

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 56th Legislature (2017)

HOUSE BILL 1475

By: Young

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-194, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 246, O.S.L. 2015 (70 O.S. Supp. 2016, Section 6-194), which relates to district professional development programs; requiring professional development programs to add certain goal related to core curriculum areas; requiring school districts that exceed certain percentage of students from minority background to provide certain professional development program; requiring school districts to provide certain training at certain schools; encouraging parents to attend training; encouraging school districts to work with commodity-based organizations; providing codification; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-194, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 246, O.S.L. 2015 (70 O.S. Supp. 2016, Section 6-194), is amended to read as follows:

Section 6-194. A. The district boards of education of this state shall establish professional development programs for the certified teachers and administrators of the district. Programs shall be adopted by each board based upon recommendations of a

1 professional development committee appointed by the board of
2 education for the district. For the fiscal years ending June 30,
3 2011, and June 30, 2012, a school district board of education may
4 elect not to adopt and offer a professional development program for
5 certified teachers and administrators of the district. If a school
6 district elects not to adopt and offer a professional development
7 program, the district may expend any monies allocated for
8 professional development for any purpose related to the support and
9 maintenance of the school district as determined by the board of
10 education of the school district.

11 B. Each professional development committee shall include
12 classroom teachers, administrators, school counselors or licensed
13 mental health providers, and parents, guardians or custodians of
14 children in the school district and shall consult with a higher
15 education faculty. A majority of the members of the professional
16 development committee shall be composed of classroom teachers. The
17 teacher members shall be selected by a designated administrator of
18 the school district from a list of names submitted by the teachers
19 in the school district. The members selected shall be subject to
20 the approval of a majority vote of the teachers in the district.

21 C. In developing program recommendations, each professional
22 development committee shall annually utilize a data-driven approach
23 to analyze student data and determine district and school
24 professional development needs. The professional development

1 programs adopted shall be directed toward development of
2 competencies and instructional strategies in the core curriculum
3 areas for the following goals:

- 4 1. Increasing the academic performance data scores for the
5 district and each school site;
- 6 2. Closing achievement gaps among student subgroups;
- 7 3. Increasing student achievement as demonstrated on state-
8 mandated tests and the ACT;
- 9 4. Increasing high school graduation rates; ~~and~~
- 10 5. Decreasing college remediation rates; and
- 11 6. Improving the ability of teachers to effectively meet the
12 academic needs of a racially, ethnically, linguistically and
13 culturally diverse student population.

14 Each program may also include components on classroom management
15 and student discipline strategies, outreach to parents, guardians or
16 custodians of students, special education, and racial and ethnic
17 education, which all personnel defined as teachers in Section 1-116
18 of this title shall be required to complete on a periodic basis.
19 School districts where at least twenty percent (20%) of students are
20 from a minority background shall provide a specific professional
21 development program on meeting the academic needs of a racially,
22 ethnically, linguistically and culturally diverse student
23 population. The State Board of Education shall provide guidelines
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1 to assist school districts in developing and implementing racial and
2 ethnic education components into professional development programs.

3 D. At a minimum of once an academic year a program shall be
4 offered which includes the following:

- 5 1. Training on recognition of child abuse and neglect;
- 6 2. Recognition of child sexual abuse;
- 7 3. Proper reporting of suspected abuse; and
- 8 4. Available resources.

9 E. One time per year, beginning in the 2009-2010 school year,
10 training in the area of autism shall be offered and all resident
11 teachers of students in early childhood programs through grade three
12 shall be required to complete the autism training during the
13 resident year and at least one time every three (3) years
14 thereafter. All other teachers and education support professionals
15 of students in early childhood programs through grade three shall be
16 required to complete the autism training at least one time every
17 three (3) years. The autism training shall include a minimum
18 awareness of the characteristics of autistic children, resources
19 available and an introduction to positive behavior supports to
20 challenging behavior. Each adopted program shall allow school
21 counselors to receive at least one-third (1/3) of the hours or
22 credit required each year through programs or courses specifically
23 designed for school counselors.

1 Districts are authorized to utilize any means for professional
2 development that is not prohibited by law including, but not limited
3 to, professional development provided by the district, any state
4 agency, institution of higher education, or any private entity.

5 F. Except as otherwise provided for in this subsection, each
6 certified teacher in this state shall be required by the district
7 board of education to meet the professional development requirements
8 established by the board, or established through the negotiation
9 process. Except as otherwise provided for in this subsection, the
10 professional development requirements established by each board of
11 education shall require every teacher to annually complete a minimum
12 number of the total number of points required to maintain
13 employment. Failure of any teacher to meet district board of
14 education professional development requirements may be grounds for
15 nonrenewal of such teacher's contract by the board. Such failure
16 may also be grounds for nonconsideration of salary increments
17 affecting the teacher. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2011,
18 and June 30, 2012, a certified teacher shall not be required to
19 complete any points of the total number of professional development
20 points required. Provided, a teacher may elect to complete some or
21 all of the minimum number of points required for the two (2) fiscal
22 years and any points completed shall be counted toward the total
23 number of points required to maintain employment. If a teacher does
24 not complete some or all of the minimum number of points required

1 for one (1) or both fiscal years, the total number of points
2 required to maintain employment shall be adjusted and reduced by the
3 number of points not completed.

4 G. Each district shall annually submit a report to the State
5 Department of Education on the district level professional
6 development needs, activities completed, expenditures, and results
7 achieved for each school year by each goal as provided in subsection
8 C of this section. If a school district elects not to adopt and
9 offer a professional development program as provided for in
10 subsection A of this section, the district shall not be required to
11 submit an annual report as required pursuant to this subsection but
12 shall report to the State Department of Education its election not
13 to offer a program and all professional development activities
14 completed by teachers and administrators of the school district.

15 H. Subject to the availability of funds, the Department shall
16 develop an online system for reporting as required in subsection ~~F~~ G
17 of this section. The Department shall also make such information
18 available on its website.

19 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
20 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 24-100.8 of Title 70, unless
21 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

22 A. Each public school district in this state that includes
23 students in grades six through twelve shall be required to provide
24 at least one parent-child communication training per school year.

1 Parents or guardians of students in grades six through twelve shall
2 be encouraged to attend such training in order to have well-
3 informed, factually based, medically accurate, body-positive
4 communication with their children regarding pregnancy prevention,
5 abstinence practices, prevention of sexually transmitted infections
6 and diseases and safe and healthy relationships.

7 B. Such training shall be offered by the school district
8 through the Safe School Committee at each middle school, junior high
9 school and high school. School districts shall be encouraged to
10 work with community-based organizations with proven expertise in the
11 subject areas in order to provide materials and resources, including
12 personnel.

13 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2017.
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