

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 50th Legislature (2006)

3 HOUSE BILL 2836

By: Hilliard

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5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2001,  
8 Section 1-109, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 236,  
9 O.S.L. 2002 (70 O.S. Supp. 2005, Section 1-109),  
10 which relates to the length of a school year;  
11 amending 70 O.S. 2001, Section 1-111, as last amended  
12 by Section 81, Chapter 5, O.S.L. 2004 (70 O.S. Supp.  
13 2005, Section 1-111), which relates to the definition  
14 of a school day; authorizing school districts to have  
15 parent-teacher conferences in addition to a regular  
16 school day; stipulating that such conferences not  
17 count towards a school day and that certain  
18 authorizations are not required; providing an  
19 effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 1-109, as  
amended by Section 1, Chapter 236, O.S.L. 2002 (70 O.S. Supp. 2005,  
Section 1-109), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1-109 A. A school year for all public schools in  
Oklahoma shall consist of at least ten (10) months of four (4) weeks  
each, during which time school shall actually be in session and  
instruction offered for not less than one hundred eighty (180) days.  
Five (5) days may be used for attendance of professional meetings  
and teachers may be paid for a length of term in excess thereof,  
under conditions hereinafter outlined. Subject to district board of  
education policy or collective bargaining agreement, additional  
professional leave days may be granted for individual teachers to  
attend or participate in professional meetings, staff development  
training, or National Board certification portfolio development.  
During two (2) days of the additional professional days granted to  
teachers for National Board certification portfolio development, a

1 substitute teacher shall be provided by the school district at no  
2 cost to the teacher.

3 B. A school district may authorize parent-teacher conferences  
4 to be held during a regular school day. ~~Following such~~  
5 ~~authorization by~~ If the school district, these authorizes  
6 conferences to be held during a regular school day, the conferences  
7 shall be counted towards a school day, as defined in Section 1-111  
8 of this title, and included as part of the one hundred seventy-five  
9 (175) days of classroom instruction. A school district may  
10 authorize parent-teacher conferences to be held in addition to a  
11 regular school day. If the school district authorizes conferences  
12 to be held in addition to a regular school day, the conferences  
13 shall not be counted towards the school day as defined in Section 1-  
14 111 of this title and the school district shall not be required to  
15 seek authorization from the State Board of Education for an extended  
16 day schedule.

17 C. A school district may maintain school for less than a full  
18 term only when conditions beyond the control of school authorities  
19 make the maintenance of the term impossible and the State Board of  
20 Education has been apprised and has expressed concurrence in  
21 writing.

22 ~~B.~~ D. The State Board of Education shall establish criteria for  
23 an extended day schedule. The criteria shall:

24 1. Prescribe a lengthened school day within limits determined  
25 not to be detrimental to quality instruction; and

26 2. Ensure that the schedule is equivalent in annual hours of  
27 instruction to the one-hundred-eighty-day school year specified in  
28 subsection A of this section; and

29 3. Be consistent with the provisions of this section and  
30 Sections 1-110 through 1-112 of this title, but may result in fewer  
31 annual days of instruction.

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1 The State Board of Education may authorize school districts to  
2 implement an extended day schedule for instruction pursuant to the  
3 criteria developed. The State Board of Education shall require the  
4 participating school districts to prepare a report of the impact of  
5 the extended day schedule.

6 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 1-111, as  
7 last amended by Section 81, Chapter 5, O.S.L. 2004 (70 O.S. Supp.  
8 2005, Section 1-111), is amended to read as follows:

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

18 B. Students absent from school in which they are regularly  
19 enrolled may be considered as being in attendance if the reason for  
20 such absence is to participate in scheduled school activities under  
21 the direction and supervision of a regular member of the faculty or  
22 to participate in a remote internet-based course approved by the  
23 district board of education. The State Board of Education shall  
24 adopt rules to provide for the implementation of remote Internet-  
25 based courses.

26 C. Each district board of education shall adopt policies and  
27 procedures that conform to rules for Internet-based courses as  
28 adopted by the State Board. Such policies shall include criteria  
29 for approval of the course, the appropriateness of the course for a  
30 particular student, authorization for full-time students to enroll  
31 in Internet-based courses, and establishing fees or charges. No  
32 district shall be liable for payment of any fees or charges for any

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

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

12 E. If a school district authorizes parent-teacher conferences  
13 to be held in addition to a regular school day, the conferences  
14 shall not be counted towards the school day as defined in this  
15 section and the school district shall not be required to seek  
16 authorization from the State Board of Education for an extended day  
17 schedule.

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

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

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