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THE STATE SENATE
Thursday, February 15, 2007

Senate Bill No. 482

SENATE BILL NO. 482 - By: WILCOXSON of the Senate and COODY of the House.

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2001, Section 6-194, as last amended by Section 3, Chapter 227, O.S.L. 2006 (70 O.S. Supp. 2006, Section 6-194), which relates to district professional development programs; changing requirement to authorization to include certain components in program; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 6-194, as last amended by Section 3, Chapter 227, O.S.L. 2006 (70 O.S. Supp. 2006, 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.

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

1 teachers. The teacher members shall be selected by a designated
2 administrator of the school district from a list of names submitted
3 by the teachers in the school district. The members selected shall
4 be subject to the approval of a majority vote of the teachers in the
5 district. At a minimum, once every four (4) years the committee
6 shall include at least one school counselor in its membership.

7 C. In developing program recommendations, each professional
8 development committee shall annually utilize a data-driven approach
9 to analyze student data and determine district and school
10 professional development needs. The professional development
11 programs adopted shall be directed toward development of
12 competencies and instructional strategies in the core curriculum
13 areas for the following goals:

- 14 1. Increasing the academic performance index scores for the
15 district and each school site;
- 16 2. Closing achievement gaps among student subgroups;
- 17 3. Increasing student achievement as demonstrated on state-
18 mandated tests and the ACT;
- 19 4. Increasing high school graduation rates; and
- 20 5. Decreasing college remediation rates.

21 Each program ~~shall~~ may also include components on classroom
22 management and student discipline strategies, outreach to parents,
23 guardians or custodians of students, and racial and ethnic

1 education, which all personnel defined as teachers in Section 1-116
2 of this title shall be required to complete on a periodic basis.
3 The State Board of Education shall provide guidelines to assist
4 school districts in developing and implementing racial and ethnic
5 education components into professional development programs. Each
6 adopted program shall allow school counselors to receive at least
7 one-third (1/3) of the hours or credit required each year through
8 programs or courses specifically designed for school counselors.

9 Districts are authorized to utilize any means for professional
10 development that is not prohibited by law including, but not limited
11 to, professional development provided by the district, any state
12 agency, institution of higher education, or any private entity.

13 D. Each licensed or certified teacher in this state shall be
14 required by the district board of education to meet the professional
15 development requirements established by the board, or established
16 through the negotiation process. Provided, the professional
17 development requirements established by each board of education
18 shall require every teacher to annually complete a minimum number of
19 the total number of points required to maintain employment. Failure
20 of any teacher to meet district board of education professional
21 development requirements may be grounds for nonrenewal of such
22 teacher's contract by the board. Such failure may also be grounds
23 for nonconsideration of salary increments affecting the teacher.

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

6 F. Subject to the availability of funds, the Department shall
7 develop an online system for reporting as required in subsection E
8 of this section. The Department shall also make such information
9 available on its website.

10 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2007.

11 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, dated 2-12-07 - DO
12 PASS, As Coauthored.