



PROPOSALS FOR K-12 EDUCATION REVENUE

SEPTEMBER 2022

#	NAME	PROPOSAL
1.	Ray Peterson <i>Cowley, WY</i>	<p>Before addressing additional funding sources for K-12 education, please</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) eliminate the automatic 5% increase to this budget. (2) reduce the amount of cash reserves the school districts may hold over. (3) begin questioning these large cash reserves allowing our larger school districts to build capital construction projects outside of what the state offers as part of the basket of goods. (4) If it is discovered that these funds are out of proportion, allowing these larger districts to build such additions, such as auditoriums and pools, that the state maintains after completed, shouldn't the legislature take the appropriate steps to ensure that funding is reduced or perhaps more evenly distributed among all school districts? <p>In short, before adding to a budget that may be bloated already or has shortfalls in allocations, we should address these concerns first before adding to our tax burden. What state services or budgets will we reduce to continue feeding this out of control spending.</p>
2.	Roxie Taft <i>Upton, WY</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop using existing revenue generated for K-12 education to fund other programs and remove the foundation program cap of \$100 million. • Review the timing of collections on SF60 - producer pays Dept of Revenue - Dept of Revenue pays County - county pays schools. It is a 3-4 month delay on the receipt of that money.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better collection efforts on owed taxes in the case of bankruptcy and sales. • Need a designated stream of monies for school capital construction, component projects and major maintenance. Reinstate the mil levy for maintenance but make it a statewide levy. Patrons have seen a reduction in taxes due to optional mils going away & levies for construction bonds being replaced with state monies.
3.	Garvin Durrant <i>Casper, WY</i>	<p>Cut school district overhead. The pay rate for the administration of our schools is out of control. There isn't an administrator alive that is worth what we are paying, certainly not in a state as small as ours. And besides that we aren't getting a good return on the money spent. As a taxpayer how about paying them what they are worth based on the product they turn out.</p>
4.	Robert Jensen <i>Cheyenne, WY</i>	<p>The primary users of government services should pay more for the privilege of using those services. Residents of Wyoming pay the least amount of tax for the services we receive.</p> <p>Education services in Wyoming have not come to the table with any meaningful solutions for getting education spending in line with revenues. A meaningful plan for getting education spending in order would be a prerequisite for any new tax revenue.</p> <p>If that happened, new tax revenue should start with increasing the residential property tax rate from the current 9.5% of assessed value to 11.5% - the same as the industrial rate. This increase could be spread over 4 or more years. The industrial rate should remain at 11.5% and ANY tax specifically targeting businesses should not be considered.</p> <p>If needed, the second option would be the removal of the sales tax exemption on food.</p> <p>Thank you for seeking this input and for your consideration</p>

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5.	Pennie Vance <i>Ranchester, WY</i>	<p>I'm a Wyoming native who has been in and had children and grandchildren in the Wyoming school system for over 50 years. Finding ways to fund our schools is imperative. Because we have shrinking revenue sources and increasing uncertainty at this fragile time in the world's eco-history, one of the smartest things we can do is help reduce expenses today and tomorrow. I encourage you to fund solar installations in all school facilities to increase energy efficiency,</p> <p>decrease long term utility expense, and help ensure that our kiddos have a life friendly world to educate themselves and their children and grandchildren.</p>
6.	Madeline Dalrymple <i>Laramie, WY</i>	<p>Hello. I encourage schools to install solar panels and make energy efficiency improvements as a way to save money through reduced utility costs. This is a smart economic move for Wyoming, especially because the new federal Inflation Reduction Act increases opportunities for solar and energy efficiency investments.</p>
7.	Anna Egging <i>Sheridan, WY</i>	<p>I'd encourage Wyoming schools/districts to install solar panels and make energy efficiency improvements as a way to save money through reduced utility costs. This is a smart economic move for Wyoming, especially because the new federal Inflation Reduction Act increases opportunities for solar and energy efficiency investments.</p>
8.	Dudley Case <i>Buffalo, WY</i>	<p>The legislature should encourage schools to install solar panels and make energy efficiency improvements as a way to save money through reduced utility costs. This is a smart economic move for Wyoming, especially because the new federal Inflation Reduction Act increases opportunities for solar and energy efficiency investments.</p> <p>A good way to save money, if it hasn't been done already in a school, is to have the school change its lighting from incandescent or fluorescent lighting to LED lighting. I was part of a project in Ridgway, Colorado where the only two schools, an Elementary School and a High School, did this and are now saving \$16,000 per year every year for both schools. Ridgway</p>

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		is only a town of about 1,000 people. So you can imagine how much money could be saved in communities with tens of thousands of people and much larger school districts.
9.	Sue Peters <i>Laramie, WY</i>	I would encourage you to fund the installation of solar panels and energy efficiency improvements in Wyoming school buildings as part of the educational finance plan.
10.	Kris Korfanta Retired Teacher <i>Ranchester, WY</i>	<p>Ideas for saving money:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • put solar on schools – cut down energy expenses tremendously! • don't upgrade computers and software all the time • do an energy audit of schools to see where the most energy is wasted/lost – get the kids involved in the process <p>Ideas for generating revenue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • penny tax for schools – sales tax
11.	Maria Katherman <i>Douglas, WY</i>	<p>Dear J.R. Committee;</p> <p>I'm hoping that you will recommend some money saving improvements to our schools: adding solar panels and heat pumps at schools will help reduce energy costs & upkeep on older heating units as well as address the needs for the first and last months' cooling. There are local installers whose work will put that money back in our communities and we will all benefit from the energy savings and agreeable classroom temperatures for years to come. Some high school "shop" classes would also benefit during the installation phase by being part of the installation!</p> <p>Thanks for your attention. M. Katherman</p>
12	Michele Irwin Powder River Basin Resource Council <i>Green River, WY</i>	Solar panels, micro wind, passive solar and other energy conservation efforts are all ways to invest in schools and save money through reduced utility costs.

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		The federal funds available to help Wyoming transition from our coal dependent economy offer a conservative path forward.
13.	Jeff and Renée Carrier <i>Hulett, WY</i>	<p>Good morning, my husband and I would like to propose that school districts in Wyoming install solar arrays to offset energy costs and to mitigate environmental degradation. Batteries aren't necessary at this juncture. My husband and I have had solar panels installed on our property in Crook County.</p> <p>I understand the new Inflation Reduction Act will offer direct payment in lieu of tax credits for tax-exempt entities, such as schools, churches and some charities. These are slated to start in 2023. Meanwhile, yes, it's a wise investment that will pay off, in returns for that investment, and importantly, to reducing the carbon footprint in our beautiful state, and the monies saved can be used to better fund our K-12 schools. Please consider this opportunity carefully. It's truly win-win.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Jeff Carrier, retired Crook County School Superintendent, and Renée Carrier, author of The Riven Country series</p>
14.	Cathi Kindt <i>Sheridan, WY</i>	<p>Dear Committee Members:</p> <p>Please consider the opportunities in the Inflation Reduction Act to make energy efficient improvements to schools by installing solar panels and other energy saving devices to help reduce the cost of utilities. Schools are a good testing ground for this type of technology and can be a model for other institutions. This type of investment can create more jobs and might encourage more training programs in some of Wyoming's community colleges.</p> <p>Respectfully, Cathi Kindt</p>
15.	Clare Johnson Northern Arapaho Tribe <i>Ethete, WY</i>	In response to the Committee's request for significant K-12 funding solutions, we propose authorizing the State to enter into a specific agreement / arrangement to lease state-owned school trust lands to a Wyoming owned and based entity which will ensure 100% of tax revenue stays in Wyoming. The specific arrangement would allow carefully targeted construction and operation of a Class 3 gaming

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		facility(ies) on school trust lands to be regulated by the Wyoming Gaming Commission. The entity must have a minimum of 10 years operating multiple Class 3 gaming facilities in Wyoming, a minimum of 10 years regulating Class 3 gaming in Wyoming, must engage in a revenue sharing agreement with the State of Wyoming, and ensure that 75% or more of the net revenue goes back to individuals and entities located within the State of Wyoming. All state revenue sharing agreements, as well as school trust land lease payments, shall benefit state K-12 funding accounts.