

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 50th Legislature (2006)

SENATE BILL 1485

By: Wilcoxson

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2001, Section 3-104.2, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 289, O.S.L. 2002 (70 O.S. Supp. 2005, Section 3-104.2), which relates to Comprehensive Local Education Plan; deleting requirement to report certain plan; amending 70 O.S. 2001, Section 3-153, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 431, O.S.L. 2005 (70 O.S. Supp. 2005, Section 3-153), which relates to reporting of plans to state board; deleting requirement to report certain plan; amending 70 O.S. 2001, Section 6-194, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 127, O.S.L. 2005 (70 O.S. Supp. 2005, Section 6-194), which relates to district professional development programs; removing requirement of State Board of Education to disseminate certain information; deleting obsolete language; requiring data-driven approach in developing certain recommendations; deleting certain professional development delivery methods; requiring professional development programs be directed toward certain goals; removing certain requirements; authorizing districts to utilize any delivery method for professional development not prohibited by law; deleting language relating to reimbursement of certain fees and payment of stipends; making administrators subject to certain requirements; requiring school districts to report certain information to State Department of Education; requiring Department to make available certain information on website; 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 3-104.2, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 289, O.S.L. 2002 (70 O.S. Supp. 2005, Section 3-104.2), is amended to read as follows:

Section 3-104.2 A. As part of the requirements for receiving accreditation by the State Board of Education, each school district board of education shall adopt a Comprehensive Local Education Plan once every six (6) years. The plan at a minimum shall contain the following:

1. A school improvement plan as provided for in Section 5-117.4 of this title;

~~2. A staff development plan as provided for in Section 6-194 of this title;~~

~~3.~~ A capital improvement plan as provided for in Section 18-153 of this title;

4. 3. An alternative education plan, as provided for in subsection C of Section 1210.566 of this title; and

~~5.~~ 4. A reading sufficiency plan as provided for in Section 1210.508C of this title.

B. The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules for monitoring compliance with the provisions of this section by school districts. The State Department of Education shall provide training for regional accreditation officers in alternative education program compliance.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 3-153, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 431, O.S.L. 2005 (70 O.S. Supp. 2005, Section 3-153), is amended to read as follows:

Section 3-153. Except for school districts with one or more school sites which are identified for school improvement as determined by the State Board of Education pursuant to the requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, P.L. No. 107-110, all school districts shall be exempt from reporting to the Board the following plans:

1. The Comprehensive Local Education Plan as required in Section 3-104.2 of this title;

2. The school improvement plan as required in Section 5-117.4 of this title;

~~3. The professional development plan as required in Section 6-194 of this title;~~

4. The capital improvement plan as required in Section 18-153 of this title; and

~~5.~~ 4. The reading sufficiency plan as required in Section 1210.508C of this title, subject to the requirements of paragraph 1 of subsection F of Section 1210.508C of this title; provided the last reading sufficiency plan submitted by the school district was approved by the State Department of Education and expenditures for the program include only expenses relating to individual and small group tutoring, purchase of and training in the use of screening and assessment measures, summer school programs, and Saturday school programs. Prior approval from the State Department of Education shall be required for other types of expenditures.

SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 6-194, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 127, O.S.L. 2005 (70 O.S. Supp. 2005, Section 6-194), is amended to read as follows:

Section 6-194. A. The district boards of education of this state shall establish professional development programs for the certified and licensed teachers and administrators of the district. Programs shall be adopted by each board based upon recommendations of a professional development committee appointed by the board of education for the district. ~~The State Board of Education shall disseminate to each district professional development committee a copy of the in-service professional development competencies included in the Report on Educator Preparation and Professional Development issued in December 1994 by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation for review and consideration and, if approved by the professional development committee, to be included in part or in whole in the professional development plan of the school district. The professional development centers funded through the State Board of Education shall provide technical assistance to any school district which desires to incorporate any such competencies into its professional development plan.~~

B. Each professional development committee shall include classroom teachers, administrators and parents, guardians or

custodians of children in the school district and shall consult with a higher education faculty. A majority of the members of the professional development committee shall be composed of classroom teachers. The teacher members shall be selected by a designated administrator of the school district from a list of names submitted by the teachers in the school district. The members selected shall be subject to the approval of a majority vote of the teachers in the district. At a minimum, once every four (4) years the committee shall include at least one school counselor in its membership.

C. In developing program recommendations, each professional development committee shall annually utilize a data-driven approach to analyze student data and determine district, school, and individual teacher professional development needs. The professional development programs adopted ~~may include, but not be limited to:~~

- ~~1. In-service training programs;~~
- ~~2. Higher education courses; and~~
- ~~3. Professional development programs approved by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation.~~

Programs for teachers and administrators shall ~~emphasize~~ be directed toward development of competencies in the core curriculum areas for the following goals:

1. Increasing the academic performance index scores for the district and each school site;
2. Closing achievement gaps among student sub-groups;
3. Increasing student achievement as demonstrated on state-mandated tests and the ACT;
4. Increasing high school graduation rates; and
5. Decreasing college remediation rates.

Each program shall also include components on classroom management and student discipline strategies, ~~outreach to parents, guardians or custodians of students, and racial and ethnic education, which all personnel defined as teachers in Section 1-116~~

~~of this title shall be required to complete on a periodic basis. The State Board of Education shall provide guidelines to assist school districts in developing and implementing racial and ethnic education components into professional development programs. Each adopted program shall allow school counselors to receive at least one-third (1/3) of the hours or credit required each year through programs or courses specifically designed for school counselors. Programs shall be submitted for approval to the Board. No school district shall receive state funds for professional development until the program adopted by the board of education has been approved by the Board. Districts are authorized to utilize any delivery means for professional development that is not prohibited by law.~~

~~D. Teachers and administrators who have completed professional development courses in their field of instruction or in courses related to obtaining additional professional qualifications and who complete such courses and receive a grade which is equivalent to at least a 3.0 on a 4.0 grading scale may be reimbursed by the school district for one-half (1/2) of the general enrollment fees incurred at any institution within The Oklahoma State System for Higher Education. If the teacher or administrator incurs costs pursuant to this section at a private institution of higher education, the person may be reimbursed by the school district for an amount equal to one-half (1/2) of the general enrollment fees incurred at an institution of The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education of comparable type.~~

~~E. If funds are made available specifically for such purpose, teachers who have completed professional development programs approved by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall receive a stipend based on the amount of funds allocated. No school district shall receive state funds for teacher stipends until such~~

~~time as proof of the teacher's attendance and completion of the program has been determined by the State Department of Education.~~

F. Each licensed or certified teacher and administrator in this state shall be required by the district board of education to meet the professional development requirements established by the board, or established through the negotiation process. Provided, the professional development requirements established by each board of education shall require every teacher to annually complete a minimum number of the total number of points required to maintain employment. Failure of any teacher or administrator to meet district board of education professional development requirements may be grounds for nonrenewal of such teacher's or administrator's contract by the board. Such failure may also be grounds for nonconsideration of salary increments affecting the teacher or administrator.

~~G. The professional development plan shall be submitted to the State Board of Education as provided in Section 3-104.2 et seq. of this title.~~

E. Each district shall annually submit a report to the State Department of Education on the professional development needs as required in subsection C of this section, activities completed, expenditures, and results achieved for each school year by each goal as provided in subsection C of this section.

F. The Department shall develop an online system for reporting district-level professional development needs, activities, expenditures, and results by each goal as provided in subsection C of this section and shall annually summarize the data and recommend best practices. The Department shall also make such information available on its website and include a report of each district's state and federal allocations for professional development each year.

SECTION 4. This act shall become effective July 1, 2006.

SECTION 5. 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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