the final six candidates when all interviewees have confirmed their availability.

“We took the 84 (applications) down to nine and then we went through each of those applications and now we are inviting six applicants to come in for a face-to-face interview Friday and Saturday,” said State Board Chairman Ron Micheli. “The criterion was, who can take what has been a fairly contentious and difficult issue in Wyoming and move forward.”

The State Board of Education has been tasked with recommending to Governor Matt Mead three qualified candidates. The Governor must appoint a permanent director before December 1 according to Enrolled Act 1.

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 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.

Ray and Associates contacted 315 possible candidates from 45 states and 13 countries. Of the 315 candidates contacted, 12 were from the State of Wyoming. Eighty-four candidates completed the application process and were Evaluated according to a set of criteria developed by the board using input from Wyoming education stakeholders.

The State Board of Education will interview semifinalists May 31 and June 1 in closed session. The State Board has set aside two hours for each interview, starting at 8:15 and ending at 5:45 on Friday, May 31 and again from 9-11:30 a.m. on Saturday.

In addition to the closed session interviews, semifinalists for the position of Director of the WDE will be asked to participate in a session 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 making a final decision.

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

Friday, May 31

9:9:30 a.m. - Candidate B

11-11:30 – Candidate A

1:30-2 p.m. – Candidate D

3:30-4 p.m. – Candidate C

Saturday, June 1

9-9:30 a.m. – Candidate F

11-11:30 a.m. – Candidate E

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