
CHAPTER 1

Background

Three state-level entities guide education: State Board, Department, and Superintendent.

Three entities form the triad responsible for the state level of Wyoming’s educational system: the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Department of Education, and the State Board of Education. As the chief state school officer, the Superintendent provides for the general supervision of public schools; as an elected official, the Superintendent has the status and political power to be the state’s primary spokesperson for public education. The Department is the system’s operational vehicle and the Superintendent’s support staff. The Board’s activities, although often less visible than those of the Superintendent, are of fundamental importance: statutes charge the Board with establishing policies for public education and implementing and enforcing uniform standards for educational programs through school accreditation.

Historically, the Legislature has struggled to create a straightforward organizational structure and a workable balance of duties between the Board and Superintendent. Just in the past 20 years, it has passed two major pieces of legislation to clarify duties and has made numerous additions to the responsibilities of both (see Chart of Statutory Duties 1969 - Present, pp. 10-13).

State’s Constitution established the office of Superintendent, while the Board was a later legislative creation

By Constitution, the Legislature sets the Superintendent’s duties.

The Wyoming Constitution, ratified in 1889, entrusts general supervision of the public schools to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. The Constitution holds that other powers and duties of the office of Superintendent “shall be as prescribed by law,” thus allowing the Legislature to decide at a more detailed level how to assign specific educational responsibilities.

The Superintendent is one of five constitutionally-designated statewide elected offices, along with the Governor, Secretary of State, Auditor, and Treasurer. As the chief executive officer of the Department of Education, the Superintendent's duties are further prescribed in the Education Code, Title 21 of Wyoming Statutes. Those duties are primarily administrative functions, such as maintaining a uniform statewide reporting system for student assessment, printing forms, and promulgating rules for the acceptance of federal funds, but the Superintendent also has the key responsibility of administering the school finance system.

The State Board was created 30 years after the office of Superintendent.

A State Board of Education was not part of the initial state-level administrative structure for public schools, and was created by the Legislature nearly thirty years after the Constitution's ratification. The Board's members are appointed by the Governor with the Senate's consent. In addition to the duties mentioned above, the Board also sets high school graduation standards and implements a statewide assessment system.

Together, the Superintendent and the Board have authority to take appropriate administrative action, including changing accreditation status, against any school district or state institution that does not comply with applicable laws or with student content and performance standards prescribed by the Board.

The Legislature established a system based on shared and separate authority

Superintendent and Board purposes are closely intertwined.

Since its creation in 1917, the Board's authority has included prescribing statewide policies for education; at the same time, the Constitution entrusts the Superintendent with "the general supervision of the public schools." Because these purposes are so closely intertwined, a cooperative relationship between the Superintendent and the Board has been the custom. The statutory allocation of duties between the two has necessitated that they coordinate their actions and work together to achieve mutually agreed-upon goals. However, the legislative history of the Superintendent's duties, the State Board's functions, and the practical means of sharing these authorities as laid out in statutes, reflects that at times, an unhealthy tension has resulted.

State Board established in 1917. The Legislature's intent in creating a State Board of Education appears to have been to coordinate and readjust the relationship between state and local education communities, reversing the traditional (local) seat of organizational authority. Legislative assignment of certain duties to the new State Board did not, however, fully clarify which entity was to do what, since creation of the Board impinged on what had been for nearly 30 years the Superintendent's exclusive authority.

Soon after the Board's creation, issues about overlapping authority came up.

Questions about proper assignment of duties and the possibility of overlapping authority soon arose. For example, the 1917 legislation stated that "general supervision of public schools shall be entrusted to a State Department of Education at the head of which shall be a State Board of Education which shall administer the state system...." Notably absent from the 1917 legislation was any reference to the Superintendent's position, to which the State's Constitution had already assigned "general supervision of schools." In addition, this framing of the new Board as "head" of the professional Department and as administrator of the state's education system was less than clear.

The Legislature reversed some of its Board-related direction two years later, presumably to clarify the overlap in responsibility it had created. In 1919, it eliminated the Board's "general supervision" authority and its authority over the Department.

The Commissioner of Education was staff to the Board (and Department).

Commissioner of Education. The same legislation that created the State Board in 1917 also authorized the Board to appoint a Commissioner of Education. The Commissioner served several masters: he was staff to and responsible to the Board, but also served as the chief officer of the Department's teacher certification division. In addition, statutes designated the Commissioner as "the executive head of the public school system of the State." Under this somewhat confusing format, and for the next forty years, the Superintendent was head of the Department and supervised the Commissioner. The Board prescribed policies and standards and "recommended" rules and regulations, while the Commissioner, as the Board's executive officer and agent, executed its policies.

Fundamental changes in 1959 and 1969. Amendments to

After elimination of the Commissioner position, the Board no longer had its own staff.

the Education Code in 1959 eliminated the position of Commissioner, transferring the position's powers and duties to the State Board. With this transfer of functional responsibilities came a further depletion of the Board's autonomy, as it no longer had staff of its own through which to carry out these duties. As a result, the Board became more dependent on the Superintendent and the Department staff who report to the Superintendent.

Statutory changes in 1969 made the Board part of the Department.

Ten years after elimination of the Commissioner position, the Education Code of 1969 set up yet another model. This legislation stated that the Department of Education consisted of the State Superintendent, the State Board, and necessary departmental divisions. Under this model, the Board was a part of the Department and had authority to approve the Superintendent's departmental organization and staffing decisions. The Department had the explicit charge of assisting both the Superintendent and the Board with "the proper and efficient discharge of their respective duties."

Further complicating the arrangement was a statutory provision (since repealed) that required the Board "with or without the assistance of the State Superintendent" to enforce its own rules. While the original intent of this provision may have been to restore to the State Board its pre-1959 ability to act on its own, the Board no longer had staff that would enable it to take independent action.

1985 LSO audit found the Board had assumed an ambiguous role

An '85 LSO audit found the Board lacked a separate identity.

By 1984, questions about effective functioning and the appropriate division of responsibilities were being raised and the Legislature scheduled the State Board for a sunset review. A 1985 LSO audit reviewed the powers and duties of the Superintendent and the State Board as well as the functional relationship between them. The report described the State Board at that time as "lacking its own separate identity" and as having taken an "auxiliary position to the Superintendent and the Department." It concluded that the proper role of the Board in the state's educational scheme still needed to be sorted out.

The Legislature has continued to add and shift duties between the two.

The two decades since that analysis have been characterized by continuing legislative efforts to re-frame and streamline the role of the State Board, and to some extent that of the Superintendent, and to clarify their respective duties. During the late 1980s and early 1990s, different pieces of proposed legislation would have provided staff for the Board, made the Board more advisory, allowed the Superintendent to make Board appointments, and would have abolished the State Board altogether, transferring its duties to the Superintendent. While the Legislature did not enact these proposals, it did approve certain others. Chapter 2 examines legislative changes made since 1987 and their implications for the state-level educational governance system.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction

The Superintendent is a partisan office elected every four years. In 2004, the Legislature approved a FY '05/'06 budget for the office of Superintendent of \$1,220,881 in General Funds. The entire Department overseen by the Superintendent had 104 full-time employees and a biennial budget of \$231 million, not including the School Foundation Program, school construction, or court-ordered placement funding. The current Superintendent has reorganized the Department's FY '07/'08 budget request, the structure and amounts of which were not available as of this writing. However, as in the past, the Superintendent's Office budget request will include support staff costs for the State Board.

The Superintendent, a non-voting member of the Board, provides information to it on request.

In addition to serving as the Department's chief executive officer of, the Superintendent is an ex-officio non-voting member of the State Board of Education. As administrator of the policies created by the Board, statute requires the Superintendent to "assist the state board in the performance of its duties and responsibilities, including providing information to the board upon request." The Superintendent also participates in task forces and committees to develop strategies, review programs, and implement plans for improving education in the state.

Superintendent serves on several other boards

The State Superintendent serves with the state's other four statewide elected officials on the State Loan and Investment Board, the Board of Land Commissioners, the State Building Commission, and the Board of Deposits. Further, the State

As one of the state's top five elected officials, the Superintendent sits on four major state boards.

Superintendent serves as an ex-officio non-voting member on the Community College Commission, the State Advisory Council for Innovative Education, and, by Constitution, the University of Wyoming Board of Trustees. In addition, the Superintendent serves on a number of boards created by both statute and executive order, including the School Facilities Commission (W.S. 21-6-202), and other education-related commissions.

Because of legislation passed in 2005 (ch. 242), the Superintendent (or any state elected official) may authorize a designee to act as the official's personal representative to any board or commission, except those to which the official is appointed by the Wyoming Constitution or which is comprised solely of state elected officials (W.S. 9-1-103).

State Board of Education

Of the State Board's 11 members, at least one must be from each of the state's seven appointment districts. One at-large member is a certified classroom teacher; one is a certified school administrator; and two are representative of private business or industry. The other seven members are lay citizens "known for their public spirit, business or professional ability, and interest in education." No more than six members can be from the same political party; members serve six-year terms and are not eligible for reappointment except to fill an unexpired term.

For staffing, the Board has a Department liaison and administrative assistance.

By statute, the Board meets at the call of the Board Chairman, the Superintendent, or the Governor. In 2004, the Board held eight meetings and in 2005 it will hold ten, some of which are teleconference meetings. The Superintendent appoints a high-level Department staff member to act as Board liaison and also provides administrative assistance. However, the Board relies upon the Superintendent and the full Department staff to give members the substantive and analytical information necessary to make informed policy decisions. The Board has no separate staff of its own with which to accomplish duties; its work is carried out "through" and "with" the Superintendent and Department.

Department staff prepare the Board's budget request and submit it to the Legislature as part of the Department's request. Board

The Legislature has approved budget increases to support additional Board activities.

members receive per diem, mileage, and travel expenses but no salary. The Board’s approved budget for the current biennium is \$135,987, a large increase over its FY ’01/’02 budget (see Figure 1.1). The increase is primarily to cover membership in, and out-of-state travel to, the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) as well as additional in-state travel costs and increased communications related to charter school responsibilities.

Figure 1.1

Budget by Biennium

2001-2002	2003-2004	2005-2006
State Superintendent		
\$856,091	\$960,129	\$1,220,881
	<i>'01/'02 – '03/'04 change: +12%</i>	<i>'03/'04 – '05/'06 change: +27%</i>
		<i>'01/'02 – '05/'06 change: +43%</i>
State Board of Education		
\$51,905	\$89,379	\$135,987
	<i>'01/'02 – '03/'04 change: +72%</i>	<i>'03/'04 – '05/'06 change: +52%</i>
		<i>'01/'02 – '05/'06 change: +162%</i>

Source: LSO

Need for further examination of respective roles

Following the election of 2002, friction became evident in the working relationship between the newly-elected Superintendent and the Board. Some held this to be a failing of cooperation between individuals, while others saw it as a governance or structural problem. In 2003 the Board requested clarification from

An informal A.G.

opinion in '03 has not fully satisfied concerns.

the Attorney General of its authority and responsibilities in the performance of its duties as set forth in law. The Attorney General responded with an informal opinion that the State Board establishes education policy, while the Superintendent assists the Board in implementing policy and directs the expenditure of appropriated funds in order to carry out those policies.

While seemingly clear in theory, some tension has continued in practice, with several factors coming into play. For example, the Superintendent is elected in part for political views presented to the electorate, while Board appointees are chosen by a Governor not always from the same political party as the Superintendent. The Board is dependent upon the Superintendent for information and staff support, while the Superintendent depends upon the Board to set standards and policies for statewide public education. Although they are structurally interdependent, both entities are unlikely to have parallel views on every issue at all times.

The next chapters will review statutory duties in Wyoming and governance in other states.

In the nearly 90 years during which the Board has had a role in state-level education governance, the Legislature has shifted and refined the Board's role as well as that of the Superintendent. This study reviews how the statutory allocation of duties sets up tension, describes governance arrangements in similarly structured states, and concludes with options for the Legislature to consider if it wishes to make further system changes.

Chart

Statutory duties 1969 to present

Key:

Statutes enacted or amended:

Statutory duties assigned on or before 1969:

Statutory duties assigned 1985 to 1987:

Statutory duties assigned 1990 to 1994:

Statutory duties assigned in 1997 and after:



Selected Superintendent Duties, 1969 – Present

Not including the Superintendent's board and commission assignments, or school finance duties in Title 21, Chapter 13

Responsibility/Authority	← 1969	1987	1994	1997 →
General supervision of the public schools, with powers and duties prescribed by law. <i>Art. 7, § 14, Wyoming State Constitution; W.S. 21-2-201</i>	Superintendent	Superintendent	Superintendent	Superintendent
Serve as an ex officio member of the University of Wyoming Board of Trustees. <i>Art. 7, § 17, Wyoming State Constitution</i> Serve on the Board of Land Commissioners. <i>Art. 18, § 3, Wyoming State Constitution</i>	Superintendent	Superintendent	Superintendent	Superintendent
Supervise the Department of Education and organize and staff it the way the Superintendent deems necessary to help him discharge his duties. <i>W.S. 21-2-104</i>	Superintendent State Board	Superintendent Amended	Superintendent	Superintendent
Make rules, consistent with the education code, for the proper and effective administration of the state educational system, but not in areas specifically entrusted to the State Board. <i>W.S. 21-2-202(a)(i)</i>	Superintendent	Superintendent	Superintendent	Superintendent
Consult with and advise the state board, local school boards and administrators, teachers and citizens to develop public support for a complete and uniform system of education for the citizens of the state. <i>W.S. 21-2-202(a)(ii)</i>	Superintendent	Superintendent	Superintendent	Superintendent
Enforce the provisions of the education code and the rules and regulations provided for in it. <i>W.S. 21-2-202(a)(iv)</i>	Superintendent	Superintendent	Superintendent	Superintendent
Along with the State Board, report to the governor and recommend legislation and appropriations for education and educational activities. <i>W.S. 21-2-306</i>	Superintendent State Board	Superintendent State Board	Superintendent State Board	Superintendent State Board
Assist the State Board in the performance of its duties and responsibilities, including providing information to the board upon request. <i>W.S. 21-2-202(a)(vii)</i>	Superintendent	Superintendent Amended	Superintendent	Superintendent
Print and distribute school laws, regulations, forms, reports to local district boards, administrators and other persons. <i>W.S. 21-2-202(a)(ix)</i> TRANSFERRED FROM BOARD	State Board	Superintendent Amended	Superintendent	Superintendent
Promulgate rules for the acceptance and disbursement of federal funds apportioned to the state for school lunch, milk, and other commodities distribution programs. <i>W.S. 21-2-202(a)(x)</i> TRANSFERRED FROM BOARD	State Board	Superintendent Amended	Superintendent	Superintendent
Except as otherwise provided by law, decide controversies arising from the administration of the state school system involving rules, orders, or directives promulgated by the State Superintendent, State Board, or the State Department of Education. This decision will be the final administrative determination. REPEALED IN 1994	Superintendent	Superintendent	Repealed	NA
Inform the State Board of applications from school districts to the Farm Loan Board for loans or grants for capital construction. REPEALED IN 1994	NA	Superintendent	Repealed	NA
For purposes of the statewide assessment of students, have authority to assess and collect student educational assessment data from school districts, community colleges, and the University, in accordance with Board rules. <i>W.S. 21-2-202(a)(xiv)</i>	NA	NA	Superintendent	Superintendent Amended

Responsibility/Authority	← 1969	1987	1994	1997 →
Assist the professional teaching standards board (PTSB) in the performance of its duties, including providing information to the Board upon request. <i>Added in 1993, when PTSB was established. ch. 217. W.S. 21-2-202(a)(xvi)</i>	NA	NA	Superintendent 1993	Superintendent
Include in the Department's budget request recommendations for school foundation program account appropriations and appropriations to the account necessary to fund payments to school districts as required by law, and recommendations for appropriations for special programs. <i>Added 1993, ch. 125 W.S. 21-2-202(xvii)(A) and (B)</i>	NA	NA	Superintendent 1993	Superintendent
Promulgate rules assuring children with disabilities receive free and appropriate education. TRANSFERRED FROM THE STATE BOARD. <i>W.S. 21-2-202(a)(xviii)</i>	State Board	State Board	Superintendent	Superintendent
Serve as the agency to accept all federal funds, establish a state plan to qualify the state for federal funds, provide technical advice to local educational agencies to obtain federal funds. <i>W.S. 21-2-202(a)(xix)</i> TRANSFERRED FROM BOARD	State Board	State Board	Superintendent	Superintendent
Designate an employee of the Department to serve as liaison to the State Board. <i>W.S. 21-2-202(b)</i>	NA	State Board	Superintendent	Superintendent
Take appropriate action with the State Board, including but not limited to changing accreditation status, against any school district or state institution failing to comply with any applicable law or with the uniform educational programs standards specified under W.S. 21-9-101 and 21-9-102 and the student content and performance standards prescribed by the State Board. <i>W.S. 21-2-202(c)</i>	NA	NA	Superintendent	Superintendent with the State Board 2002
Develop and implement a statewide education technology plan. <i>W.S. 21-2-202(a)(xx)</i>	NA	NA	NA	Superintendent
Establish and maintain a uniform stateside reporting system based upon the statewide student assessment implemented by the State Board. <i>W.S. 21-2-202(a)(xxi)</i>	NA	NA	NA	Superintendent
Administer the school finance, data management, and reporting system for school funding. <i>W.S. 21-2-203(c)(i)</i>	NA	NA	NA	Superintendent 1998
Promulgate rules to administer the school finance, data management and reporting system for the funding of public schools. <i>W.S. 21-2-203(c)(l)</i>	NA	NA	NA	Superintendent 1998
Establish guidelines for school districts for the safe storage and disposal of toxic chemicals and other hazardous substances. <i>W.S. 21-2-201(a)(xxii)</i>	NA	NA	NA	Superintendent 2001
Establish statewide guidelines for adequate special education staffing levels, monitor school district special education service delivery practices, develop procedures. <i>W.S. 21-2-202(a)(xxii) – (xxv)</i>	NA	NA	NA	Superintendent 2003
Develop a process and procedures for waivers for career-vocational programs, a grant program, monitoring, and district reporting of vocational education expenditures to implement and administer W.S. 21-13-329, the adjustment to the foundation program formula for vocational education. <i>W.S. 21-2-202(a)(xxvi) – (xxix)</i>	NA	NA	NA	Superintendent 2003
Employ legal counsel to review contracts entered into by the Superintendent. <i>W.S. 21-2-202(a)(xix)(J)</i>	NA	NA	NA	Superintendent 2004

Selected State Board Duties, 1969 – Present

Responsibility/Authority	← 1969	1987	1994	1997 →
Hold a meeting during the first quarter of a calendar year and select a chairman. Meet at the call of the Superintendent, the Governor, or the Board chairman. May hold other meetings at regular intervals as the duties require. <i>W.S. 21-2-301(b)</i>	State Board	State Board	State Board	State Board
Prescribe minimum standards for public schools, including general education programs, site selection and building of public schools. <i>W.S. 21-2-304(b)(i)</i> REPEALED IN 1997	State Board	State Board	State Board	Repealed (replaced)
Through accreditation of school districts, implement and enforce the uniform standards for education programs prescribed under W.S. 21-9-101 – 102. <i>W.S. 21-2-304(a)(ii)</i>	State Board	State Board	State Board	State Board
Enforce the uniform state educational program standards imposed by W.S. 21-9-101 and 21-9-102 and the uniform student content and performance standards established by rules and regulations by taking appropriate administrative action with the Superintendent, including but not limited to changing accreditation status. <i>W.S. 21-2-304(b)(ii)</i>	State Board with or without the Superintendent	State Board with or without the Superintendent	State Board with the Superintendent	State Board with the Superintendent
Initiate or facilitate discussions regarding the need and means for improving education. <i>W.S. 21-2-304(b)(v)</i>	State Board	State Board	State Board	State Board
Along with the Superintendent, report to the governor and recommend legislation and appropriations for education and educational activities. <i>W.S. 21-2-306</i>	State Board Superintendent	State Board Superintendent	State Board Superintendent	State Board Superintendent
Act with the Superintendent as the "State Committee" to approve or reject proposals for organization or reorganization of school district boundaries. <i>W.S. 21-6-202, 21-6-210(a)</i>	State Board Superintendent	State Board Superintendent	State Board Superintendent	State Board Superintendent
Approve or disapprove agreements to form BOCES. <i>W.S. 21-20-104(a)</i>	State Board	State Board	State Board	State Board
Prescribe rules for administering the laws governing the certification of school administrators, teachers and other personnel. <i>W.S. 21-2-304(b)(iii)</i> REPEALED IN 1993	State Board	State Board	PTSB 1993	PTSB
Print and distribute to local school districts the school laws, regulations, forms and reports. <i>W.S. 21-2-304(b)(vi)</i> REPEALED IN 1987 - TRANSFERRED TO SUPERINTENDENT	State Board	Repealed Transferred	Superintendent	Superintendent
Promulgate rules under which the Superintendent may accept and disburse federal funds for school lunch programs. <i>W.S. 21-2-304(b)(ix)</i> REPEALED IN 1994 - TRANSFERRED	State Board	State Board	Repealed Transferred	Superintendent
Serve as the state agency to accept all federal funds for education, and to supervise the programs. <i>W.S. 21-2-304(b)(xii)</i> REPEALED IN 1994 - TRANSFERRED	State Board	State Board	Repealed Transferred	Superintendent
Review actions of the Department of Education by which school districts are aggrieved. <i>W.S. 21-2-304(b)(xii)</i> REPEALED IN 1994	State Board	State Board	Repealed	NA
Promulgate rules assuring children with disabilities receive free and appropriate education. <i>W.S. 21-2-304(a)(xi)</i> REPEALED IN 1994 - TRANSFERRED TO THE SUPERINTENDENT	State Board	State Board	Repealed Transferred	Superintendent
License private schools as provided under W.S. 21-2-401 – 407. <i>W.S. 21-2-304(b)(x)</i>		State Board	State Board	State Board
Approve or reject alternative scheduling for districts requesting to operate for less than 175 days in a school year. <i>W.S. 21-2-304(b)(viii)</i>	NA	State Board 1985	State Board	State Board

Responsibility/Authority	← 1969	1987	1994	1997 →
Establish minimum standards for trade, correspondence, distance education, technical, vocational, business or other private schools and all degree-granting post secondary schools not accredited and insure Department inspects them. <i>W.S. 21-2-401(d)</i>		State Board 1985	State Board	State Board
Establish policies for public education consistent with the Wyoming Constitution and statutes. May promulgate rules necessary to implement Title 21 and its responsibilities under this title. Shall not have rulemaking authority in any area specifically delegated to the Superintendent. <i>W.S. 21-2-304(a)(i)</i>	NA	State Board	State Board	State Board
Establish improvement goals for public schools. <i>W.S. 21-2-304(b)(xiv)</i> 1990	NA	NA	State Board 1990	State Board
Promulgate rules for the development, assessment and approval of school district teacher performance evaluation systems. <i>W.S. 21-2-304(b)(xv)</i> 1993	NA	NA	State Board 1993	State Board
Implement, administer, and supervise, through the Superintendent, education programs for visually handicapped and hearing impaired adults. <i>W.S. 21-2-304(b)(xvi)</i> 1993	NA	NA	State Board 1993	State Board
Establish statewide goals for Wyoming public education. <i>W.S. 21-2-304(e)</i>	NA	NA	State Board	State Board
Serve as the State Board of Vocational Education, promulgate rules, and review district career-vocational education plans. <i>W.S. 21-12-101, W.S. 21-2-307(b)</i>	State Board	State Board	State Board	State Board
Perform ongoing review of state board duties and make recommendations regarding board duties to the Legislature. At least every 5 years, evaluate and review the educational program standards and student content and performance standards and report findings and recommendations to the Joint Education Committee. <i>W.S. 21-2-304(c)</i>	NA	NA	State Board	State Board
In consultation with local school districts, promulgate rules to prescribe uniform student content and performance standards for the common core of knowledge and common core of skills specified under W.S. 21-9-101(b) and promulgate uniform standards for programs addressing the special needs of student populations specified under W.S. 21-9-101(c). <i>W.S. 21-2-304(a)(iii)</i>	Replaced repealed W.S. 21-2-304(b)(i)	Replaced repealed W.S. 21-2-304(b)(i)	Replaced repealed W.S. 21-2-304(b)(i)	State Board in consultation with school districts
Establish requirements for a high school diploma as measured by each district's body of evidence assessment system. <i>W.S. 21-2-304(a)(iv)</i>	NA	NA	NA	State Board 2002
Implement through the Superintendent a statewide assessment system for measuring student progress based upon uniform educational program and student content and performance standards imposed by law and Board rules. <i>W.S. 21-2-304(a)(v)</i>	NA	NA	NA	State Board through the Superintendent
Grant or deny requests by charter schools for release from state statutes and rules, decide appeals from district board decisions relating to charter schools. <i>W.S. 21-3-305(c), W.S. 21-3-310(b)</i>	NA	NA	NA	State Board 2001
From school year 2005-2006 on, through the Superintendent and in consultation with local districts, establish a statewide accountability system in rules. <i>W.S. 21-2-304(a)(vi)</i> 2004	NA	NA	NA	State Board through the Superintendent 2004

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