

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 51st Legislature (2008)

3 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

4 FOR ENGROSSED

5 SENATE BILL 926

By: Eason McIntyre and Johnson
(Constance) of the Senate

6 and

(Jones), Pittman, Shumate
and Shelton of the House

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10 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

11 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2001,
12 Section 6-200, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 249,
13 O.S.L. 2007 (70 O.S. Supp. 2007, Section 6-200),
14 which relates to professional development institutes;
15 authorizing institutes utilizing certain
16 instructional strategies for certain purpose;
17 amending Section 1, Chapter 185, O.S.L. 2002 (70 O.S.
18 Supp. 2007, Section 9-101.1), which relates to
19 inspection of transportation equipment; updating
20 statutory citation; deleting certain time frame for
21 inspections; requiring certain district boards of
22 education to implement certain alternative governance
23 arrangements in accordance with federal law;
24 directing State Board of Education to take certain
actions and withhold certain funds from districts for
failure to comply; providing for codification;
providing an effective date; and declaring an
emergency.

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

1 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 6-200, as
2 amended by Section 1, Chapter 249, O.S.L. 2007 (70 O.S. Supp. 2007,
3 Section 6-200), is amended to read as follows:

4 Section 6-200. A. Subject to the availability of funds, the
5 Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall have authority to
6 develop and administer training for residency committees and
7 training for professional development through professional
8 development institutes. Included in the professional development
9 institutes training shall be technology training. Professional
10 development institutes shall be accepted by the State Board of
11 Education for professional development purposes and shall be defined
12 as continuing education experiences which consist of a minimum of
13 thirty (30) clock hours. The institutes shall be competency-based,
14 emphasize effective learning practices, require collaboration among
15 participants, and require each participant to prepare a work product
16 which can be utilized in the classroom by the participant. Any
17 state professional development institutes administered by the
18 Commission shall be chosen through a competitive bid process and if
19 funds are available subject to peer review. The Commission, prior
20 to offering any professional development institute, shall promulgate
21 rules related to administering state professional development
22 institutes.

23 B. The Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall
24 develop, offer and administer professional development institutes to

1 train elementary school teachers in reading education. Funds
2 appropriated for this purpose shall be used for the cost of
3 developing, administering and contracting for the professional
4 development institutes. When possible, certified reading
5 specialists shall be included as consultants. All costs of the
6 institutes shall be included in the contract price and no tuition or
7 registration fee shall be collected from teachers attending the
8 institutes. The institutes shall be offered by or through the
9 Commission. Working in conjunction with the State Department of
10 Education, the Commission shall develop a state plan for
11 administration of such institutes and shall report on or before
12 November 1 of each year to the Governor and the Legislature on the
13 format of and participation in the institutes. The State Department
14 of Education shall cooperate with and provide any information
15 requested, including data available through the state student record
16 system, to the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation as is
17 necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

18 C. Subject to the availability of funds, the Oklahoma
19 Commission for Teacher Preparation shall:

20 1. Contract for an independent evaluation of the elementary
21 school reading professional development institute. The evaluation
22 shall determine adherence to program requirements as provided in
23 this section and the program's effectiveness in increasing teacher
24 knowledge and student achievement; and

1 2. Provide continued support of the elementary school reading
2 professional development institutes through ongoing teacher
3 development at individual school sites. Funds may be used for the
4 cost of mentor training, payment for substitute teachers, on-site
5 facilitation, and any other costs necessary to ensure improved
6 reading by students.

7 D. 1. For the purpose of implementing comprehensive reading
8 reform and systemic change, the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher
9 Preparation shall award one-year grants renewable for up to two (2)
10 additional years to public schools that serve students in
11 kindergarten through third grade. The grants will provide for:

- 12 a. a five-day initial professional development institute
13 in elementary school reading for teachers of
14 kindergarten through third grade, instructional
15 leaders, and principals,
- 16 b. a three-day follow-up professional development
17 institute in elementary school reading for teachers of
18 kindergarten through third grade and instructional
19 leaders, and
- 20 c. continued support through ongoing teacher development
21 at school sites, including four (4) days of
22 professional development for principals and literacy
23 resource specialists, and six (6) days of on-site
24 visits by a program consultant.

1 2. In order to qualify for a grant pursuant to this subsection,
2 the following requirements shall be met:

- 3 a. at least eighty percent (80%) of the teachers of
4 kindergarten through third grade at the school shall
5 have demonstrated support for the training program
6 provided pursuant to this subsection,
- 7 b. the principal shall ensure that all members of the
8 leadership team and all teachers of kindergarten
9 through third grade will participate in all phases of
10 the training program,
- 11 c. the school district shall ensure that any new teacher
12 of kindergarten through third grade or principal at
13 the school will participate in all phases of the
14 training program, and
- 15 d. the school district shall employ a literacy resource
16 specialist for at least two (2) years after completion
17 of the training provided in this subsection. One or
18 more districts may share a literacy resource
19 specialist upon approval of the Commission.

20 3. Any school which has been determined by the State Board of
21 Education to be a school in need of improvement or a school that has
22 not made adequate yearly progress in reading shall be given priority
23 for receipt of a grant. Grants shall be awarded based on the amount
24 of funds allocated to the Commission for Teacher Preparation for the

1 purposes of this section. Funds may be used for payment for
2 substitute teachers, program consultants, on-site facilitation, and
3 literacy resource specialists.

4 4. For program evaluation purposes, each school awarded a grant
5 pursuant to this subsection shall provide to the Commission student-
6 level data and results of the reading assessments administered
7 pursuant to the Oklahoma School Testing Program Act for the year
8 prior to the grant award, for each year a grant is received by the
9 school, and for three (3) years after completion of the program. If
10 funds are not sufficient to award grants to all eligible applicants,
11 schools may be placed on a waiting list for priority consideration
12 for the following year's round of grant awards which shall be
13 superior to the priority given to schools as provided in paragraph 3
14 of this subsection, if the school provides student data for the
15 current year to the Commission as provided in this paragraph.

16 5. The professional development institutes in elementary
17 reading provided pursuant to this section shall incorporate the
18 requirements of the Reading Sufficiency Act.

19 E. As additional funds become available for such purpose, the
20 Commission shall develop and offer professional development
21 institutes in:

- 22 1. Mathematics for teachers in grades five through nine;
- 23 2. The use of technology in the classroom;

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- 1 3. Training of residency committee members in teacher
2 mentoring; ~~and~~
- 3 4. Hands-on inquiry-based science for elementary teachers; and
4 5. Scientifically research-based instructional strategies for
5 teachers of English language learners and children in poverty in
6 order to meet the diverse needs of such student groups and eliminate
7 the achievement gap.

8 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY Section 1, Chapter 185, O.S.L.
9 2002 (70 O.S. Supp. 2007, Section 9-101.1), is amended to read as
10 follows:

11 Section 9-101.1 A. The board of education of any school
12 district furnishing transportation shall require that all
13 transportation equipment, as defined in paragraph 1 of subsection A
14 of Section 9-104 of ~~Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes~~ this title,
15 operated by that school district be inspected once a year ~~within the~~
16 ~~thirty (30) days prior to the start of the school year~~ by an
17 official inspector, as designated by the State Board of Education,
18 to verify that the transportation equipment is being maintained and
19 operated in accordance with all the requirements of the rules of the
20 State Board of Education and state and federal law. The inspection
21 shall include an examination and test of the brakes, steering, front
22 and rear wheel suspension, exhaust systems, wheels and tires,
23 windshield wipers, horn or warning device, proper adjustment of turn
24 signals, windshield, and other glass and lighting equipment, and if

1 applicable, stop signal arms, and emergency exits and equipment. A
2 record of the inspection shall be maintained by the school district
3 and shall be available for inspection upon request.

4 B. For purposes of this section, "official inspector" means a
5 person who, by training and experience specified by rule promulgated
6 by the State Board of Education, is eligible to conduct inspections.

7 C. Failure to comply with subsection A of this section shall
8 result in a loss of state funds to that school district in an amount
9 to be determined by the State Board of Education.

10 D. The Oklahoma Department of Public Safety may perform
11 inspections of all school transportation equipment and inspection
12 records.

13 SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
14 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1210.543 of Title 70, unless
15 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

16 A. Notwithstanding any other provision of state law, for
17 schools that are identified for school improvement by the State
18 Board of Education for four (4) consecutive years, the district
19 board of education shall implement one of the following alternative
20 governance arrangements for the school in accordance with
21 subparagraph (B) of subsection (b) (8) of section 1116 of Public Law
22 No. 107-110:

23 1. Reopening the school as a public charter school;

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1 2. Replacing all or most of the school staff, which may include
2 the principal, who are relevant to the failure to make adequate
3 yearly progress;

4 3. Entering into a contract with an entity, such as a private
5 management company, with a demonstrated record of effectiveness, to
6 operate the public school;

7 4. Turning the operation of the school over to the State Board
8 of Education; or

9 5. Any other major restructuring of the school's governance
10 arrangement that makes fundamental reforms, such as significant
11 changes in the school's staffing and governance, to improve student
12 academic achievement in the school and that has substantial promise
13 of enabling the school to make adequate yearly progress. If the
14 chosen governance arrangement does not produce adequate yearly
15 progress within two (2) years, the State Board of Education shall
16 assume control of the school as provided for in subsection B of this
17 section.

18 B. For any school that fails to comply with the provisions of
19 subsection A of this section by the end of the school year following
20 its identification for school improvement for four (4) consecutive
21 years, the State Board of Education shall assume control of the
22 management and operations of the school and withhold from the
23 district all funds that otherwise would have been allocated to the
24 district based on the average daily membership at the school site.

1 SECTION 4. This act shall become effective July 1, 2008.

2 SECTION 5. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
3 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby
4 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
5 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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