

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 54th Legislature (2013)

3 SENATE BILL 157

By: Halligan

6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to school curriculum; amending 70
8 O.S. 2011, Section 11-103.6, which relates to high
9 school graduation requirements; modifying curricular
10 requirements for mathematics for certain students;
11 providing an effective date; and declaring an
12 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 2013-2014 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 science, technology, engineering
3 and mathematics (STEM) approved by the school district board of
4 education. The four-unit requirement may also include a course in
5 remedial mathematics if the student is determined to be in need of
6 remediation in order to complete a mathematics course with the
7 content and/or rigor above Algebra I or completion of a course at a
8 career and technology center that has been certified by the State
9 Department of Education as having the content and/or rigor above
10 Algebra I;

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

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

20 5. Two units of the same foreign or non-English language or two
21 units of computer technology approved for college admission
22 requirements, whether taught at a high school or a technology center
23 school, including computer programming, hardware, and business
24

1 computer applications, such as word processing, databases,
2 spreadsheets, and graphics, excluding keyboarding or typing courses;

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

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

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

21 D. ~~For~~ Except as provided in paragraph 2 of this subsection,
22 for students who entered the ninth grade prior to the 2006-07 school
23 year and for those students subject to the requirements of
24 subsection C of this section, in order to graduate from a public

high school accredited by the State Board of Education with a standard diploma, students shall complete the following core curriculum units or sets of competencies at the secondary level:

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

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

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

- a. Algebra II,
- b. Geometry or Geometry taught in a contextual methodology,
- c. Trigonometry,
- d. Math Analysis or Precalculus,
- e. Calculus,
- f. Statistics and/or Probability,

- 1 g. Computer Science,
- 2 h. contextual mathematics courses which enhance
- 3 technology preparation whether taught at a:
- 4 (1) comprehensive high school, or
- 5 (2) technology center school when taken in the
- 6 eleventh or twelfth grade, taught by a certified
- 7 teacher, and approved by the State Board of
- 8 Education and the independent district board of
- 9 education,
- 10 i. mathematics courses taught at a technology center
- 11 school by a teacher certified in the secondary subject
- 12 area when taken in the eleventh or twelfth grade upon
- 13 approval of the State Board of Education and the
- 14 independent district board of education, or
- 15 j. equal to or above Algebra I. Beginning with students
- 16 entering the ninth grade in the 2013-2014 school year,
- 17 the three units or sets of competencies of mathematics
- 18 required by this paragraph shall be increased to four
- 19 units or sets of competencies;

20 3. Science - 3 units or sets of competencies, to consist of 1

21 unit or set of competencies of Biology I or Biology I taught in a

22 contextual methodology, and 2 units or sets of competencies in the

23 areas of life, physical, or earth science or technology which may

24 include, but are not limited to, the following courses:

- a. Chemistry I,
- b. Physics,
- c. Biology II,
- d. Chemistry II,
- e. Physical Science,
- f. Earth Science,
- g. Botany,
- h. Zoology,
- i. Physiology,
- j. Astronomy,
- k. Applied Biology/Chemistry,
- l. Applied Physics,
- m. Principles of Technology,
- n. qualified agricultural education courses,
- o. contextual science courses which enhance technology preparation whether taught at a:
 - (1) comprehensive high school, or
 - (2) technology center school when taken in the eleventh or twelfth grade, taught by a certified teacher, and approved by the State Board of Education and the independent district board of education,
- p. science courses taught at a technology center school by a teacher certified in the secondary subject area

1 when taken in the eleventh or twelfth grade upon
2 approval of the State Board of Education and the
3 independent district board of education, or

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

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

12 a. World History,

13 b. Geography,

14 c. Economics,

15 d. Anthropology, or

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

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

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

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

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

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

15 F. For purposes of this section:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

20 2. The State Board of Education shall allow as much flexibility
21 at the district level as is possible without diminishing the rigor
22 or undermining the intent of providing these courses. To accomplish
23 this purpose, the State Department of Education shall work with
24 school districts in reviewing and approving courses taught by

1 districts that are not specifically listed in subsections B and D of
2 this section. Options may include, but shall not be limited to,
3 courses taken by concurrent enrollment, advanced placement, or
4 correspondence, or courses bearing different titles.

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

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

1 an institution in The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education,
2 fees, and books for the concurrent enrollment course, and providing
3 for transportation to and from the institution to the school site.

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

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

18 6. Beginning with ninth-grade students enrolled in the 2008-
19 2009 school year, the three units or sets of competencies in
20 mathematics required in subsection B or D of this section shall be
21 completed in the ninth through twelfth grades; provided, if a
22 student completes any required courses in mathematics prior to ninth
23 grade, the student may take any other mathematics courses to fulfill
24 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
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, 2013.

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
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