AN ACT relating to school safety and security; allowing possession of firearms by school district employees on school property; providing rulemaking authority to school districts; specifying confidentiality of records; making conforming amendments; and providing for an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:

Section 1. W.S. 21-3-132 is created to read:

21-3-132. Possession of firearms on school property.

(a) The board of trustees in each school district may adopt rules and regulations, in consultation with local law enforcement, to allow the possession of firearms by employees possessing a valid concealed carry permit under W.S. 6-8-104 on or in any property or facility owned or leased by the school district. Employees of a school district who hold a valid concealed carry permit issued under W.S. 6-8-104 may carry a concealed firearm on or into school facilities or other areas designated by the board of trustees, provided the employing school district has adopted rules and regulations that allow possession of firearms on school property and the employee has received approval by the board of trustees as required by this section.

(b) For purposes of this section, "employee" means any person employed under contract with the board of trustees of a school district, including but not limited to, superintendents, assistant superintendents, principals, assistant principals, teachers, guidance counselors, librarians, teacher's aids, coaches, business managers, secretaries or administrative assistants, janitors, bus
drivers, volunteers or other employees on contract with a school district.

(c) The rules required by subsection (a) of this section shall at a minimum:

(i) Establish an application and approval process for employees possessing a valid concealed carry permit under W.S. 6-8-104 to carry a firearm on school property;

(ii) Require any person carrying a firearm pursuant to this section to maintain the firearm on his person at all times or in a concealed biometric container or lock box within the direct control of the individual at all times;

(iii) Establish ongoing training requirements, curricula and instructor qualifications, subject to approval by local law enforcement, including:

(A) An initial course of training comprised of not less than sixteen (16) hours of live fire handgun training, and eight (8) hours of scenario based training using nonlethal training, firearms and ammunition; and

(B) Annual firearm qualification and documented recurrent training of not less than twelve (12) hours with an approved instructor.

(iv) Provide a process for the revocation or suspension of the authorization under this section for an employee to carry a firearm on school property.
(d) The board of trustees in any school district may waive all or part of the training requirements of subsection (c) of this section for isolated rural schools and employees in those schools.

(e) The superintendent of the district shall notify the parents and guardians of students attending school in the district of the ability of employees to carry firearms and the rules and regulations governing possession.

(f) The superintendent of the district shall notify all law enforcement agencies with jurisdiction over the area of the location and names of all employees who receive permission to carry firearms from the district's board of trustees. The identities of the employees who receive permission to carry firearms from the district's board of trustees shall be confidential and are not public records for purposes of W.S. 16-4-201 through 16-4-205.

(g) Nothing in this section shall authorize an employee to carry a firearm, concealed or otherwise, on or into any facility or other school district property without the express approval of the board of trustees and notification of parties as required by this section.

(h) Nothing in this section shall authorize a student of a school district to carry a firearm, concealed or otherwise, on or into any facility of a school district.

(j) Any rules and regulations adopted under this section shall only apply to persons who are employees, as defined in subsection (b) of this section.

Section 2. W.S. 6-8-104(t)(vi) and (ix) and 6-8-401(c) are amended to read:
6-8-104. Wearing or carrying concealed weapons; penalties; exceptions; permits.

(t) No person authorized to carry a concealed weapon pursuant to paragraphs (a)(ii) through (iv) of this section shall carry a concealed firearm into:

(vi) Any school, college or professional athletic event not related to firearms, except as provided in W.S. 21-3-132;

(ix) Any elementary or secondary school facility, except as provided in W.S. 21-3-132;

6-8-401. Firearm, weapon and ammunition regulation and prohibition by state.

(c) The sale, transfer, purchase, delivery, taxation, manufacture, ownership, transportation, storage, use and possession of firearms, weapons and ammunition shall be authorized, regulated and prohibited by the state, and regulation thereof is preempted by the state. Except as authorized by W.S. 15-1-103(a)(xviii) and 21-3-132, no city, town, county, political subdivision or any other entity shall authorize, regulate or prohibit the sale, transfer, purchase, delivery, taxation, manufacture, ownership, transportation, storage, use, carrying or possession of firearms, weapons, accessories, components or ammunition except as specifically provided by this chapter. This section shall not affect zoning or other ordinances which encompass firearms businesses along with other businesses. Zoning and other ordinances which are designed for the purpose of restricting or prohibiting the sale, purchase, transfer or manufacture of firearms or ammunition
as a method of regulating firearms or ammunition are in conflict with this section and are prohibited.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2017.

(END)

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Governor

TIME APPROVED: _________

DATE APPROVED: _________

I hereby certify that this act originated in the House.

Chief Clerk