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## December 2023 | The Latest Updates from WSUP

Wishing you all a happy holiday season and a very fruitful new year. See you in 2024.

### Partnership Updates

#### Governing Board Meetings

Review the [minutes and materials from the October Governing Board meeting](#) to ensure you are up-to-date on discussions and activities pertaining to the Partnership. The next WSUP Governing Board meeting will be held on [Wednesday, January 31st, 2024 and will be a virtual meeting](#). A calendar place-holder has been sent out with a link for meeting materials.

### Contributor of the Year Award

Congratulations to Colby Gull, Director of the Wyoming School-University Partnership who was invited to attend [SAE International's](#) annual conference back in November where he received the 2023 Contributor of the Year award for his work in STEM.



### Education Community Updates

## University of Wyoming

# WYOMING TEACHER MENTOR CORPS



**Nominations Will Open  
January 8th - January 26th**



### FOSTERING Teacher Excellence

#### Stronger Connections Grant

The deadline has been extended for districts interested in applying for the competitive Stronger Connections Grant. Applications are due on February 9, 2024. Interested districts should complete an intent to apply to receive the application and guidance documents.

[Learn More](#)

## Wyoming Teacher Mentor Corps Nominations

Just a reminder that the Wyoming Teacher Mentor Corps will be accepting nominations starting January 8th, 2024 and submissions will be accepted through January 26th, 2024. The WTMC program is designed to support excellence in mentorship for Wyoming educators and develop a community of Mentor Fellows who can support each other and those who are new to the field.

## STRONGER CONNECTIONS GRANT



### Journal of Special Education Technology Publication

College of Education Faculty, Mia Williams, Paul Maddox, Tiffany Hunt, and Lindsey Nichols recently published a piece in the Journal of Special Education Technology. This manuscript was co-written with three counselor education doctoral students from the University of Central Florida. Richard Carter also provided support to the team.

[Read More](#)



## Upcoming Conferences and PD Opportunities



### MTSS Center Virtual Training

Join Wyoming Multi-Tiered System of Supports in a series of webinars designed for leaders to evaluate their leadership in the planning and implementation of the MTSS framework. Participants will learn how they can support and enhance the implementation of MTSS in their schools. These sessions will take place January 4th, January 18th, and February 1, 2024.

[Sign Up](#)



### Supporting Educators to Improve Student Functional and Behavioral Outcomes

The Wyoming Department of Education's Special Education Programs Division is offering a five-session Community of Practice that will support teachers in implementing classroom structures which improve student functional and behavioral outcomes. These sessions will run January through March of 2024.

[Register Here](#)

## Educational Resources To Share



## Happy Holidays!

Three different holidays are celebrated in the month of December, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and Christmas. Each holiday has its own unique traditions, decorations, and cultural significance. Learn more about each of the three holidays with the resources on the right.

[Hanukkah](#)

[Kwanzaa](#)

[Christmas](#)



### NASA Power to Explore Student Challenge

The writing challenge invites K-12th grade students in the US to explore radioisotope power systems, a type of nuclear battery integral to many of NASA's space missions. Students are then asked to write an essay about a new powered mission for the agency.

Deadline for submission is January 26, 2024.

[Get Started](#)



### EngineerGirl Writing Contest

Calling all aspiring writers! EngineerGirl's 2024 writing contest: "The Secret Life of Everyday Items" allows students grades 3-12 to dive into the untold stories of the objects that grace their daily lives.

Deadline for submission is February 1, 2024.

[Learn More](#)



### Vermont Pitch Challenge

The Vermont Pitch Challenge gives high school entrepreneurs from across the globe the chance to pitch innovative business that make a difference in their communities. Along the way they will learn from top experts about how to write a business plan, create a compelling pitch, and achieve their goals. Cash prizes and scholarships to the University of Vermont are available. This challenge is open to Wyoming students.

[Start Here](#)

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