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THE STATE SENATE  
Thursday, April 6, 2006

ENGROSSED  
House Bill No. 2367  
As Amended

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 2367 - By: KERN, HARRISON, BLACKWELL, DANK,  
DORMAN, McDANIEL, PRUETT, ROUSSELOT and THOMPSON of the House and  
BRANAN of the Senate.

[ schools - school day - attendance - curriculum standards -  
effective date -  
emergency ]

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 1-111, as  
last amended by Section 81, Chapter 5, O.S.L. 2004 (70 O.S. Supp.  
2005, Section 1-111), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1-111. A. A school day shall consist of not less than  
six (6) hours devoted to school activities, except that a school day  
for nursery, early childhood education, kindergarten, extended day  
program, and alternative education programs shall be as otherwise  
defined by law or as defined by the State Board of Education.  
Except for schools operating under an extended day schedule as  
provided for in Section 1-109 of this title, not more than one (1)  
school day shall be counted for attendance purposes in any twenty-  
four-hour period.

1 B. Students absent from school in which they are regularly  
2 enrolled may be considered as being in attendance if the reason for  
3 such absence is to participate in scheduled school activities under  
4 the direction and supervision of a regular member of the faculty or  
5 to participate in a remote Internet-based course approved by the  
6 district board of education. The State Board of Education shall  
7 adopt rules to provide for the implementation of remote Internet-  
8 based courses.

9 C. Students absent from school in which they are regularly  
10 enrolled may be considered as being in attendance if the reason for  
11 such absence is as a result of an award earned for academic  
12 achievement and is an element of an academic excellence program  
13 implemented by the school district. In order to be considered as  
14 being in attendance the student shall not be absent for more than  
15 two (2) hours during one (1) school day per week.

16 D. Each district board of education shall adopt policies and  
17 procedures that conform to rules for Internet-based courses as  
18 adopted by the State Board. Such policies shall include criteria  
19 for approval of the course, the appropriateness of the course for a  
20 particular student, authorization for full-time students to enroll  
21 in Internet-based courses, and establishing fees or charges. No  
22 district shall be liable for payment of any fees or charges for any  
23 Internet-based course for a student who has not complied with the

1 district's policies and procedures. Districts shall require  
2 students enrolled in Internet-based courses to participate in the  
3 Oklahoma School Testing Program Act. Students participating in  
4 Internet-based courses from a remote site will be responsible for  
5 providing their own equipment and Internet access, unless the  
6 district chooses to provide the equipment. Credit may not be  
7 granted for such courses except upon approval of the State Board of  
8 Education and the district board of education.

9 ~~D.~~ E. The school day for kindergarten may consist of six (6)  
10 hours devoted to school activities.

11 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 11-103.6, as  
12 last amended by Section 7, Chapter 432, O.S.L. 2005 (70 O.S. Supp.  
13 2005, Section 11-103.6), is amended to read as follows:

14 Section 11-103.6 A. The State Board of Education shall adopt  
15 curricular standards for instruction of students in the public  
16 schools of this state that are necessary to ensure there is  
17 attainment of desired levels of competencies in a variety of areas  
18 to include language, mathematics, science, social studies and  
19 communication. All students shall gain literacy at the elementary  
20 and secondary levels through a core curriculum. Students must  
21 develop skills in reading, writing, speaking, computing and critical  
22 thinking. They also must learn about cultures and environments -  
23 their own and those of others with whom they share the earth.

1 Students, therefore, must study social studies, literature,  
2 languages, the arts, mathematics and science. Such curricula shall  
3 provide for the teaching of a hands-on career exploration program in  
4 cooperation with technology center schools. The core curriculum  
5 shall be designed to teach the competencies for which students shall  
6 be tested as provided in Section 1210.508 of this title, and shall  
7 be designed to prepare all students for employment and/or  
8 postsecondary education.

9 B. In order to graduate from a public high school accredited by  
10 the State Board of Education with a standard diploma, students shall  
11 complete the following core curriculum units or sets of competencies  
12 at the secondary level:

13 1. Language Arts - 4 units or sets of competencies, to consist  
14 of 1 unit or set of competencies of grammar and composition, and 3  
15 units or sets of competencies which may include, but are not limited  
16 to, the following courses:

- 17 a. American Literature,
- 18 b. English Literature,
- 19 c. World Literature,
- 20 d. Advanced English Courses, or
- 21 e. other English courses with content and/or rigor equal  
22 to or above grammar and composition;

1           2. Mathematics - 3 units or sets of competencies, to consist of  
2 1 unit or set of competencies of Algebra I or Algebra I taught in a  
3 contextual methodology, and 2 units or sets of competencies which  
4 may include, but are not limited to, the following courses:

5           a. Algebra II,

6           b. Geometry or Geometry taught in a contextual  
7 methodology,

8           c. Trigonometry,

9           d. Math Analysis or Precalculus,

10          e. Calculus,

11          f. Statistics and/or Probability,

12          g. Computer Science,

13          h. contextual mathematics courses which enhance  
14 technology preparation whether taught at a:

15           (1) comprehensive high school, or

16           (2) technology center school when taken in the  
17 eleventh or twelfth grade, taught by a certified  
18 teacher, and approved by the State Board of  
19 Education and the independent district board of  
20 education,

21          i. mathematics courses taught at a technology center  
22 school by a teacher certified in the secondary subject  
23 area when taken in the eleventh or twelfth grade upon

1 approval of the State Board of Education and the  
2 independent district board of education, or

3 j. equal to or above Algebra I;

4 3. Science - 3 units or sets of competencies, to consist of 1  
5 unit or set of competencies of Biology I or Biology I taught in a  
6 contextual methodology, and 2 units or sets of competencies in the  
7 areas of life, physical, or earth science or technology which may  
8 include, but are not limited to, the following courses:

- 9 a. Chemistry I,
- 10 b. Physics,
- 11 c. Biology II,
- 12 d. Chemistry II,
- 13 e. Physical Science,
- 14 f. Earth Science,
- 15 g. Botany,
- 16 h. Zoology,
- 17 i. Physiology,
- 18 j. Astronomy,
- 19 k. Applied Biology/Chemistry,
- 20 l. Applied Physics,
- 21 m. Principles of Technology,
- 22 n. qualified agricultural education courses,

- 1           o.    contextual science courses which enhance technology  
2                   preparation whether taught at a:  
3                   (1)  comprehensive high school, or  
4                   (2)  technology center school when taken in the  
5                   eleventh or twelfth grade, taught by a certified  
6                   teacher, and approved by the State Board of  
7                   Education and the independent district board of  
8                   education,
- 9           p.    science courses taught at a technology center school  
10                   by a teacher certified in the secondary subject area  
11                   when taken in the eleventh or twelfth grade upon  
12                   approval of the State Board of Education and the  
13                   independent district board of education, or
- 14           q.    other science courses with content and/or rigor equal  
15                   to or above Biology I;
- 16           4.    Social Studies - 3 units or sets of competencies, to consist  
17                   of 1 unit or set of competencies of United States History, 1/2 to 1  
18                   unit or set of competencies of United States Government, 1/2 unit or  
19                   set of competencies of Oklahoma History, and 1/2 to 1 unit or set of  
20                   competencies which may include, but are not limited to, the  
21                   following courses:
- 22                   a.    World History,  
23                   b.    Geography,

1           c.   Economics,  
2           d.   Anthropology, or  
3           e.   other social studies courses with content and/or rigor  
4                equal to or above United States History, United States  
5                Government, and Oklahoma History; and

6           5.   Arts - 2 units or sets of competencies which may include,  
7                but are not limited to, courses in Visual Arts and General Music.

8           C.   In addition to the 15 units or sets of competencies of core  
9                curriculum requirements established in subsection B of this section,  
10               in order to graduate from a public high school accredited by the  
11               State Board of Education students shall complete any additional  
12               course requirements or recommended elective courses as may be  
13               established by the State Board of Education and the district school  
14               board. School districts shall strongly encourage students to  
15               complete two units or sets of competencies of foreign languages and  
16               two units or sets of competencies of physical and health education.

17           D.   No student shall receive credit for high school graduation  
18               more than once for completion of the same unit or set of  
19               competencies to satisfy the core curriculum requirements of  
20               subsection B of this section.

21           E.   A school district shall not be required to offer every  
22               course listed in subsection B of this section, but shall offer

1 sufficient courses to allow a student to meet the graduation  
2 requirements during the secondary grade years of the student.

3 F. For purposes of this section:

4 1. "Contextual methodology" means academic content and skills  
5 taught by utilizing real-world problems and projects in a way that  
6 helps students understand the application of that knowledge;

7 2. "Qualified agricultural education courses" means courses  
8 that have been determined by the State Board of Education to offer  
9 the sets of competencies in the Priority Academic Student Skills  
10 (PASS), as adopted by the Board, for one or more science content  
11 areas and which correspond to academic science courses. Qualified  
12 agricultural education courses shall include, but are not limited  
13 to, Horticulture, Plant and Soil Science, Natural Resources and  
14 Environmental Science, and Animal Science. The courses shall be  
15 taught by teachers certified in agricultural education and comply  
16 with all rules of the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology  
17 Education;

18 3. "Rigor" means a level of difficulty that is appropriate for  
19 the grade level and that meets state and/or national standards;

20 4. "Sets of competencies" means those skills and competencies  
21 that are specified in the Priority Academic Student Skills (PASS),  
22 as adopted by the State Board of Education, subchapter 5, Chapter

1 15, Title 210 of the Oklahoma Administrative Code, and other skills  
2 and competencies adopted by the Board; and

3 5. "Unit" means a Carnegie Unit as defined by the North Central  
4 Association's Commission on Schools.

5 G. 1. The State Board of Education shall adopt a plan to  
6 ensure that rigor is maintained in the content, teaching  
7 methodology, level of expectations for student achievement, and  
8 application of learning in all the courses taught to meet the  
9 graduation requirements as specified in subsection B of this  
10 section.

11 2. The State Board of Education shall allow as much flexibility  
12 at the district level as is possible without diminishing the rigor  
13 or undermining the intent of providing these courses. To accomplish  
14 this purpose, the State Department of Education shall work with  
15 school districts in reviewing and approving courses taught by  
16 districts that are not specifically listed in subsection B of this  
17 section. Options may include, but shall not be limited to, courses  
18 taken by concurrent enrollment, advanced placement, or  
19 correspondence, or courses bearing different titles.

20 3. Technology center school districts may offer programs  
21 designed in cooperation with institutions of higher education which  
22 have an emphasis on a focused field of career study upon approval of  
23 the State Board of Education and the independent district board of

1 education. Students in the tenth grade may be allowed to attend  
2 these programs for up to one-half (1/2) of a school day and credit  
3 for the units or sets of competencies required in paragraphs 2 and 3  
4 of subsection B of this section shall be given if the courses are  
5 taught by a teacher certified in the secondary subject area.

6 4. If a student enrolls in a concurrent course, the school  
7 district shall not be responsible for any costs incurred for that  
8 course, unless the school district does not offer enough course  
9 selection during the student's secondary grade years to allow the  
10 student to receive the courses needed to meet the graduation  
11 requirements of subsection B of this section. If the school  
12 district does not offer the necessary course selection during the  
13 student's secondary grade years, it shall be responsible for the  
14 cost of resident tuition at an institution in The Oklahoma State  
15 System of Higher Education, fees, and books for the concurrent  
16 enrollment course, and providing for transportation to and from the  
17 institution to the school site.

18 It is the intent of the Legislature that for students enrolled  
19 in a concurrent enrollment course which is paid for by the school  
20 district pursuant to this paragraph, the institution charge only the  
21 supplementary and special service fees that are directly related to  
22 the concurrent enrollment course and enrollment procedures for that  
23 student. It is further the intent of the Legislature that fees for

1 student activities and student service facilities, including the  
2 student health care and cultural and recreational service fees, not  
3 be charged to such students.

4 5. Credit for the units or sets of competencies required in  
5 paragraph 2 of subsection B of this section shall be given when such  
6 units or sets of competencies are taken in the seventh or eighth  
7 grades if the teachers are certified or authorized pursuant to  
8 Section 6-189.1 of this title to teach the subjects for high school  
9 credit and the required rigor is maintained. Beginning with ninth-  
10 grade students enrolled in the 2008-2009 school year, the three  
11 units or sets of competencies in mathematics required in subsection  
12 B of this section shall be completed in the ninth through twelfth  
13 grades; provided, if a student completes any required courses in  
14 mathematics prior to ninth grade, the student may take any other  
15 mathematics courses to fulfill the requirement to complete three  
16 units in grades nine through twelve after the student has satisfied  
17 the requirements of paragraph 2 of subsection B of this section.

18 6. All units or sets of competencies required for graduation  
19 may be taken in any sequence recommended by the school district.

20 H. As a condition of receiving accreditation from the State  
21 Board of Education, all students in grades nine through twelve shall  
22 enroll in a minimum of six periods, or the equivalent in block  
23 scheduling, of rigorous academic and/or rigorous vocational courses

1 each day, which may include arts, vocal and instrumental music,  
2 speech classes, and physical education classes. A school district  
3 that has implemented an academic excellence program that requires  
4 students to enroll in a minimum of six periods or the equivalent in  
5 block scheduling of rigorous academic or vocational courses but  
6 allows the students to attend less than six (6) hours one (1) day  
7 per week shall meet the requirements of this subsection.

8 I. 1. Academic and vocational-technical courses designed to  
9 offer sets of competencies integrated or embedded within the course  
10 that provide for the teaching and learning of the appropriate skills  
11 and knowledge in the Priority Academic Student Skills (PASS), as  
12 adopted by the State Board of Education, may upon approval of the  
13 Board be counted for academic credit and toward meeting the  
14 graduation requirements of subsection B of this section.

15 2. Internet-based courses offered by a technology center school  
16 that are taught by a certified teacher and provide for the teaching  
17 and learning of the appropriate skills and knowledge in the PASS  
18 may, upon approval of the State Board of Education and the  
19 independent district board of education, be counted for academic  
20 credit and toward meeting the graduation requirements of subsection  
21 B of this section.

22 3. Internet-based courses or vocational-technical courses  
23 utilizing integrated or embedded skills for which no Priority

1 Academic Student Skills have been adopted by the State Board of  
2 Education may be approved by the Board if such courses incorporate  
3 standards of nationally recognized professional organizations and  
4 are taught by certified teachers.

5 4. Courses offered by a supplemental education organization  
6 that is accredited by a national accrediting body and that are  
7 taught by a certified teacher and provide for the teaching and  
8 learning of the appropriate skills and knowledge in the PASS may,  
9 upon approval of the State Board of Education and the school  
10 district board of education, be counted for academic credit and  
11 toward meeting the graduation requirements of subsection B of this  
12 section.

13 J. The State Board of Education shall provide an option for  
14 high school graduation based upon attainment of the desired levels  
15 of competencies as required in tests pursuant to the provisions of  
16 Section 1210.508 of this title. Such option shall be in lieu of the  
17 amount of course credits earned.

18 K. The State Board of Education shall prescribe, adopt and  
19 approve a promotion system based on the attainment by students of  
20 specified levels of competencies in each area of the core  
21 curriculum.

22 L. Children who have individualized education programs pursuant  
23 to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and who

1 satisfy the graduation requirements through the individualized  
2 education program for that student shall be awarded a standard  
3 diploma.

4 M. Students enrolled in an alternative education program who  
5 meet the requirements of their plans leading to high school  
6 graduation developed pursuant to Section 1210.568 of this title  
7 shall be awarded a standard diploma.

8 N. Any student who completes the curriculum requirements of the  
9 International Baccalaureate Diploma Program shall be awarded a  
10 standard diploma.

11 O. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any student who  
12 successfully completes an advanced mathematics or science course  
13 offered pursuant to Section 1210.404 of this title shall be granted  
14 academic credit toward meeting the graduation requirements pursuant  
15 to paragraph 2 or 3, as appropriate, of subsection B of this  
16 section.

17 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2006.

18 SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
19 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby  
20 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
21 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

22 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, dated 4-3-06 - DO PASS,  
23 As Amended.