

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 53rd Legislature (2012)

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
4 FOR

5 SENATE BILL 1564

6 By: Paddack

7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

8 [schools - creating the Middle School Education Task
9 Force - noncodification - effective date -
10 emergency]

11
12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

13 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be
14 codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

15 A. There is hereby created until June 30, 2013, the Middle
16 School Education Task Force. The purpose of the task force shall be
17 to examine ways that middle school education can be reformed to
18 prepare middle school students for success in high school, college
19 and future careers. The task force shall:

20 1. Examine ways to develop individualized instruction for each
21 student and to identify at-risk learners to ensure that all students
22 succeed;

- 1 2. Examine ways for school districts to incorporate an emphasis
2 on preparing for college, career and citizenship into the middle
3 school curriculum;
- 4 3. Examine professional development programs for teachers in
5 middle school;
- 6 4. Examine ways to enhance reading instruction with a focus on
7 reading in content areas;
- 8 5. Focus on ways to emphasize the importance of mathematics and
9 science education in middle school;
- 10 6. Compare testing methodology in middle school to the methods
11 of testing in high school; and
- 12 7. Identify barriers to performance in middle school including,
13 but not limited to, attendance.
- 14 B. The task force shall be composed of fourteen (14) members as
15 follows:
 - 16 1. Four members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the
17 Senate as follows:
 - 18 a. a middle school assistant principal,
 - 19 b. a full-time teacher who teaches in middle school,
 - 20 c. a high school principal, and
 - 21 d. a representative of a statewide organization that
22 represents school boards;
 - 23 2. Four members appointed by the Speaker of the House of
24 Representatives as follows:

- 1 a. a middle school principal,
- 2 b. a licensed counselor employed at a middle school,
- 3 c. a parent of a student currently enrolled in middle
- 4 school, and
- 5 d. a representative of a statewide association
- 6 representing middle level education;

7 3. Four members appointed by the Governor as follows:

- 8 a. a superintendent of a public school district,
- 9 b. a representative of a statewide association
- 10 representing school principals,
- 11 c. a principal of an elementary school, and
- 12 d. a principal recognized as a Middle School Principal of
- 13 the Year by a statewide association representing
- 14 principals;

15 4. One member of the Senate appointed by the Chair of the

16 Senate Education Committee; and

17 5. One member of the House of Representatives appointed by the

18 Chair of the House Common Education Committee.

19 C. The chair and vice-chair of the task force shall be selected

20 by the task force from among the members.

21 D. A quorum of the task force shall be required in order for

22 any final action of the task force.

23 E. The task force may meet as often as may be required in order

24 to perform the duties imposed upon it.

1 F. The meetings of the task force shall be subject to the
2 Oklahoma Open Meeting Act.

3 G. Members of the task force shall receive no compensation for
4 their service, but shall receive travel reimbursement as follows:

5 1. State employees who are members of the task force shall be
6 reimbursed for travel expenses incurred in the performance of their
7 duties by their respective agencies in accordance with the State
8 Travel Reimbursement Act;

9 2. All other task force members shall be reimbursed by the
10 appointing authority for travel expenses incurred in the performance
11 of their duties in accordance with the State Travel Reimbursement
12 Act; and

13 3. Legislative members shall be reimbursed in accordance with
14 Section 456 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

15 H. Staff support for the task force shall be provided by the
16 State Department of Education.

17 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2012.

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

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