

WYOMING PUBLIC MEDIA

Impact Report on Education 2025

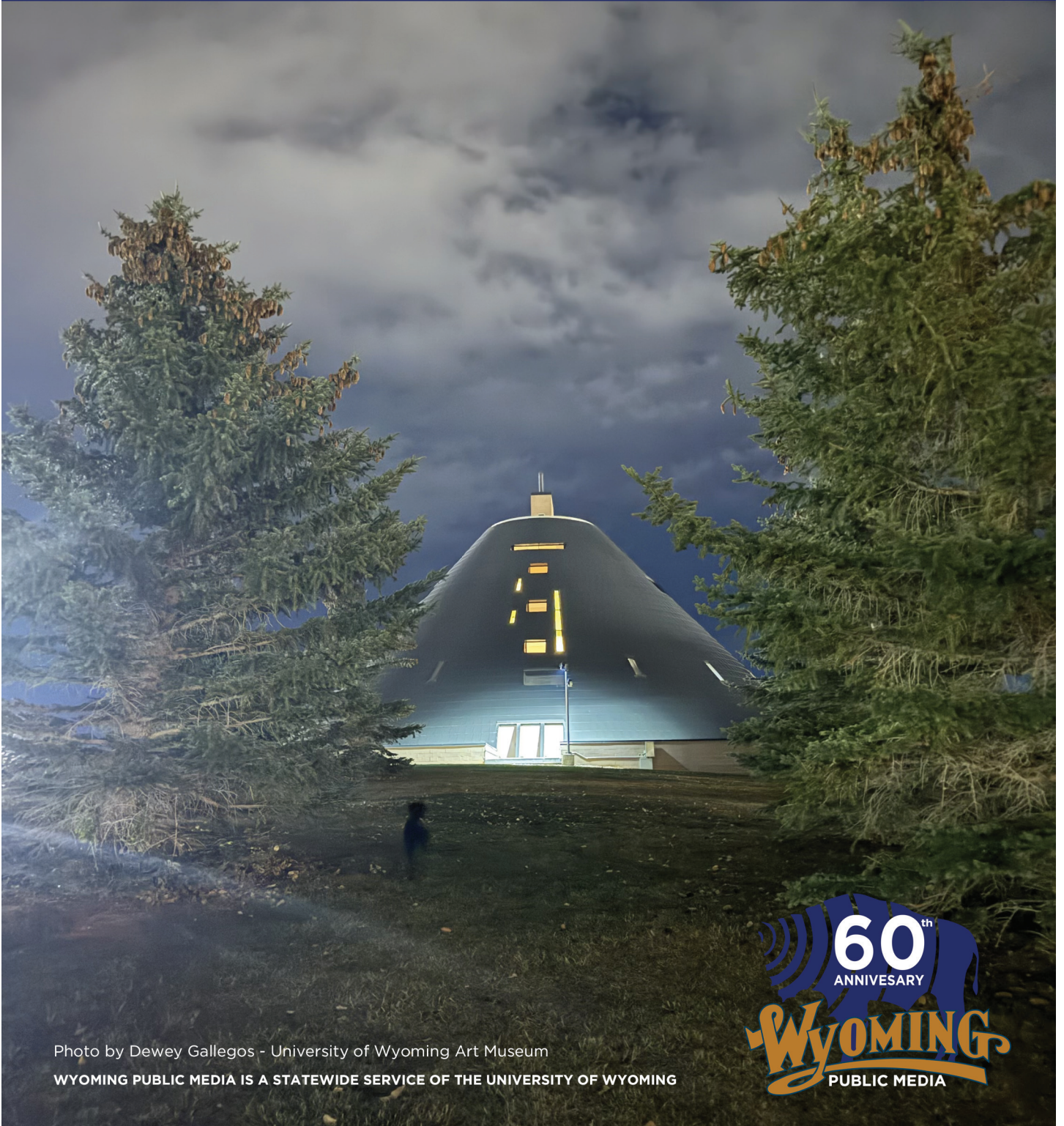


Photo by Dewey Gallegos - University of Wyoming Art Museum

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Adam Bowen - A quick embrace from
some wild horses in the McCullough
peaks range at last light

WYOMING PUBLIC MEDIA Impact Report on Education 2025

Impact on Education



As part of its public mission, Wyoming Public Media reports on topics that impact the lives of Wyoming's residents.

Education shapes the future of Wyoming's communities, and Wyoming Public Media is dedicated to covering the issues that matter most to students, families, educators, and policymakers. This page brings together our education reporting, including stories we've aired and ongoing coverage of important developments affecting education across the state.

In 2025 Wyoming Public Media Reported on 140 stories and features



Kathy Johnson - The Morning We Left

WYOMING PUBLIC MEDIA Impact Report on Education 2025

Education Stories



This report highlights a sample of this work.

The full 140 stories and features can be found at wyomingpublicmedia.org/education

Jan. 5 is Nellie Tayloe Ross Day thanks to Green River High School students

Wyoming Public Radio | By Kamila Kudelska

Published January 3, 2025 at 4:24 PM MST

Jan. 5 is Nellie Tayloe Ross Day. It marks the 100th anniversary of the inauguration of the nation's first female governor.

A Green River High School social studies class drafted the proclamation and sent it to Gov. Mark Gordon, who signed it on Dec. 20 at the Sweetwater County District Courthouse.



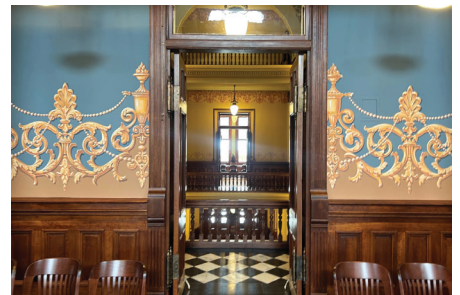
Office of Gov. Mark Gordon

Wyoming bill to ban cellphones in schools during class time fails first Senate vote

Wyoming Public Radio | By Corwin Schlump

Published January 21, 2025 at 6:30 PM MST

Wyoming senators are considering a bill that would ban cellphones in K-12 schools during class time. The "Ban on cell phone use in schools" would also ban smart watches capable of acting in place of or as an extension of a person's cellular telephone. While it passed through the Senate Education Committee on a 4-1 vote Jan. 20, a vote in the full Senate Jan. 21 failed 7-21, with three excused.



Chris Clements/Wyoming Public Media

Veteran mental health and the Hathaway: Two UW related bills move through the Legislature

Wyoming Public Radio | By Hannah Habermann

Published January 29, 2025 at 5:39 PM MST

Two bills related to the University of Wyoming (UW) made moves through the Legislature this week. One would create a student loan repayment program for veterans who provide mental health care to other vets in the state. The other is related to the Hathaway Scholarship.



Kamila Kudelska/Wyoming Public Media

Soon, one nanny may be able to take care of two families

Wyoming Public Radio | By Melodie Edwards

Published January 31, 2025 at 2:06 PM MST

There's a childcare crisis in Wyoming. Some 285 daycares have shuttered in the state since 2011, leaving many parents unable to join the workforce. Lawmakers are considering a bill that would allow nannies and babysitters to care for two families without needing to be licensed.



Wikimedia Commons

WYOMING PUBLIC MEDIA Impact Report on Education 2025

Education Stories

University of Wyoming opens a new resource center in place of the closed Multicultural Affairs Office

Wyoming Public Radio | By Jesse Morris

Published February 3, 2025 at 4:28 PM MST

In late January, the University of Wyoming (UW) hosted a reception for its new Pokes Center for Community Resources (PCCR). It is meant to fill some of the holes left after the UW Multicultural Affairs Office closed last year in response to Legislative action.



Jesse Morris Wyoming Public Media

Advocates are worried about child development funding in supplemental budget

Wyoming Public Radio | By Hannah Habermann

Published February 4, 2025 at 3:28 PM MST

The Joint Appropriations Committee of the Wyoming Legislature turned down a request for more funding for centers that support kids with disabilities, after Gov. Mark Gordon denied a similar ask in his supplemental budget request. Advocates are worried about what that could mean on the ground.



Richard Steih/Flickr

Lawmakers advance a bill to rescue the UW Lab School

Wyoming Public Radio | By Melodie Edwards

Published February 4, 2025 at 3:38 PM MST

A bill making its way through the Wyoming Legislature seeks to save the University of Wyoming (UW) Lab School, after UW and the Albany County School Board failed to extend an agreement to keep the Lab School on UW's campus last year.



Melodie Edwards/Wyoming Public Media

Wyoming and Tunisia have a 20-year-long partnership that they hope to continue

Wyoming Public Radio | By Kamila Kudelska

Published February 11, 2025 at 4:01 PM MST

A little over 20 years ago, the Tunisian military was paired with the Wyoming National Guard as part of the Department of Defense's National Guard State Partnership program.



Gregory Ronco

Wyoming senators send a bill to rescue the UW Lab School to the House

Wyoming Public Radio | By Melodie Edwards

Published February 13, 2025 at 2:38 PM MST

The Wyoming Senate advanced a bill that would preserve the University of Wyoming (UW) Lab School, a K-8 school focusing on project and outdoor-based education in Laramie. The university sent the school an eviction notice last year, saying it was no longer serving the function of training teachers like it used to.



Melodie Edwards

WYOMING PUBLIC MEDIA Impact Report on Education 2025

Education Stories

Education advocates weigh in on the Legislature's actions so far

Wyoming Public Radio | By Kamila Kudelska

Published February 18, 2025 at 12:15 PM MST

Education has been a big topic during this legislative session, especially affecting K-12 schools. Over 20 bills were filed in the House and Senate. They span from changing the number of school days to funding and curriculums.

Since we're past the halfway point of the session, Wyoming Public Radio's Kamila Kudelska checked in with three stakeholders on a couple of key bills that have been moving forward.



UW will host three speakers to invite students to think critically

Wyoming Public Radio | By Jesse Morris

Published February 19, 2025 at 11:41 AM MST

The University of Wyoming (UW) is hosting a three part lecture series to promote free expression, intellectual freedom, and constructive dialogue as part of its response to concerns about a lack of diverse viewpoints on campus.



Jesse Morris/Wyoming Public Media

Lawmakers to negotiate final school voucher bill

Wyoming Public Radio | By Jeff Victor

Published February 24, 2025 at 12:41 PM MST

Both chambers of the Wyoming Legislature have approved a major expansion of the state's school voucher program. It currently provides low-income families \$6,000 of public funding to put their child in a private school.

The so-called Steamboat Legacy Scholarship Act raises that to \$7,000 and opens the program to any family, no matter how much the parents earn.



Jeff Victor/The Laramie Reporter

The University of Wyoming community wonders how the Legislature could affect it

Wyoming Public Radio | By Jesse Morris

Published February 27, 2025 at 10:35 AM MST

Last Wednesday, around 50 people attended a University of Wyoming (UW) campus-wide discussion about the Legislative session. The event opened the floor for faculty and students to question a panel of UW leadership about the possible implications of bills, executive orders, or budget changes for the university.



Jesse Morris/Wyoming Public Media

Wyoming judge rules state education funding system is unconstitutional

Wyoming Public Radio | By Kamila Kudelska

Published February 27, 2025 at 9:42 PM MST

A Laramie County judge ruled that the state's public school funding model is unconstitutional because it hasn't properly accounted for inflation.

This is a win for the Wyoming Education Association (WEA). It sued the state in 2022.



picsserver.org

WYOMING PUBLIC MEDIA Impact Report on Education 2025

Education Stories

The governor signed a bill allowing nannies to take care of more children

Wyoming Public Radio | By Melodie Edwards

Published February 28, 2025 at 4:53 PM MST

With a growing shortage of childcare centers in the state, Governor Mark Gordon has signed house bill 188 into law. It loosens rules for how many families a nanny or babysitter can care for. In the past, they could only watch the children of one family. Now, they will be able to care for two families' children. The hope is this will offer rural communities an emergency option if their childcare center closes down. 285 daycares have shuttered across the state since 2011, leaving thousands of Wyoming parents unable to go to work.



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Private school voucher bill includes pre-K tuition for low-income families

Wyoming Public Radio | By Jeff Victor

Published March 4, 2025 at 8:53 AM MST

If Gov. Mark Gordon signs House Bill 199 into law, the Steamboat Legacy Scholarship it creates will reimburse families for private school tuition with state dollars.

Wyoming already has a voucher program. But the new bill raises the payout and opens the program to every family, regardless of how much the parents earn.



Chris Clements/Wyoming Public Media

New law opens publicly-funded school vouchers to all families

Wyoming Public Radio | By Jeff Victor

Published March 4, 2025 at 5:19 PM MST

Gov. Mark Gordon signed into law a major expansion of the state's school voucher program. It reimburses families with state funds to send their child to their school of choice, including private and religious schools.

Wyoming currently offers \$6,000 to low-income families to reimburse tuition at a private school.



David Dudley/Wyoming Public Media

A state grant program to help childcare centers has been inundated with applicants

Wyoming Public Radio | By Melodie Edwards

Published March 26, 2025 at 5:11 PM MDT

A state grant program to help childcare centers get up and running has been inundated with applicants since going live. Currently, a third of the state lives in a childcare desert. That's when more than 50 small children live in an area with low or no childcare. It's even higher for rural and low-income families, up to 45% for those demographics.



rawpixel.com /U.S. Department of Agriculture

UW Faculty Senate to consider 'no confidence' resolution over president's leadership

Wyoming Public Radio | By Nicky Ouellet

Published April 7, 2025 at 10:00 AM MDT

The Faculty Senate has drafted a resolution calling for a vote of no confidence in UW Pres. Ed Seidel's leadership, criticizing the president for his alleged lack of commitment to shared governance principles. The Faculty Senate plans to discuss its resolution in executive session in the afternoon of April 7.



Ted Brummond/UW Photo Service

WYOMING PUBLIC MEDIA Impact Report on Education 2025

Education Stories

UW president survives faculty and donor revolt, for now

Wyoming Public Radio | By Jeff Victor

Published April 11, 2025 at 5:44 PM MDT

Faculty at the University of Wyoming issued a no confidence vote in the university's president on April 7. It comes on the heels of an abrupt firing of a popular dean, which drew backlash from donors and some lawmakers. Wyoming Public Radio's part-time reporter, Jeff Victor, has been investigating deteriorating relationships within the university over the past few months for his online news outlet, the Laramie Reporter. He shares the findings from his public records requests with us now.



Jeff Victor/The Laramie Reporter

Following faculty outcry, UW launches shared governance committee

Wyoming Public Radio | By Jeff Victor

Published April 18, 2025 at 6:24 PM MDT

A new University of Wyoming (UW) committee aims to quell campus unrest among the faculty. It will bring together trustees, administrators, faculty, staff and students to recommend ways UW might do better at collaborative, transparent decision-making.



Tony Webster/Wikimedia

UW's School of Computing to officially leave College of Engineering

Wyoming Public Radio | By Jeff Victor

Published April 21, 2025 at 10:44 AM MDT

The University of Wyoming's (UW) School of Computing will soon be an independent unit on campus, similar to the Haub School or School of Energy Resources. The school aims to provide computational support for education and research in a wide range of disciplines across campus. It shares nearly 20 faculty with other departments and UW says more than 300 students are currently enrolled in the school's classes.



Tony Webster/Wikimedia

UW president urges respectful protest ahead of right-wing campus rally

Wyoming Public Radio | By Jeff Victor

Published April 22, 2025 at 3:45 PM MDT

The University of Wyoming (UW) will host Charlie Kirk, a right-wing activist, on campus on April 24 for a planned rally. UW is cautioning students to protest respectfully. UW Pres. Ed Seidel sent a campuswide email on April 22 urging students and others to honor the right to free expression.



Gage Skidmore/Wikimedia

April is Native Plant Month in Wyoming and across the country

Wyoming Public Radio | By Hannah Habermann

Published April 24, 2025 at 3:08 PM MDT

Gov. Mark Gordon first designated April as Native Plant Month in Wyoming in 2023 and did so again this year. In the most recent proclamation, Gordon encouraged residents to learn more about how the plants benefit Wyoming's ecosystems and to put native trees and flowers in their yards to support wildlife.



Dorothy Tuthill

WYOMING PUBLIC MEDIA Impact Report on Education 2025

Education Stories

Native Voices brings Indigenous filmmakers and creatives to the Tetons and Riverton

Wyoming Public Radio | By Hannah Habermann

Published April 28, 2025 at 4:20 PM MDT

The Emmy-award winning Indigenous filmmaker behind "Prey," the 2022 installment in the "Predator" movie series, will speak in Jackson and Riverton this week.

Jhane Myers' talks are part of a multi-day program called Native Voices, which is hosted by Central Wyoming College in partnership with Wyoming Humanities and Native American Jump Start.



Central Wyoming College

Statewide property tax change could mean a million dollar loss for Central Wyoming College

Wyoming Public Radio | By Hannah Habermann

Published April 29, 2025 at 5:14 PM MDT

Wyoming lawmakers passed a bill during this year's session to cut property taxes for most homeowners. But for Central Wyoming College (CWC), changes in statewide property taxes could mean losing roughly \$1 million of its annual budget.



Central Wyoming College

Laramie High School places second in regional cooking competition

Wyoming Public Radio | By Susan Izzo

Published April 30, 2025 at 5:52 PM MDT

The Young Escoffier High School Culinary Scholarship Competition has been going on for 10 years. The high school level cooking competition is held at the Auguste Escoffier School of Culinary Arts in Boulder, Colorado. Each year, culinary teams from around the Rocky Mountain region compete in an hour long competition. This year, 12 teams competed for a total of \$60,000 in scholarships to attend Escoffier's culinary school.



Auguste Escoffier School of Culinary Arts

Climb Wyoming is recognized nationally for combining mental health support and free job training

Wyoming Public Radio | By Hannah Habermann

Published May 1, 2025 at 3:28 PM MDT

Over the past year, Climb Wyoming was one of 15 organizations in the nation recognized for its expertise in multigenerational work. The nonprofit recently wrapped up the 2Gen Accelerator Community program through Ascend at the Aspen Institute.



Hannah Habermann/Wyoming Public Media

UW considers axing gender and African studies degrees as part of annual review

Wyoming Public Radio | By Jeff Victor

Published May 2, 2025 at 12:45 PM MDT

Four-year degree programs in Gender and Women's Studies, and African and Diaspora Studies, are at the chopping block at the University of Wyoming (UW). UW will decide this month whether to cut those degree programs, as well as three others identified for elimination through the university's regular annual review process.



Tony Webster/Wikimedia

WYOMING PUBLIC MEDIA Impact Report on Education 2025

Education Stories

UW's international students are fearful amid visa uncertainty

Wyoming Public Radio | By Jeff Victor

Published May 2, 2025 at 4:02 PM MDT

The University of Wyoming (UW) has more than 600 international students this semester. But many of those students say they fear for their ability to stay.

The federal government started deleting student visa records in March without notifying universities, before abruptly reinstating those records in April. Six UW students were affected.



Tony Webster/Wikimedia

UW says new DEI law won't end academic freedom

Wyoming Public Radio | By Jeff Victor

Published May 10, 2025 at 4:57 PM MDT

The University of Wyoming is preparing its instructors to comply with a new state law targeting diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI). That law will take effect before UW students return in the fall.

It prohibits university instructors from teaching that one racial, religious or other demographic group is inherently inferior to any other.



Tony Webster/Wikimedia

Hundreds of University of Wyoming students are set to graduate this weekend

Wyoming Public Radio | By Jeff Victor

Published May 15, 2025 at 8:28 AM MDT

More than 1,700 University of Wyoming (UW) students will cross the stage this weekend to cap off their journeys through higher education.

Across a series of ceremonies planned for Saturday, UW will award 1,267 bachelor's degrees and 424 graduate degrees. More than 80 other students will receive degrees from the College of Law and the School of Pharmacy.



UW Photo

The University of Wyoming responds to a growing nuclear industry with a new certificate

Wyoming Public Radio | By Jesse Morris

Published May 15, 2025 at 2:31 PM MDT

Starting this fall semester, the University of Wyoming (UW) will be offering a nuclear energy certificate for undergraduate and graduate students. To earn the certification, students must complete 15 credits from all new classes, which introduce the basics of nuclear physics, reactor design, law, and economics in nuclear energy.



Tony Webster/Wikimedia

UW: Trump's budget cuts would hinder research

Wyoming Public Radio | By Jeff Victor

Published May 16, 2025 at 1:54 PM MDT

The University of Wyoming has to prepare for "the worst case scenario" when it comes to the Trump administration's steep cuts to research funding, according to university leaders who presented to the UW Board of Trustees this week.

One potentially radical change is the administration's desire to cap "indirect costs" on research grants to 15%.



Angus Thuermer/WyoFile

WYOMING PUBLIC MEDIA Impact Report on Education 2025

Education Stories

UW cancels Gender Studies and Diaspora Studies degree tracks

Wyoming Public Radio | By Jeff Victor

Published May 19, 2025 at 10:50 AM MDT

The University of Wyoming Board of Trustees voted on May 15 to cancel five degrees, including bachelor's degrees in African American and Diaspora Studies and Gender and Women's Studies. It will also restructure the department that houses them. The programs were identified as "low-producing," meaning they weren't graduating enough majors. Gender and Women's Studies produced 17 graduates in the last five years. African American and Diaspora Studies produced three.



University of Wyoming

School officials prepare for the end of gun-free zones

Wyoming Public Radio | By Jeff Victor

Published May 22, 2025 at 2:00 PM MDT

In July, members of the public will be allowed to carry concealed firearms onto school grounds as long as they have a valid permit.

The Legislature repealed gun-free zones earlier this year, paving the way for the legal bearing of arms in schools and on college campuses that had previously banned the practice.



David Dudley/Wyoming Public Media

Over half of Wyoming schools are now four days a week

Wyoming Public Radio | By Melodie Edwards

Published May 28, 2025 at 5:21 PM MDT

The Hot Springs School District recently approved a plan to adopt a four-day school week starting next year, according to the Thermopolis Independent Record. That followed a teacher survey that found 69% approved of the idea.

That's helpful, since one big reason districts are going this route is to help retain and recruit teachers. Four day school weeks are popular with parents, too.



Hugh Cook/Wyoming Public Media

Board of Education chair says "it's a good sign" that schools are moving to four days a week

Wyoming Public Radio | By Melodie Edwards

Published June 2, 2025 at 3:35 PM MDT

The Hot Springs School District is the latest to approve a plan to adopt a four-day school week starting next year, according to the Thermopolis Independent Record. It follows a trend that's now worked its way into over half of Wyoming's school districts. Of the state's 48 school districts, 26 now have alternative schedules. But the model has pros and cons.



Feds launch Title IX investigation at UW over trans-inclusive sorority

Wyoming Public Radio | By Jeff Victor

Published June 3, 2025 at 2:15 PM MDT

The U.S. Department of Education is investigating the University of Wyoming. The department alleges UW violated Title IX, the federal law mandating gender equality in schools, by allowing a transgender student to join a sorority.



Wyoming_Jackrabbit's photo, licensed as Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike. /Flickr

WYOMING PUBLIC MEDIA Impact Report on Education 2025

Education Stories

Judge blocks Job Corps closure as students continue to scramble to finish their degrees

Wyoming Public Radio | By Hanna Merzbach

Published June 5, 2025 at 11:00 AM MDT

A New York district judge temporarily stopped the closure of most Job Corps sites on June 4. The judge's decision comes after the U.S. Department of Labor announced it would "pause" 99 Job Corps centers, including nine across the Mountain West. But supporters of Job Corps say the suspension of the program amounts to a preemptive shutdown.



Courtesy of Athanasius Christofalos

Stakeholders discuss a tentative structure for more support for Native students at UW

Wyoming Public Radio | By Hannah Habermann

Published June 9, 2025 at 12:47 PM MDT

The question of free tuition waivers for Native students at the University of Wyoming (UW) has gone back and forth between tribal members, state legislators and university representatives for a handful of years. Many advocates point to UW's status as a land-grant university as one reason why the school should provide support to Indigenous students, arguing that the university has benefited and continues to benefit from land taken from tribal nations by the federal government.



Wyoming Legislature/YouTube

The UW Lab School has closed its doors for the last time

Wyoming Public Radio | By Melodie Edwards

Published June 11, 2025 at 4:43 PM MDT

The 137-year-old University of Wyoming (UW) Lab School closed its doors for good this May. That's because UW declined to renew an agreement with the Albany County School District #1 to house the school on its campus; the Albany County School Board opted not to find a new home for it; and lawmakers didn't pass a bill to rescue it.



Melodie Edwards

Former dean alleges UW ousted him for blocking \$500,000 transfer

Wyoming Public Radio | By Jeff Victor

Published June 18, 2025 at 7:49 AM MDT

A former University of Wyoming dean alleges in a new lawsuit that his removal earlier this year constituted an act of retaliation on the part of UW administration. As dean of the engineering college, Cameron Wright blocked a \$500,000 transfer of state funds from his college to the School of Computing at a time when the computing school was helped by the university president's romantic partner.



Ted Brummond/UW Photo Service

Students decide to quit federal Job Corps program amid uncertainty

Wyoming Public Radio | By Hanna Merzbach

Published June 18, 2025 at 3:10 PM MDT

The once-bustling hallways and dorms at the Wind River Job Corps site in Riverton, Wyoming are now relatively quiet, students say. Earlier this year, there were about 200 young people enrolled in the high school and career-path program. Now, there's around 100.



Hanna Merzbach/Wyoming Public Media

WYOMING PUBLIC MEDIA Impact Report on Education 2025

Education Stories

Wyomingites champion public schools as recalibration begins

Wyoming Public Radio | By Jeff Victor

Published June 22, 2025 at 10:46 AM MDT

State legislators met in Casper last week to begin what's known as school finance recalibration. That's the process every five years of reevaluating how Wyoming funds public education. This year, there's an added complication: A recent court ruling says the state's been failing to adequately fund public schools.



Tony Webster/Wikimedia

Judge: U.S. Department of Labor can't "do as it pleases" with Job Corps

Wyoming Public Radio | By Hanna Merzbach

Published June 25, 2025 at 4:31 PM MDT

A federal trade program for low-income young people will remain open - at least for now. A district judge in New York prevented a shutdown of Job Corps sites across the country on June 25. Last month, the U.S. Department of Labor cited budget deficits as a reason for closing the doors on over 120 sites, including one in Riverton, Wyoming and eight others across the Mountain West region.



Hanna Merzbach/Wyoming Public Media

Wyoming food pantry shelves will be stocked with 3,000 lbs of an ancient grain this summer

Wyoming Public Radio | By Hannah Habermann

Published June 26, 2025 at 11:15 AM MDT

The Food Bank of Wyoming will distribute 3,000 pounds of the grain, most commonly known as farro, through its partners across the state starting in July. That's thanks to a donation from the University of Wyoming's (UW) Neolithic Brand Wyoming First Grains initiative, which grows and experiments with the 12,000 year-old food outside of Powell.



Food Bank of Wyoming

State schools superintendent talks funding, vouchers and discrimination

Wyoming Public Radio | By Jeff Victor

Published July 11, 2025 at 5:21 PM MDT

School's out, but administrators, staff, lawmakers and other stakeholders are focused on Wyoming's education system. Wyoming Public Radio's Jeff Victor spoke with the superintendent of public schools, Megan Degenfelder, about some of the issues. Victor started with recalibration. By law, the state is required to look at the education funding model every five years. This is one of those years.



Jeff Victor / The Laramie Reporter

For a complete listing of Education Stories on Wyoming Public Media please scan the QR Code

In 2025 Wyoming Public Radio covered over 140 stories about Wyoming Education. Scan the code or go to wyomingpublicmedia.org/education



WYOMING PUBLIC MEDIA

Interns & Volunteers 2025



Amelia Gatterman - News Intern 2025

Amelia is a sophomore at the University of Wyoming and is on the cheer team at UW. She is a double major in Marketing and Journalism. Her hometown is Albuquerque, New Mexico. Amelia loves sports and all things related, so her dream career is to be either a sports journalist or run a team's social media accounts.



Susan Izzo - News Intern 2025

Susan is a senior at the University of Wyoming and will be graduating with a dual degree in Journalism and Sociology. They have grown up in Laramie, Wyoming and have worked around the community as both a chef and comedian. Their love for community and culture is centered around food as a cohesive force for social differences and they are excited to grow in their story telling abilities to better express these universal connections.



Indira Khera - News Intern 2025

Indi Khera is currently pursuing her MFA at The University of Wyoming. She worked previously as both a Metro Reporter for WBEZ in Chicago and as a freelance health journalist, reporting on everything from snapping turtles to drug shortages. Indi's work has been published by WBEZ, NPR, Short Wave, Science Friday, and KFF Health News. In her free time, Indi loves spending time outdoors.



McKenna Lipson - WPM Intern 2025

McKenna's passion for good narrative stems from her work in human services. She received her B.S. in psychology from the University of Wyoming, leading her to volunteer work with Big Brothers Big Sisters and hospice, and a homeless outreach case management job in Washington state. Through these opportunities, she saw the gift and importance of understanding people's lived experiences. She is grateful to work with the talented story-tellers in her home state at WPR.



Jesse Morris - News Intern 2025

Jesse grew up in the foothills of California's Sierra Nevada's, where he spent most of his time exploring the mountains and rivers surrounding his town. He is studying geohydrology and environmental geology with a minor in journalism at the University of Wyoming. When not reporting or at school you might catch him bouldering at the UW climbing gym or backcountry skiing in the Snowy Range.

Interns & Volunteers 2025-2026



Corwin Schlump - News Intern 2025

Corwin Schlump is a political science senior at the University of Wyoming. He grew up in the Midwest, traveled up and down the East Coast of the USA, and has lived in Laramie for the last 10 years. Corwin has always enjoyed news and politics and has participated in study abroad programs in Palestine and Israel. Outside of work, he enjoys playing board games and tennis.



Calla Shosh - News Intern 2026

Calla Shosh is from Casper, majoring in Journalism and Studio Art at UW (pursuing a BA). Prior to this internship, Calla interned for the Casper Star-Tribune and WyoFile. In her free time, Calla loves creating art.



Conor McCracken-Flesher - Cultural Affairs Intern 2026

Born and raised in Laramie, Conor McCracken-Flesher has traveled the world since he last volunteered at WPM! He now holds an MA in Peace Studies and Jewish Studies from Brandeis University, and is back in Laramie after several years volunteering in civil society organizations in Jordan, Israel, and Palestine. Even his hobbies are different; now he climbs, draws, and games when he's away from his desk at IMPACT 307, and still finds time to play in the Laramie Community Band!



Eralys Wallace - News Intern 2026

Eralys Wallace is an undergraduate student at the University of Wyoming majoring in Environment and Natural Resource's with a concurrent major in Environmental Systems and Sciences at the Haub School with minors in Honors, Sustainability, and Natural Values. She's a lifelong WPR listener with an avid passion for environmental issues, early education, media, and journalism. In her free time she enjoys plants, service, the earth, music, art, acting, performance, sustainability, hiking, hammocking, the outdoors, and writing.



Michael Wade Wyoming Sounds Host

Mike Wade grew up the son of a coal miner and a county clerk in Kemmerer. He graduated from UW before spending six years on the west coast earning a Master's degree in Sociology at UC-Davis and discovering new music as an announcer for a couple of radio stations in Sacramento. Mike returned to UW in 2001 and is currently the Associate Director for SEO, where he oversees grant-funded programs that help first generation and limited-income students prepare for and complete college.



Cam Cousino Meteorologist Weather Reporter

Cam is a second-year graduate student at the University of Wyoming, studying Atmospheric Science. He graduated from Ohio University in 2024, and is also a Field Technician for the Wyoming Mesonet. Cam loves animals, and is an avid birdwatcher. He also loves baseball, and manually keeps a scorebook of all the games he's seen!

WYOMING PUBLIC MEDIA

Intern Program



Wyoming Public Media is proud to offer internships, and help students acquire new skills. Now and then we discover a budding "public radio junkie" who learns the business, and decides to follow us into the public radio world. We're delighted to help these individuals find a passion and career in public broadcasting.

For those working in news, the ability to think critically and approach issues from multiple perspectives is a skill that transfers to all aspects of work and life.

They work alongside our professional staff as assistants in the news department, fundraising, and technology. Interns learn to write concisely, meet deadlines, use audio and basic video equipment, produce content to national standards.

- **Since 2011, WPM has hosted 90 interns and volunteers.**

- **In 2025, WPM hosted**
 - **7 interns and**
 - **Over 50 volunteers.**



Julia Sheehan

WYOMING PUBLIC MEDIA Social Media



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- **Facebook**

- 2025 Views: 5,411,198
- Interactions: 104,832



- **Instagram**

- 2025 Views: 1,825, 439
- Interactions: 47,137



- **X**

- 2025 Interactions: 6,448

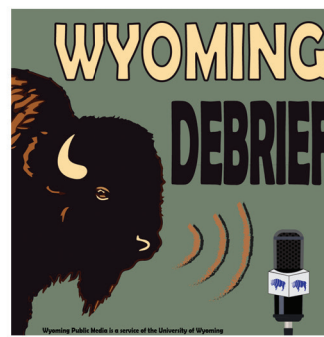


- **YouTube**

- 2025 Views: 21,782

- **WPM Podcasts**

- Modern West Downloads: 498,078
- HumaNature Downloads: 78,457
- Wyoming Debrief Downloads: 5,995
- Open Spaces Downloads: 22,219



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