

April 2, 2009

TO: District Superintendents and Directors of Human Resources
FROM: Connie J. Pollard

RE: Licensure requirements for related services personnel

Before the summer rush I want to remind districts about the Wyoming statute regarding professionals licensed with professional licensing boards in Wyoming other than the Professional Teaching Standards Board. Wyoming statute 21-2-802 (a) (i):

However, nothing in this article shall be construed as permitting the board to impose any additional requirements beyond licensure in his own profession on any person licensed pursuant to title 33 in order for that person to practice his own profession in the schools as an employee of or contractor for a school district.

This statute applies primarily to professionals in related service fields, including counseling, social work, speech/language therapy, or psychology.

This statute allows persons, who are licensed with a Wyoming professional licensing board, to be hired by a local school district to perform duties consistent with their professional license. Licensure from PTSB is not required; in fact, the statute states that PTSB can *not* require any additional requirements above licensure in their own profession.

A person licensed with a Wyoming licensing board, other than PTSB, has a right to work in a local school district while holding professional licensure under any Wyoming licensure board when hired to perform duties consistent with one's professional licensure.

While PTSB does grant licensure to individuals with certain degrees in school psychology, school counseling, school social work, etc, often times these professions cannot be certified under a professional board because they do not meet the licensure requirements of that board.

Therefore, in conclusion, because of the different statutory and licensure requirements of the various licensing boards, individuals who are qualified in their given profession may or may not be eligible for licensure from PTSB. The lack of such licensure does not indicate that they are not qualified for the position, but rather suggests that they do not hold a degree specifically designed to prepare one for an educational setting.

Please call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Dr. Connie J. Pollard