

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 49th Legislature (2003)

HOUSE BILL HB1476

By: Greenwood

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2001, Section 1210.541, which relates to student performance levels in the Oklahoma School Testing Program Act; specifying certain standards for student performance levels on criterion-referenced tests; updating language; 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. 2001, Section 1210.541, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1210.541 A. The State Board of Education shall determine and adopt a series of student performance levels for the criterion-referenced tests administered pursuant to the Oklahoma School Testing Program Act, Section 1210.505 et seq. of this title. The Beginning with the tests administered for the 2004-05 school year, the performance levels standard and cut points for each level shall be set by a method similar to that incorporates the same amount of rigor and knowledge as that used for the achievement levels on the National Assessment of Educational Progress. The performance standard and cut points shall be determined by a standard of what the average student in the applicable grade level should know, as opposed to a standard of what the average student does know, relative to content. Student performance levels shall be labeled: advanced, satisfactory, limited knowledge, and unsatisfactory.

B. For the 1999-2000 school year and every year thereafter the State Board of Education shall identify and publish annually by site

and by district the results of the tests, presented in context with other relevant information.

C. School sites at which more than thirty percent (30%) of students score Unsatisfactory in both reading/English and mathematics on the grade-level criterion-referenced tests or on the secondary end-of-instruction tests shall be declared a low-performing school. School sites which administer any norm-referenced test as required by the Oklahoma School Testing Program which have a student average score in the lowest quartile of Oklahoma students and whose student average score falls below the national average score shall be declared a low-performing school. School sites identified as low-performing for three (3) consecutive years shall be declared a high challenge school by the State Board of Education.

D. Other relevant information employed by the State Board of Education to identify low-performing and high challenge schools may include, but shall not be limited to, the following criteria:

1. Delineation of the percentages of students not tested on criterion-referenced tests;
2. High school graduation, student attendance, and student dropout rates;
3. Teacher attendance rates;
4. Student suspensions and other disciplinary measures which can be quantified;
5. Secondary student participation in and completion of the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program when applicable;
6. Student ~~vocational-technical~~ career and technology program participation and completion rates;
7. Student college entrance and preparatory test-taking rates;
8. Parental involvement rates; and
9. Any indicators reported through the Oklahoma Educational Indicators Program.

E. Subject to the availability of funds, the State Department of Education shall provide funding to school sites identified as low-performing and high challenge for remediation. The State Board of Education shall assign a team to provide guidance and assistance to the school site and district until the site is no longer declared to be low-performing or high challenge. Other means of intervention which may be exercised by the State Board of Education may include but are not necessarily limited to: special funding; reassignment of district personnel; transfer of students; operation of the school by personnel employed by the State Department of Education; mandatory annexation of all or part of the local school district; and placing operation of the school with an institution of higher education as a developmental research school pursuant to the provisions of Sections 1210.571 through 1210.579 of this title if the high challenge school is within a single-site district and is within ten (10) miles of a college of education within an institution of The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2003.

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.

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