

Opening Up State Government and Putting Wyoming First

The business of “government” is about much more than programs and budgets.

It’s about remembering that – as public servants – we work for the citizens of Wyoming. It’s about encouraging public participation, and then respecting what the public has to say.

Upon taking office, the Governor’s immediate objectives were to set a tone of openness in state government and create a culture of putting Wyoming first.

❖ **Every Wyoming community is important.**

The Governor and First Lady Nancy Freudenthal have criss-crossed Wyoming, continuously meeting with citizens in every county, seeking their input and listening to their ideas and priorities. Governor Dave has averaged more than **38 meetings and events** a month outside of Cheyenne.

❖ **Appointing the best people.**

Putting Wyoming first means selecting the best people to state positions – regardless of their party affiliation. Over **60%** of the Governor’s appointments have been Republican and Independent individuals.

“It’s amazing how much can be done when we don’t worry about who gets the credit.”

Governor Dave Freudenthal

❖ **A partnership with the Legislature.**

Respecting the important role of the Legislature, the Governor met with Republican and Democratic leaders every week during their sessions, seeking bipartisan policies and legislation. As a result, about **80%** of the Governor’s agenda was adopted by the Legislature.

❖ **Seeking broad participation.**

Governor Dave has actively encouraged people from all over the state to participate in the development of state policies and programs. For example, thousands of people participated in creating the **Children and Families Initiative** to strengthen Wyoming’s families.