

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 43rd Legislature (1992)

HOUSE BILL NO. 1964

BY: ISTOOK

AS INTRODUCED

AN ACT RELATING TO SCHOOLS; AMENDING 70 O.S. 1991,
SECTION 10-105.2, WHICH RELATES TO PROMOTION OF
PARENTAL VISITS TO SCHOOLS; SPECIFYING INITIATIVES
OF LOCAL SCHOOL BOARDS CONCERNING PARENTAL VISITS;
PROHIBITING CERTAIN ACTS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE
DATE; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 1991, Section 10-105.2, is amended to read as follows:

Section 10-105.2 A. It shall be a policy of the State Board of Education to encourage each public school to explore outreach opportunities such as agreements with the parents of each child enrolled in school.

1. Such agreement may describe the beneficial relationship between parental interest and pupil achievement and provide an agreement that a child will achieve higher levels of competency if parents will guarantee that their child will attend school, behave satisfactorily while there, and complete homework. As part of the agreement, the school may state its intention to provide free

remediation if a child fails to attain the necessary standards of competency.

2. Such agreement may also emphasize the importance of parent-teacher conferences. The agreement should note the days of the school year reserved for professional meetings and staff development and state that on these days teachers are available to meet with parents. Teachers should also be encouraged to schedule conferences to accommodate working parents. Teachers should strive to hold at least one conference with each student's parents at least once each semester.

B. The State Board of Education also shall require each local board of education to develop initiatives to promote schools as congenial places for parents to visit. These initiatives shall include but not be limited to:

1. At least two (2) weeks prior to the beginning of a semester, during weekend or evening hours, each teacher shall conduct a presentation for the parents and guardians of the students in that teacher's class. The presentation shall concern the curriculum and materials that will be used for that semester in that teacher's class, and copies of course texts and materials shall be available at that time for examination by parents and guardians of the students; and

2. The local board of education shall encourage visits by parents and guardians to observe the classroom and participate in counseling sessions involving the child of the parent or guardian.

The local board of education shall do nothing to discourage a parent or guardian from being present in the classroom or in counseling sessions involving the child of the parent or guardian as long as such parent or guardian does not disrupt or interfere in any way with the class or the sessions and there is not a problem with space.

C. The State Board of Education shall also establish a program for encouraging private employers to give employees who have children in preschool programs, kindergarten, or school programs time off to visit the schools for parent-teacher conferences at least once each semester.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 1992.

SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

43-2-6934

MCD