

LWV Wyoming Voter Guide July 2018
Wyoming Superintendent of Public Instruction

Term of office is four years with no term limits. Annual salary is \$92,000 plus some benefits. No Democrat filed for this office.

What experience, qualifications and interests do you have that would encourage voters to select you for this office?

Jillian Balow (R): Born and raised in Wyoming, I have 10 years of classroom teaching experience and 8 years in policy work. Since taking office in 2015, I have reduced the department's budget by 15 percent and staff by 10 percent. My other accomplishments include: making many efficiency recommendations in education funding which are now law; leading initiatives to update the educational basket of goods for the first time in 20 years; increasing transparency in education; and improving supports for struggling schools. In my second term I will focus on school safety and security, strengthening partnerships with education stakeholders, and continuing to support school districts.

Given recent reduced funding for Special Education students in the State of Wyoming, what is your solution for adequately serving these students?

Jillian Balow (R): During my first term, I took a leadership role in addressing the education budget shortfall by making several recommendations to the legislature. It is critical that we work together to ensure that reductions are made as far away from the classroom as possible. We will continue to identify efficiencies such as routing software for our busing system and negotiating contracts without impacting our students' education. It is imperative that Wyoming students continue to reap the benefits of a well-funded education system and graduate with the skills necessary to compete in the 21st century workplace.

What is your philosophy about selling, transferring, or exchanging state-owned lands?

Jillian Balow (R): As a member of the State Land and Investment Board, I have a proven record of supporting multiple use on public lands. I spearheaded an initiative to only consider closing lands when a previously closed area of land could be re-opened. I support mineral production, agricultural use and recreational use of our lands.