



MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

Lisa Trimble

Vice President, Communications & External Relations

307.432.1603

lisatrimble@lccc.wy.edu

NEWS RELEASE

September 15, 2026

Statement from LCCC Regarding the Central Wyoming College Board of Trustees' Opposition to LCCC's Name Change

CHEYENNE, Wyoming – We recognize and respect the authority and responsibility, the Central Wyoming College Board of Trustees has to speak for their institution and to take the position it believes is in the best interests of CWC and the communities it serves. We ask for the same acknowledgement, for the authority and responsibility of the Laramie County Community College District Board of Trustees to determine what it believes is right for our institution and the students and communities we serve.

We take the perspectives of CWC seriously and appreciate they have shared their concerns in a professional manner. We also recognize that change can be unsettling, particularly during a period of significant uncertainty for higher education. The decline in high school graduation rates, changing student needs, workforce disruption, declining public confidence, and mounting financial pressures are converging in ways American higher education has not previously experienced. Bold and unconventional decisions can heighten attention to an uncertain future and understandably generate fear about what change may mean for other institutions.

However, Wyoming will not overcome these challenges by preserving the status quo or preventing institutions from pursuing bold strategies designed to address them. These circumstances require each of our institutions to look inward, confront the realities ahead, and develop a compelling vision for how we will continue serving students and communities. Wyoming needs its institutions of higher education to lead, evolve, and contribute from their individual positions of strength.

LCCC has been doing this work, and the results demonstrate that we are on the right path. Over the past decade, our graduation rate has more than doubled. We have experienced seven consecutive years of fall enrollment growth and celebrated record graduating classes in both 2025 and 2026. We have expanded transfer and workforce pathways, strengthened student support, and invested more than \$200 million in our campuses and learning environments. This progress has occurred because we have been willing to evolve while remaining firmly committed to our mission.

The proposed name, Wyoming State College, is part of our continued evolution. It more accurately reflects the comprehensive institution we have become and strengthens our ability to reach the broader region from which Wyoming's future students, workers, and community members must increasingly come. Changing our name does not alter our open-access mission, our commitment to affordability, our statutory service area, or our role within Wyoming's community college system. Nor does it diminish the important and distinct roles of the University of Wyoming, Central Wyoming College, or any other Wyoming institution.

Our intent is not to claim another institution's role or prevent others from pursuing their own aspirations. Rather we hope to catalyze others to act similarly. While we take our responsibility to position our college for a strong and sustainable future, we remain committed to partnering with all of Wyoming's community colleges and UW.

Ultimately, the decision to change our name to Wyoming State College shouldn't be evaluated out of assumed implications. It should be considered by whether it expands opportunities for students, strengthens our workforce, and contributes to a more resilient future for the communities and state we collectively serve.

###

*LCCC does not discriminate based upon any protected status. Please see [LCCC.wy.edu/nds](https://lccc.wy.edu/nds).
The mission of Laramie County Community College is to transform our students' lives through the power of inspired learning.*