

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 SENATE BILL 1493

By: Paddack

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5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2001,  
8 Section 6-194, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter  
9 127, O.S.L. 2005 (70 O.S. Supp. 2005, Section 6-194),  
10 which relates to professional development programs;  
11 adding special education to program requirements; and  
12 providing an effective date.

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

14 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 6-194, as  
15 last amended by Section 1, Chapter 127, O.S.L. 2005 (70 O.S. Supp.  
16 2005, Section 6-194), is amended to read as follows:

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

1 B. Each professional development committee shall include  
2 classroom teachers, administrators and parents, guardians or  
3 custodians of children in the school district and shall consult with  
4 a higher education faculty. A majority of the members of the  
5 professional development committee shall be composed of classroom  
6 teachers. The teacher members shall be selected by a designated  
7 administrator of the school district from a list of names submitted  
8 by the teachers in the school district. The members selected shall  
9 be subject to the approval of a majority vote of the teachers in the  
10 district. At a minimum, once every four (4) years the committee  
11 shall include at least one school counselor in its membership.

12 C. The professional development programs adopted may include,  
13 but not be limited to:

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

18 Programs shall emphasize development of competencies in the core  
19 curriculum areas. Each program shall include components on  
20 classroom management and student discipline strategies, outreach to  
21 parents, guardians or custodians of students, special education, and  
22 racial and ethnic education, which all personnel defined as teachers  
23 in Section 1-116 of this title shall be required to complete on a  
24 periodic basis. The State Board of Education shall provide  
25 guidelines to assist school districts in developing and implementing  
26 racial and ethnic education components into professional development  
27 programs. Each adopted program shall allow school counselors to  
28 receive at least one-third (1/3) of the hours or credit required  
29 each year through programs or courses specifically designed for  
30 school counselors. Programs shall be submitted for approval to the  
31 Board. No school district shall receive state funds for  
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1 professional development until the program adopted by the board of  
2 education has been approved by the Board.

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

16 E. If funds are made available specifically for such purpose,  
17 teachers who have completed professional development programs  
18 approved by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall  
19 receive a stipend based on the amount of funds allocated. No school  
20 district shall receive state funds for teacher stipends until such  
21 time as proof of the teacher's attendance and completion of the  
22 program has been determined by the State Department of Education.

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

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

6 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2006.

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