

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 54th Legislature (2014)

3 SENATE BILL 1321

By: Loveless

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to schools; requiring the
8 administrative duties of school districts that meet
9 certain criteria to be combined; directing the State
10 Board of Education to take certain action; requiring
11 agreements between school districts to address
12 certain items; authorizing receipt of certain funds;
13 defining administrative services; authorizing the
14 Board to promulgate rules; providing for
15 codification; providing an effective date; and
16 declaring an emergency.

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

18 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
19 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 7-207 of Title 70, unless there
20 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

21 A. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require the
22 closing of any school or school facility.

23 B. Administrative services of a school district which meet the
24 criteria established in subsection C of this section shall be
combined with a contiguous school district or districts pursuant to
the provisions of this section.

1 C. 1. The administrative services of an independent school
2 district with an average daily membership of less than two hundred
3 and fifty (250) shall be combined upon the retirement, resignation
4 or departure by other means of the superintendent.

5 2. The administrative services of an elementary school district
6 with an average daily membership of less than two hundred and fifty
7 (250) shall be combined upon the retirement, resignation or
8 departure by other means of the superintendent.

9 D. The State Board of Education shall take action necessary to
10 assist school districts which meet the criteria established in
11 subsection C of this section to reach an agreement on combining the
12 administrative services of the school district with one or more
13 contiguous school districts. If the school districts cannot agree,
14 the Board shall formulate an agreement between the districts
15 outlining how the administrative services will be shared and how the
16 costs will be allocated. Any agreement for sharing administrative
17 services shall address the division of time of each employee,
18 payment of benefits for each employee, contributions to the
19 Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma for each employee and how
20 each employee will be counted for calculating certain weights for
21 purposes of the State Aid formula as provided for in Section 18-
22 201.1 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes. The agreement shall
23 also address payment of any employees who are employed on a
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1 continuing multi-year contract at the time administrative services
2 are combined.

3 E. If one or more school districts in a county meet the
4 criteria established in subsection C of this section, the Board
5 shall work with all of the school districts in the county to combine
6 the administrative services of each school district into one
7 countywide administrative service to be shared by all school
8 districts in the county.

9 F. School districts which meet the criteria established in
10 subsection C of this section and enter into a mutual contract with a
11 superintendent as authorized pursuant to Section 5-106A of Title 70
12 of the Oklahoma Statutes shall be authorized to receive funds from
13 the School Consolidation Assistance Fund created pursuant to Section
14 7-203 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

15 G. For purposes of this section, "administrative services"
16 shall mean any employee of a school district employed as a
17 superintendent, assistant superintendent, director, coordinator,
18 supervisor and any employee who has responsibility for
19 administrative functions of a school district, including but not
20 limited to human resources, purchasing, accounting and information
21 technology. "Administrative services" shall not mean principals or
22 assistant principals.

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1 H. Money saved through administrative consolidation shall be
2 allocated by district boards of education in one or more of the
3 following areas:

4 1. Services provided in accordance with the Individuals with
5 Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), P.L. No. 105-17;

6 2. Reimbursement to teachers for expenses related to obtaining
7 National Board certification;

8 3. Provision of advanced placement and other gifted and
9 talented programs; and

10 4. Technology.

11 I. The Board shall promulgate rules implementing the provisions
12 of this section.

13 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2014.

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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