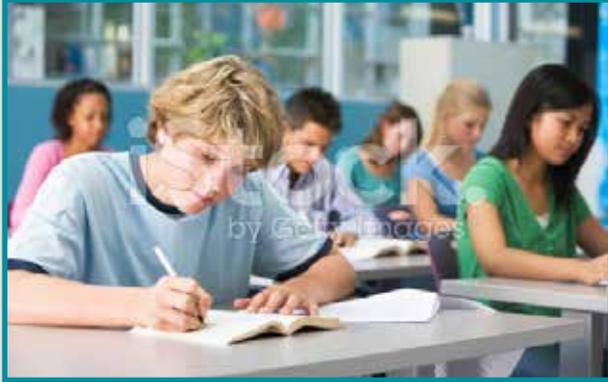


# Wyoming Behavioral Institutes Pathways School



Wyoming Behavioral Institute's (WBI) Pathways School is accredited as a special purpose school by AdvancED/NCA. School accreditation allows residents of the Pathways Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF) program to earn educational credit that can be applied toward graduation. WBI collaborates with Casper College to permit some Pathways School residents to take the General Equivalency Degree (GED) exam

while hospitalized. WBI is in compliance with Wyoming Department of Education standards and our teaching practices are research based.

Pathways is for 12 to 17 year old students who require treatment in a Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF) rather than an acute care setting. Most residents are likely to be in the Pathways program for less than a full semester before returning home. As a result, we offer an intensely-focused curriculum in the Pathways School with credit available in three subject areas: language arts, math and health.

After reviewing pre-test and other pertinent data, Pathways residents work with their language arts, math and health teachers to determine individual goals in academic and behavioral improvement. Self-directed goals help focus residents' educational priorities while hospitalized. Progress reports become part of residents' charts and educational advances are reported to treatment teams monitoring goal achievement.



## Purpose and Direction

The purpose and direction of the educational staff at Wyoming Behavioral Institute is to serve young people suffering from mental illness and behavioral disorders. Instructors advocate for the students' needs including educational, behavioral and emotional by motivating, challenging and empowering them. We prepare students to transition back to their homes, schools and communities.

## Pathways School Staff



Educational Director, **Minda Smith** is Wyoming Behavioral Institute's education director. She has a bachelor's degree in elementary education and served as a mental health worker and education teacher for 11 years at WBI prior to becoming the Education Director.



Special Education, **Margie Grant** obtained her doctorate degree in Education Leadership and master's in Clinical Social Work from the University of Denver, and Special Education and general education degrees from the University of Wyoming. Before joining the Wyoming Behavioral Institute team in 2015, Margie taught special education for five years in Wyoming schools and spent 13 years serving on the roles of special education teacher, director, curriculum director, and administrator in Far North Alaska schools. She was born and raised on a ranch in Wheatland, Wyoming.



**Connie Rodgers** obtained degrees in elementary education from Casper College and the University of Wyoming, and was the first recipient of the Maggie Murdock Scholars Award as well as being on the President's Honor Roll for four consecutive years. She taught children with challenges in local pre-schools and elementary schools for several years prior to joining WBI's educational services team in 2014.