

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 52nd Legislature (2010)

3 SENATE BILL 1610

By: Halligan

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2001,
8 Section 11-103.6, as last amended by Section 3,
9 Chapter 173, O.S.L. 2007 (70 O.S. Supp. 2009, Section
10 11-103.6), which relates to high school graduation
11 requirements; modifying curricular requirements for
12 mathematics for certain students; and providing an
13 effective date.

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

15 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 11-103.6, as
16 last amended by Section 3, Chapter 173, O.S.L. 2007 (70 O.S. Supp.
17 2009, Section 11-103.6), is amended to read as follows:

18 Section 11-103.6 A. The State Board of Education shall adopt
19 curricular standards for instruction of students in the public
20 schools of this state that are necessary to ensure there is
21 attainment of desired levels of competencies in a variety of areas
22 to include language, mathematics, science, social studies and
23 communication. All students shall gain literacy at the elementary
24 and secondary levels through a core curriculum. Students must
develop skills in reading, writing, speaking, computing and critical

1 thinking. They also must learn about cultures and environments -
2 their own and those of others with whom they share the earth.
3 Students, therefore, must study social studies, literature,
4 languages, the arts, mathematics and science. Such curricula shall
5 provide for the teaching of a hands-on career exploration program in
6 cooperation with technology center schools. The core curriculum
7 shall be designed to teach the competencies for which students shall
8 be tested as provided in Section 1210.508 of this title, and shall
9 be designed to prepare all students for employment and/or
10 postsecondary education.

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

18 1. Four units of English to include Grammar, Composition,
19 Literature, or any English course approved for college admission
20 requirements;

21 2. Three units of mathematics, limited to Algebra I, Algebra
22 II, Geometry, Trigonometry, Math Analysis, Calculus, Advanced
23 Placement Statistics, or any mathematics course with content and/or
24 rigor above Algebra I and approved for college admission

1 requirements. Beginning with students entering the ninth grade in
2 the 2010-11 school year, the three units of mathematics required by
3 this paragraph shall be increased to four units;

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

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

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

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

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

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1 C. Beginning with students entering the ninth grade in the
2 2006-07 school year, in lieu of the requirements of subsection B of
3 this section which requires a college preparatory/work ready
4 curriculum, a student may enroll in the core curriculum as provided
5 in subsection D of this section upon written approval of the parent
6 or legal guardian of the student. School districts may require a
7 parent or legal guardian of the student to meet with a designee of
8 the school prior to enrollment in the core curriculum. The State
9 Department of Education shall develop and distribute to school
10 districts a form suitable for this purpose, which shall include
11 information on the benefits to students of completing the college
12 preparatory/work ready curriculum as provided for in subsection B of
13 this section.

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

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

- 1 a. American Literature,
- 2 b. English Literature,
- 3 c. World Literature,
- 4 d. Advanced English Courses, or
- 5 e. other English courses with content and/or rigor equal
- 6 to or above grammar and composition;

7 2. Mathematics - 3 units or sets of competencies, to consist of
8 1 unit or set of competencies of Algebra I or Algebra I taught in a
9 contextual methodology, and 2 units or sets of competencies which
10 may include, but are not limited to, the following courses:

- 11 a. Algebra II,
- 12 b. Geometry or Geometry taught in a contextual
- 13 methodology,
- 14 c. Trigonometry,
- 15 d. Math Analysis or Precalculus,
- 16 e. Calculus,
- 17 f. Statistics and/or Probability,
- 18 g. Computer Science,
- 19 h. contextual mathematics courses which enhance
- 20 technology preparation whether taught at a:
 - 21 (1) comprehensive high school, or
 - 22 (2) technology center school when taken in the
 - 23 eleventh or twelfth grade, taught by a certified
 - 24 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,
- 24 g. Botany,

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

23 4. Social Studies - 3 units or sets of competencies, to consist
24 of 1 unit or set of competencies of United States History, 1/2 to 1

1 unit or set of competencies of United States Government, 1/2 unit or
2 set of competencies of Oklahoma History, and 1/2 to 1 unit or set of
3 competencies which may include, but are not limited to, the
4 following courses:

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

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

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

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

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

8 F. For purposes of this section:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

22 3. Technology center school districts may offer programs
23 designed in cooperation with institutions of higher education which
24 have an emphasis on a focused field of career study upon approval of

1 the State Board of Education and the independent district board of
2 education. Students in the tenth grade may be allowed to attend
3 these programs for up to one-half (1/2) of a school day and credit
4 for the units or sets of competencies required in paragraphs 2 and 3
5 of subsection B or D of this section shall be given if the courses
6 are taught by a teacher certified in the secondary subject area;
7 provided, credit for units or sets of competencies pursuant to
8 subsection B of this section shall be approved for college admission
9 requirements.

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

21 It is the intent of the Legislature that for students enrolled
22 in a concurrent enrollment course which is paid for by the school
23 district pursuant to this paragraph, the institution charge only the
24 supplementary and special service fees that are directly related to

1 the concurrent enrollment course and enrollment procedures for that
2 student. It is further the intent of the Legislature that fees for
3 student activities and student service facilities, including the
4 student health care and cultural and recreational service fees, not
5 be charged to such students.

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

11 6. Beginning with ninth-grade students enrolled in the 2008-
12 2009 school year, the three units or sets of competencies in
13 mathematics required in subsection B or D of this section shall be
14 completed in the ninth through twelfth grades; provided, if a
15 student completes any required courses in mathematics prior to ninth
16 grade, the student may take any other mathematics courses to fulfill
17 the requirement to complete three units in grades nine through
18 twelve after the student has satisfied the requirements of
19 subsection B or D of this section.

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

22 H. As a condition of receiving accreditation from the State
23 Board of Education, all students in grades nine through twelve shall
24 enroll in a minimum of six periods, or the equivalent in block

1 scheduling, of rigorous academic and/or rigorous vocational courses
2 each day, which may include arts, vocal and instrumental music,
3 speech classes, and physical education classes.

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

11 2. Internet-based courses offered by a technology center school
12 that are taught by a certified teacher and provide for the teaching
13 and learning of the appropriate skills and knowledge in the PASS
14 may, upon approval of the State Board of Education and the
15 independent district board of education, be counted for academic
16 credit and toward meeting the graduation requirements of this
17 section.

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

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1 4. Courses offered by a supplemental education organization
2 that is accredited by a national accrediting body and that are
3 taught by a certified teacher and provide for the teaching and
4 learning of the appropriate skills and knowledge in the PASS may,
5 upon approval of the State Board of Education and the school
6 district board of education, be counted for academic credit and
7 toward meeting the graduation requirements of this section.

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

13 K. The State Board of Education shall prescribe, adopt and
14 approve a promotion system based on the attainment by students of
15 specified levels of competencies in each area of the core
16 curriculum.

17 L. Children who have individualized education programs pursuant
18 to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and who
19 satisfy the graduation requirements through the individualized
20 education program for that student shall be awarded a standard
21 diploma.

22 M. For students who enter the ninth grade in or prior to the
23 2007-08 school year who are enrolled in an alternative education
24 program and meet the requirements of their plans leading to high

1 school graduation developed pursuant to Section 1210.568 of this
2 title shall be awarded a standard diploma.

3 N. Any student who completes the curriculum requirements of the
4 International Baccalaureate Diploma Program shall be awarded a
5 standard diploma.

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

11 P. For purposes of this section, the courses approved for
12 college admission requirements shall be courses which are approved
13 by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education for admission to
14 an institution within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education.

15 Q. The State Department of Education shall collect and report
16 data by school site and district on the number of students who
17 enroll in the core curriculum as provided in subsection D of this
18 section.

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

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