

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 48th Legislature (2001)

SENATE BILL 168

By: Wilcoxson of the Senate

and

Coleman of the House

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; amending Section 3, Chapter 349, O.S.L. 1997, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 176, O.S.L. 1999, and Section 2, Chapter 332, O.S.L. 1998, as last amended by Section 4, Chapter 289, O.S.L. 2000 (70 O.S. Supp. 2000, Sections 1210.508C and 1210.508D), which relate to the Reading Sufficiency Act; modifying assessment procedures; requiring State Board of Education to provide approved list of certain reading assessments; stating elements of assessments; providing for adaptation and use of other assessments; modifying contents of program of reading instruction; modifying terminology; requiring certain evaluation of information; requiring State Department of Education to issue certain report; requiring Commission for Teacher Preparation to report certain information to State Department of Education; deleting assessments from expenses eligible for certain reimbursement; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 3, Chapter 349, O.S.L. 1997, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 176, O.S.L. 1999 (70 O.S. Supp. 2000, Section 1210.508C), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1210.508C A. Beginning with the ~~1998-99~~ 2001-2002 school year, each student enrolled in kindergarten, in a public school in this state shall be pre- and post-screened for phoneme awareness, letter recognition, and oral language development. Students enrolled in first, second and third grade of the public schools of this state shall be assessed ~~by multiple ongoing assessments~~ at the beginning of each school year for the acquisition

~~of reading skills for the grade level in which that student is enrolled~~ phoneme awareness, phonics, spelling, reading fluency, and comprehension. ~~Before the close of each school year, except~~ Except for students who are on an individualized education program, ~~or~~ or have limited English proficiency or for ~~which~~ whom English is a second language, any ~~of the students provided for in this subsection~~ student who is assessed and found not to be reading at the appropriate grade level shall be provided a program of reading assessment plan which shall include a program of instruction in reading designed to enable the student to acquire the appropriate grade level reading skills.

B. The State Board of Education shall provide to each school district a list of approved comparable reading assessments, which shall include any such assessments recommended by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation, to be used for initial identification of students at risk of reading failure and for periodic and post assessments. The assessments shall, at a minimum, measure student acquisition of phoneme awareness, phonics, spelling, reading fluency and comprehension and shall reflect the required reading and language arts competencies adopted by the Board pursuant to subsection A of Section 11-103.6 of this title. The Board may adapt assessments or portions of assessments that have been developed by other states, or are otherwise commercially available.

C. The program of reading assessment plan instruction required in subsection A of this section shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Sufficient additional in-school instructional time for the development of reading and comprehension skills of the student acquisition of phoneme awareness, phonics, spelling, reading fluency and comprehension;

2. If necessary, tutorial instruction after regular school hours, on Saturdays and during summer; however, such instruction may

not be counted toward the one-hundred-eighty-day school year required in Section 1-109 of this title; and

3. ~~The five essential elements of reading instruction:~~ Periodic reassessments to measure the acquisition of phoneme awareness, phonics, spelling, reading fluency and comprehension.

~~C. D.~~ The program of reading assessment plan ~~program of~~ instruction shall continue until the student is determined ~~not to be in need of remediation in~~ by the results of approved reading assessments to be reading on grade level.

~~D. E.~~ 1. Every school district shall adopt and annually update a district reading sufficiency plan which has had input from school administrators, teachers, ~~students,~~ and parents and if possible a reading specialist, and which shall be submitted to and approved by the State Board of Education as a part of each district's Comprehensive Local Education Plan. The district reading sufficiency plan shall include a plan for each site which includes an analysis of the data provided by the Oklahoma School Testing Program and other reading assessments utilized as required in this section, and which outlines how each school site will comply with the provisions of the Reading Sufficiency Act.

2. Each school site shall establish a committee, composed of educators, which if possible shall include a certified reading specialist, to ~~determine the~~ develop the required programs of reading assessment plan for each student for whom one is necessary instruction. A parent or guardian of the student shall be included in the development of the program of reading assessment plan instruction for that student.

3. The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules for the implementation and evaluation of the provisions of ~~this section~~ the Reading Sufficiency Act. The evaluation shall include, but not be limited to, an analysis of the data required in subsection G of this section.

~~E. F.~~ For any third-grade student ~~in need of remediation found~~ not to be reading at grade level as determined by ~~multiple ongoing assessments and~~ reading assessments administered ~~in the Oklahoma School Testing Program~~ pursuant to this section, a new program of reading assessment plan instruction shall be developed and implemented as specified in this section. If possible, a fourth-grade teacher shall be involved in the development of the program of reading assessment plan instruction. In addition to other requirements of this act, the plan shall include specialized tutoring and may include a recommendation as to whether the student should be retained in the third grade at the close of that year. The parent or guardian of the student shall be included in the retention consideration.

~~F. The~~ G. On or before October 1 of each year, the State Department of Education shall annually issue to the Governor and members of the Senate and House of Representatives Education Committees a Reading Report Card for each elementary site which ~~includes the~~ shall include, but is not limited to:

1. The number of students in need of remediation in reading in kindergarten, first, second and third grades;

2. The number of students provided with a program of reading instruction pursuant to this section;

3. The number of students who have successfully completed their program of reading instruction;

4. The number of teachers trained in each of Phase I and Phase II of the literacy professional development institutes administered by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation;

5. An indication of each site administrator's completion of the leadership component of the literacy professional development institutes administered by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation;

6. An indication of each school site's designation as a Phase IV site by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation; and

7. An evaluation and narrative interpretation of the report data.

G. H. The Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall report to the State Department of Education on or before August 31 of each year the information required by school site in paragraphs 4, 5, and 6 of subsection G of this section for the previous fiscal year.

I. Copies of the results of the assessments administered shall be made a part of the permanent record of each student.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY Section 2, Chapter 332, O.S.L. 1998, as last amended by Section 4, Chapter 289, O.S.L. 2000 (70 O.S. Supp. 2000, Section 1210.508D), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1210.508D A. Contingent on the provision of appropriated funds designated for the Reading Sufficiency Act, school districts may be reimbursed in the amount of up to One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$150.00) for each enrolled first-, second- and third-grade student of the current school year who is found to be in need of remediation in reading. The reimbursement shall be for expenses incurred in reading ~~assessment and~~ remediation at those grade levels pursuant to the provisions of the Reading Sufficiency Act.

B. In order to be reimbursed, school districts shall file a claim with the State Department of Education at the end of each school semester or prior to the end of the fiscal year in which the remediation is provided. Claims from summer remediation provided in July or August shall be filed with the first semester claim of the subsequent school year. Claims shall be reimbursed in a timely manner. The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules for the administration of reimbursements.

C. If a teacher attends and completes a professional development institute in elementary reading approved by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation during the summer or when school is not in session, the teacher shall receive a stipend equal to the amount of the cost for a substitute teacher, based on the amount of funds allocated.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2001.

SECTION 4. 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.

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