

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 March 1, 2012

3 As Amended

4 SENATE BILL NO. 1818

5 By: Halligan and Sparks of the  
6 Senate

7 and

8 Denney of the House

9 **[ schools - requiring four years of mathematics -  
10 effective date -**

11 **emergency ]**

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

13 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 11-103.6, is  
14 amended to read as follows:

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

1 Students, therefore, must study social studies, literature,  
2 languages, the arts, mathematics and science. Such curricula shall  
3 provide for the teaching of a hands-on career exploration program in  
4 cooperation with technology center schools. The core curriculum  
5 shall be designed to teach the competencies for which students shall  
6 be tested as provided in Section 1210.508 of this title, and shall  
7 be designed to prepare all students for employment and/or  
8 postsecondary education.

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

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

19 2. Three units of mathematics, limited to Algebra I, Algebra  
20 II, Geometry, Trigonometry, Math Analysis, Calculus, Advanced  
21 Placement Statistics, or any mathematics course with content and/or  
22 rigor above Algebra I and approved for college admission  
23 requirements. Beginning with students entering the ninth grade in  
24 the 2012-2013 school year, the three units of mathematics required

1 by this paragraph shall be increased to four units. The four-unit  
2 requirement may include a course in remedial mathematics if the  
3 student is determined to be in need of remediation in order to  
4 complete a mathematics course with the content and/or rigor above  
5 Algebra I or completion of a course at a career and technology  
6 center that has been certified by the State Department of Education  
7 as having the content and/or rigor above Algebra I;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- 7 a. American Literature,
- 8 b. English Literature,
- 9 c. World Literature,
- 10 d. Advanced English Courses, or
- 11 e. other English courses with content and/or rigor equal  
12 to or above grammar and composition;

13 2. Mathematics - 3 units or sets of competencies, to consist of  
14 1 unit or set of competencies of Algebra I or Algebra I taught in a  
15 contextual methodology, and 2 units or sets of competencies which  
16 may include, but are not limited to, the following courses:

- 17 a. Algebra II,
- 18 b. Geometry or Geometry taught in a contextual  
19 methodology,
- 20 c. Trigonometry,
- 21 d. Math Analysis or Precalculus,
- 22 e. Calculus,
- 23 f. Statistics and/or Probability,
- 24 g. Computer Science,

1 h. contextual mathematics courses which enhance  
2 technology preparation whether taught at a:  
3 (1) comprehensive high school, or  
4 (2) technology center school when taken in the  
5 eleventh or twelfth grade, taught by a certified  
6 teacher, and approved by the State Board of  
7 Education and the independent district board of  
8 education,

9 i. mathematics courses taught at a technology center  
10 school by a teacher certified in the secondary subject  
11 area when taken in the eleventh or twelfth grade upon  
12 approval of the State Board of Education and the  
13 independent district board of education, or

14 j. equal to or above Algebra I. Beginning with students  
15 entering the ninth grade in the 2012-2013 school year,  
16 the three units or sets of competencies of mathematics  
17 required by this paragraph shall be increased to four  
18 units or sets of competencies;

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

24 a. Chemistry I,

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

1 approval of the State Board of Education and the  
2 independent district board of education, or

3 q. other science courses with content and/or rigor equal  
4 to or above Biology I;

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

11 a. World History,

12 b. Geography,

13 c. Economics,

14 d. Anthropology, or

15 e. other social studies courses with content and/or rigor  
16 equal to or above United States History, United States  
17 Government, and Oklahoma History; and

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

20 E. 1. In addition to the curriculum requirements of either  
21 subsection B or D of this section, in order to graduate from a  
22 public high school accredited by the State Board of Education  
23 students shall complete the requirements for a personal financial  
24 literacy passport as set forth in the Passport to Financial Literacy

1 Act and any additional course requirements or recommended elective  
2 courses as may be established by the State Board of Education and  
3 the district school board. School districts shall strongly  
4 encourage students to complete two units or sets of competencies of  
5 foreign languages and two units or sets of competencies of physical  
6 and health education.

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

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

14 F. For purposes of this section:

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

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

1 Environmental Science, and Animal Science. The courses shall be  
2 taught by teachers certified in agricultural education and comply  
3 with all rules of the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology  
4 Education;

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

7 4. "Sets of competencies" means those skills and competencies  
8 that are specified in the Priority Academic Student Skills (PASS),  
9 as adopted by the State Board of Education, subchapter 5, Chapter  
10 15, Title 210 of the Oklahoma Administrative Code, and other skills  
11 and competencies adopted by the Board; and

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

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

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

1 this section. Options may include, but shall not be limited to,  
2 courses taken by concurrent enrollment, advanced placement, or  
3 correspondence, or courses bearing different titles.

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

16 4. If a student enrolls in a concurrent course, the school  
17 district shall not be responsible for any costs incurred for that  
18 course, unless the school district does not offer enough course  
19 selection during the student's secondary grade years to allow the  
20 student to receive the courses needed to meet the graduation  
21 requirements of this section. If the school district does not offer  
22 the necessary course selection during the student's secondary grade  
23 years, it shall be responsible for the cost of resident tuition at  
24 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  
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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  
23 credit and toward meeting the graduation requirements of this  
24 section.

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

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

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

19 K. The State Board of Education shall prescribe, adopt and  
20 approve a promotion system based on the attainment by students of  
21 specified levels of competencies in each area of the core  
22 curriculum.

23 L. Children who have individualized education programs pursuant  
24 to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and who

1 satisfy the graduation requirements through the individualized  
2 education program for that student shall be awarded a standard  
3 diploma.

4 M. For students who enter the ninth grade in or prior to the  
5 2007-08 school year who are enrolled in an alternative education  
6 program and meet the requirements of their plans leading to high  
7 school graduation developed pursuant to Section 1210.568 of this  
8 title shall be awarded a standard diploma.

9 N. Any student who completes the curriculum requirements of the  
10 International Baccalaureate Diploma Program shall be awarded a  
11 standard diploma.

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

17 P. For purposes of this section, the courses approved for  
18 college admission requirements shall be courses which are approved  
19 by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education for admission to  
20 an institution within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education.

21 Q. The State Department of Education shall collect and report  
22 data by school site and district on the number of students who  
23 enroll in the core curriculum as provided in subsection D of this  
24 section.

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

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

6 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, dated 2-29-12 - DO  
7 PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.