

Professional Teaching Standards Board

❖ *Mission and philosophy*

The mission of the Professional Teaching Standards Board (PTSB) is to ensure that every student is served by competent, ethical educators who meet rigorous performance standards. Its charge is to protect the citizenry by providing consumer protection for public school personnel in Wyoming. The PTSB acts in accordance with the highest standards of ethics, accountability, efficiency and openness. The board strives to provide firm and fair regulations with efficient and effective service.

❖ *Results of outcomes*

The Professional Teaching Standards Board has 26,627 certified education personnel (August 2000). A survey was sent to 10 percent of the new applicants. The results showed the Wyoming certification process is completed within a few weeks, and the staff is helpful.

The public has increased usage of the Web site, with an average of 858 requests per month. Clients have downloaded an average of 435 applications per month. The PTSB staff continually increases the use of e-mail to communicate with teachers as more school districts are connected.

In support of Senate Enrolled Act 33 and with a subsidy grant from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, the PTSB administered support for teachers seeking National Board Certification. Three Wyoming teachers received certification after completing the certification application in 1999. In 2000, 24 teachers received the grant and 16 teachers completed the certification application process.

The board continues to support alternate certification, with a 260 percent increase in portfolio certification applications from last year. For the 1999-2000 school year, the board approved 108 requests by school districts for collaboration certification, a 55 percent increase, and 13 temporary permits, an 85 percent increase.

The PTSB is a member of a partnership with the University of Wyoming College of Education and the Wyoming School-University Partnership, which has received federal funding support. During the last year committees have worked to align teachers' standards to student standards in science, social studies, math and language arts. Thirty-seven new teachers were trained to assess portfolios. Approximately 187 teachers participated in focus groups to discuss quality teaching and renewal requirements and study the elements of quality teaching.

The PTSB continues to evaluate and approve workshops and school district staff development plans for renewal

General information

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Agency contact

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Year established

1993

Statutory references

Wyoming Statute 21-2-801 and 21-2-802

Number of authorized personnel

Seven full-time

Clients served

Teachers, administrators, substitute teachers and permitted individuals who wish to hold certification

Budget information

Fund 111 \$355,047

Agency to which group reports

Department of Administration and Information

Number of members

13

Meeting frequency

The board meets four times per year, not less than once every three months.

credits, investigate reports of FBI and state criminal background checks and evaluate and monitor teacher education programs. It remains a member of the National Clearinghouse and Interstate Compact for reciprocity with other states.

❖ *Strategic plan changes*

The PTSB will continue to expand its use of technology. Subject to technological abilities, applications will be available to complete online for printing. To assure teacher quality, the PTSB will investigate new approaches to issue certificates or permits that allow for an individual to teach part time in a specific subject area.