

SB 1610

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THE STATE SENATE
Tuesday, February 16, 2010

Senate Bill No. 1610
As Amended

SENATE BILL NO. 1610 - By: Halligan of the Senate and Coody of the House.

[schools - high school graduation requirements - modifying requirements for mathematics - effective date]

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 11-103.6, as last amended by Section 3, Chapter 173, O.S.L. 2007 (70 O.S. Supp. 2009, Section 11-103.6), is amended to read as follows:

Section 11-103.6 A. The State Board of Education shall adopt curricular standards for instruction of students in the public schools of this state that are necessary to ensure there is attainment of desired levels of competencies in a variety of areas to include language, mathematics, science, social studies and communication. All students shall gain literacy at the elementary and secondary levels through a core curriculum. Students must develop skills in reading, writing, speaking, computing and critical thinking. They also must learn about cultures and environments - their own and those of others with whom they share the earth. Students, therefore, must study social studies, literature, languages, the arts, mathematics and science. Such curricula shall

1 provide for the teaching of a hands-on career exploration program in
2 cooperation with technology center schools. The core curriculum
3 shall be designed to teach the competencies for which students shall
4 be tested as provided in Section 1210.508 of this title, and shall
5 be designed to prepare all students for employment and/or
6 postsecondary education.

7 B. ~~Beginning~~ Except as provided in paragraph 2 of this
8 subsection, beginning with students entering the ninth grade in the
9 2006-07 school year and subject to the provisions of subsection C of
10 this section, in order to graduate from a public high school
11 accredited by the State Board of Education with a standard diploma,
12 students shall complete the following college preparatory/work ready
13 curriculum units or sets of competencies at the secondary level:

14 1. Four units of English to include Grammar, Composition,
15 Literature, or any English course approved for college admission
16 requirements;

17 2. Three units of mathematics, limited to Algebra I, Algebra
18 II, Geometry, Trigonometry, Math Analysis, Calculus, Advanced
19 Placement Statistics, or any mathematics course with content and/or
20 rigor above Algebra I and approved for college admission
21 requirements. Beginning with students entering the ninth grade in
22 the 2010-11 school year, the three units of mathematics required by
23 this paragraph shall be increased to four units;

1 3. Three units of laboratory science, limited to Biology,
2 Chemistry, Physics, or any laboratory science course with content
3 and/or rigor equal to or above Biology and approved for college
4 admission requirements;

5 4. Three units of history and citizenship skills, including one
6 unit of American History, 1/2 unit of Oklahoma History, 1/2 unit of
7 United States Government and one unit from the subjects of History,
8 Government, Geography, Economics, Civics, or Non-Western culture and
9 approved for college admission requirements;

10 5. Two units of the same foreign or non-English language or two
11 units of computer technology approved for college admission
12 requirements, whether taught at a high school or a technology center
13 school, including computer programming, hardware, and business
14 computer applications, such as word processing, databases,
15 spreadsheets, and graphics, excluding keyboarding or typing courses;

16 6. One additional unit selected from paragraphs 1 through 5 of
17 this subsection or career and technology education courses approved
18 for college admission requirements; and

19 7. One unit or set of competencies of fine arts, such as music,
20 art, or drama, or one unit or set of competencies of speech.

21 C. Beginning with students entering the ninth grade in the
22 2006-07 school year, in lieu of the requirements of subsection B of
23 this section which requires a college preparatory/work ready

1 curriculum, a student may enroll in the core curriculum as provided
2 in subsection D of this section upon written approval of the parent
3 or legal guardian of the student. School districts may require a
4 parent or legal guardian of the student to meet with a designee of
5 the school prior to enrollment in the core curriculum. The State
6 Department of Education shall develop and distribute to school
7 districts a form suitable for this purpose, which shall include
8 information on the benefits to students of completing the college
9 preparatory/work ready curriculum as provided for in subsection B of
10 this section.

11 D. ~~For~~ Except as provided in paragraph 2 of this subsection,
12 for students who entered the ninth grade prior to the 2006-07 school
13 year and for those students subject to the requirements of
14 subsection C of this section, in order to graduate from a public
15 high school accredited by the State Board of Education with a
16 standard diploma, students shall complete the following core
17 curriculum units or sets of competencies at the secondary level:

18 1. Language Arts - 4 units or sets of competencies, to consist
19 of 1 unit or set of competencies of grammar and composition, and 3
20 units or sets of competencies which may include, but are not limited
21 to, the following courses:

- 22 a. American Literature,
- 23 b. English Literature,

- 1 c. World Literature,
- 2 d. Advanced English Courses, or
- 3 e. other English courses with content and/or rigor equal
- 4 to or above grammar and composition;
- 5 2. Mathematics - 3 units or sets of competencies, to consist of
- 6 1 unit or set of competencies of Algebra I or Algebra I taught in a
- 7 contextual methodology, and 2 units or sets of competencies which
- 8 may include, but are not limited to, the following courses:
- 9 a. Algebra II,
- 10 b. Geometry or Geometry taught in a contextual
- 11 methodology,
- 12 c. Trigonometry,
- 13 d. Math Analysis or Precalculus,
- 14 e. Calculus,
- 15 f. Statistics and/or Probability,
- 16 g. Computer Science,
- 17 h. contextual mathematics courses which enhance
- 18 technology preparation whether taught at a:
- 19 (1) comprehensive high school, or
- 20 (2) technology center school when taken in the
- 21 eleventh or twelfth grade, taught by a certified
- 22 teacher, and approved by the State Board of

1 Education and the independent district board of
2 education,

- 3 i. mathematics courses taught at a technology center
4 school by a teacher certified in the secondary subject
5 area when taken in the eleventh or twelfth grade upon
6 approval of the State Board of Education and the
7 independent district board of education, or
8 j. equal to or above Algebra I.

9 Beginning with students entering the ninth grade in the 2010-11
10 school year, the three units or sets of competencies of mathematics
11 required by this paragraph shall be increased to four units or sets
12 of competencies;

13 3. Science - 3 units or sets of competencies, to consist of 1
14 unit or set of competencies of Biology I or Biology I taught in a
15 contextual methodology, and 2 units or sets of competencies in the
16 areas of life, physical, or earth science or technology which may
17 include, but are not limited to, the following courses:

- 18 a. Chemistry I,
- 19 b. Physics,
- 20 c. Biology II,
- 21 d. Chemistry II,
- 22 e. Physical Science,
- 23 f. Earth Science,

- 1 g. Botany,
2 h. Zoology,
3 i. Physiology,
4 j. Astronomy,
5 k. Applied Biology/Chemistry,
6 l. Applied Physics,
7 m. Principles of Technology,
8 n. qualified agricultural education courses,
9 o. contextual science courses which enhance technology
10 preparation whether taught at a:
11 (1) comprehensive high school, or
12 (2) technology center school when taken in the
13 eleventh or twelfth grade, taught by a certified
14 teacher, and approved by the State Board of
15 Education and the independent district board of
16 education,
17 p. science courses taught at a technology center school
18 by a teacher certified in the secondary subject area
19 when taken in the eleventh or twelfth grade upon
20 approval of the State Board of Education and the
21 independent district board of education, or
22 q. other science courses with content and/or rigor equal
23 to or above Biology I;

1 4. Social Studies - 3 units or sets of competencies, to consist
2 of 1 unit or set of competencies of United States History, 1/2 to 1
3 unit or set of competencies of United States Government, 1/2 unit or
4 set of competencies of Oklahoma History, and 1/2 to 1 unit or set of
5 competencies which may include, but are not limited to, the
6 following courses:

- 7 a. World History,
- 8 b. Geography,
- 9 c. Economics,
- 10 d. Anthropology, or
- 11 e. other social studies courses with content and/or rigor
12 equal to or above United States History, United States
13 Government, and Oklahoma History; and

14 5. Arts - 2 units or sets of competencies which may include,
15 but are not limited to, courses in Visual Arts and General Music.

16 E. 1. In addition to the curriculum requirements of either
17 subsection B or D of this section, in order to graduate from a
18 public high school accredited by the State Board of Education
19 students shall complete the requirements for a personal financial
20 literacy passport as set forth in the Passport to Financial Literacy
21 Act and any additional course requirements or recommended elective
22 courses as may be established by the State Board of Education and
23 the district school board. School districts shall strongly

1 encourage students to complete two units or sets of competencies of
2 foreign languages and two units or sets of competencies of physical
3 and health education.

4 2. No student shall receive credit for high school graduation
5 more than once for completion of the same unit or set of
6 competencies to satisfy the curriculum requirements of this section.

7 3. A school district shall not be required to offer every
8 course listed in subsections B and D of this section, but shall
9 offer sufficient courses to allow a student to meet the graduation
10 requirements during the secondary grade years of the student.

11 F. For purposes of this section:

12 1. "Contextual methodology" means academic content and skills
13 taught by utilizing real-world problems and projects in a way that
14 helps students understand the application of that knowledge;

15 2. "Qualified agricultural education courses" means courses
16 that have been determined by the State Board of Education to offer
17 the sets of competencies in the Priority Academic Student Skills
18 (PASS), as adopted by the Board, for one or more science content
19 areas and which correspond to academic science courses. Qualified
20 agricultural education courses shall include, but are not limited
21 to, Horticulture, Plant and Soil Science, Natural Resources and
22 Environmental Science, and Animal Science. The courses shall be
23 taught by teachers certified in agricultural education and comply

1 with all rules of the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology
2 Education;

3 3. "Rigor" means a level of difficulty that is appropriate for
4 the grade level and that meets state and/or national standards;

5 4. "Sets of competencies" means those skills and competencies
6 that are specified in the Priority Academic Student Skills (PASS),
7 as adopted by the State Board of Education, subchapter 5, Chapter
8 15, Title 210 of the Oklahoma Administrative Code, and other skills
9 and competencies adopted by the Board; and

10 5. "Unit" means a Carnegie Unit as defined by the North Central
11 Association's Commission on Schools.

12 G. 1. The State Board of Education shall adopt a plan to
13 ensure that rigor is maintained in the content, teaching
14 methodology, level of expectations for student achievement, and
15 application of learning in all the courses taught to meet the
16 graduation requirements as specified in this section.

17 2. The State Board of Education shall allow as much flexibility
18 at the district level as is possible without diminishing the rigor
19 or undermining the intent of providing these courses. To accomplish
20 this purpose, the State Department of Education shall work with
21 school districts in reviewing and approving courses taught by
22 districts that are not specifically listed in subsections B and D of
23 this section. Options may include, but shall not be limited to,

1 courses taken by concurrent enrollment, advanced placement, or
2 correspondence, or courses bearing different titles.

3 3. Technology center school districts may offer programs
4 designed in cooperation with institutions of higher education which
5 have an emphasis on a focused field of career study upon approval of
6 the State Board of Education and the independent district board of
7 education. Students in the tenth grade may be allowed to attend
8 these programs for up to one-half (1/2) of a school day and credit
9 for the units or sets of competencies required in paragraphs 2 and 3
10 of subsection B or D of this section shall be given if the courses
11 are taught by a teacher certified in the secondary subject area;
12 provided, credit for units or sets of competencies pursuant to
13 subsection B of this section shall be approved for college admission
14 requirements.

15 4. If a student enrolls in a concurrent course, the school
16 district shall not be responsible for any costs incurred for that
17 course, unless the school district does not offer enough course
18 selection during the student's secondary grade years to allow the
19 student to receive the courses needed to meet the graduation
20 requirements of this section. If the school district does not offer
21 the necessary course selection during the student's secondary grade
22 years, it shall be responsible for the cost of resident tuition at
23 an institution in The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education,

1 fees, and books for the concurrent enrollment course, and providing
2 for transportation to and from the institution to the school site.

3 It is the intent of the Legislature that for students enrolled
4 in a concurrent enrollment course which is paid for by the school
5 district pursuant to this paragraph, the institution charge only the
6 supplementary and special service fees that are directly related to
7 the concurrent enrollment course and enrollment procedures for that
8 student. It is further the intent of the Legislature that fees for
9 student activities and student service facilities, including the
10 student health care and cultural and recreational service fees, not
11 be charged to such students.

12 5. Credit for the units or sets of competencies required in
13 subsection B or D of this section shall be given when such units or
14 sets of competencies are taken in the seventh or eighth grades if
15 the teachers are certified or authorized to teach the subjects for
16 high school credit and the required rigor is maintained.

17 6. Beginning with ninth-grade students enrolled in the 2008-
18 2009 school year, the three units or sets of competencies in
19 mathematics required in subsection B or D of this section shall be
20 completed in the ninth through twelfth grades; provided, if a
21 student completes any required courses in mathematics prior to ninth
22 grade, the student may take any other mathematics courses to fulfill
23 the requirement to complete three units in grades nine through

1 twelve after the student has satisfied the requirements of
2 subsection B or D of this section.

3 7. All units or sets of competencies required for graduation
4 may be taken in any sequence recommended by the school district.

5 H. As a condition of receiving accreditation from the State
6 Board of Education, all students in grades nine through twelve shall
7 enroll in a minimum of six periods, or the equivalent in block
8 scheduling, of rigorous academic and/or rigorous vocational courses
9 each day, which may include arts, vocal and instrumental music,
10 speech classes, and physical education classes.

11 I. 1. Academic and vocational-technical courses designed to
12 offer sets of competencies integrated or embedded within the course
13 that provide for the teaching and learning of the appropriate skills
14 and knowledge in the Priority Academic Student Skills (PASS), as
15 adopted by the State Board of Education, may upon approval of the
16 Board be counted for academic credit and toward meeting the
17 graduation requirements of this section.

18 2. Internet-based courses offered by a technology center school
19 that are taught by a certified teacher and provide for the teaching
20 and learning of the appropriate skills and knowledge in the PASS
21 may, upon approval of the State Board of Education and the
22 independent district board of education, be counted for academic

1 credit and toward meeting the graduation requirements of this
2 section.

3 3. Internet-based courses or vocational-technical courses
4 utilizing integrated or embedded skills for which no Priority
5 Academic Student Skills have been adopted by the State Board of
6 Education may be approved by the Board if such courses incorporate
7 standards of nationally recognized professional organizations and
8 are taught by certified teachers.

9 4. Courses offered by a supplemental education organization
10 that is accredited by a national accrediting body and that are
11 taught by a certified teacher and provide for the teaching and
12 learning of the appropriate skills and knowledge in the PASS may,
13 upon approval of the State Board of Education and the school
14 district board of education, be counted for academic credit and
15 toward meeting the graduation requirements of this section.

16 J. The State Board of Education shall provide an option for
17 high school graduation based upon attainment of the desired levels
18 of competencies as required in tests pursuant to the provisions of
19 Section 1210.508 of this title. Such option shall be in lieu of the
20 amount of course credits earned.

21 K. The State Board of Education shall prescribe, adopt and
22 approve a promotion system based on the attainment by students of

1 specified levels of competencies in each area of the core
2 curriculum.

3 L. Children who have individualized education programs pursuant
4 to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and who
5 satisfy the graduation requirements through the individualized
6 education program for that student shall be awarded a standard
7 diploma.

8 M. For students who enter the ninth grade in or prior to the
9 2007-08 school year who are enrolled in an alternative education
10 program and meet the requirements of their plans leading to high
11 school graduation developed pursuant to Section 1210.568 of this
12 title shall be awarded a standard diploma.

13 N. Any student who completes the curriculum requirements of the
14 International Baccalaureate Diploma Program shall be awarded a
15 standard diploma.

16 O. Any student who successfully completes an advanced
17 mathematics or science course offered pursuant to Section 1210.404
18 of this title shall be granted academic credit toward meeting the
19 graduation requirements pursuant to paragraph 2 or 3, as
20 appropriate, of subsection B or D of this section.

21 P. For purposes of this section, the courses approved for
22 college admission requirements shall be courses which are approved

1 by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education for admission to
2 an institution within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education.

3 Q. The State Department of Education shall collect and report
4 data by school site and district on the number of students who
5 enroll in the core curriculum as provided in subsection D of this
6 section.

7 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2010.

8 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, dated 2-10-10 - DO
9 PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.