

1 | ENGROSSED SENATE
BILL NO. 971

By: Sparks of the Senate

and

Schwartz and Nations of the
House

7 | An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2001,
8 | Section 6-194, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter
9 | 399, O.S.L. 2008 (70 O.S. Supp. 2008, Section 6-194),
10 | which relates to district professional development
11 | programs; requiring programs to allow certain
12 | personnel to participate in certain training;
13 | providing an effective date; and declaring an
14 | emergency.

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 2, Chapter 399, O.S.L. 2008 (70 O.S. Supp.
16 | 2008, 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.

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

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

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

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

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1 D. 1. Each program may also include components on classroom
2 management and student discipline strategies, outreach to parents,
3 guardians or custodians of students, special education, and racial
4 and ethnic education, which all personnel defined as teachers in
5 Section 1-116 of this title shall be required to complete on a
6 periodic basis.

7 2. The State Board of Education shall provide guidelines to
8 assist school districts in developing and implementing racial and
9 ethnic education components into professional development programs.

10 3. At least once a year a program shall be offered which
11 includes a component of teacher training on recognition and
12 reporting of child abuse and neglect which all teachers shall be
13 required to complete. ~~Additionally at~~

14 4. At least one time per year, beginning in the 2009-2010
15 school year, training in the area of autism shall be offered and all
16 resident teachers of students in early childhood programs through
17 grade three shall be required to complete the autism training during
18 the resident year and at least one time every three (3) years
19 thereafter. All other teachers and education support professionals
20 of students in early childhood programs through grade three shall be
21 required to complete the autism training at least one time every
22 three (3) years. The autism training shall include a minimum
23 awareness of the characteristics of autistic children, resources
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1 available and an introduction to positive behavior supports to
2 challenging behavior.

3 5. Each ~~adopted~~ program shall allow school counselors to
4 receive at least one-third (1/3) of the hours or credit required
5 each year through programs or courses specifically designed for
6 school counselors.

7 6. Each program shall allow related services personnel, as
8 identified in the policies and procedures for special education by
9 the State Department of Education, to be provided the opportunity to
10 participate in training applicable to their field that will enable
11 them to maintain professional licensure.

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

17 ~~D.~~ F. Each licensed or certified teacher in this state shall be
18 required by the district board of education to meet the professional
19 development requirements established by the board, or established
20 through the negotiation process. Provided, the professional
21 development requirements established by each board of education
22 shall require every teacher to annually complete a minimum number of
23 the total number of points required to maintain employment. Failure
24 of any teacher to meet district board of education professional

1 development requirements may be grounds for nonrenewal of such
2 teacher's contract by the board. Such failure may also be grounds
3 for nonconsideration of salary increments affecting the teacher.

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

9 ~~F.~~ H. Subject to the availability of funds, the Department
10 shall develop an online system for reporting as required in
11 subsection ~~F~~ G of this section. The Department shall also make such
12 information available on its website.

13 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2009.

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

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1 Passed the Senate the 4th day of March, 2009.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate

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5 Passed the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____,

6 2009.

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Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

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