

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 58th Legislature (2022)

SENATE BILL 1505

By: Bullard

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2021, Section 10-105.2, which relates to parental involvement in schools; requiring each school district board of education to adopt certain policy allowing a parent or legal guardian to observe or shadow a student; requiring policy to include certain provisions; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 10-105.2, is amended to read as follows:

Section 10-105.2. A. It shall be a policy of the State Board of Education to encourage each public school to explore outreach opportunities such as agreements with the parents of each child enrolled in school.

1. Such agreement may describe the beneficial relationship between parental interest and pupil achievement and provide an agreement that a child will achieve higher levels of competency if parents will guarantee that their child will attend school, behave satisfactorily while there, and complete homework. As part of the

1 agreement, the school may state its intention to provide free
2 remediation if a child fails to attain the necessary standards of
3 competency.

4 2. Such agreement may also emphasize the importance of parent-
5 teacher conferences. The agreement should note the days of the
6 school year reserved for professional meetings and staff development
7 and state that on these days teachers are available to meet with
8 parents. Teachers should also be encouraged to schedule conferences
9 to accommodate working parents. Teachers should strive to hold at
10 least one conference with each student's parents at least once each
11 semester.

12 B. The State Board of Education also shall require each local
13 board of education to develop initiatives to promote schools as
14 congenial places for parents to visit.

15 1. As part of the initiatives required by this subsection, each
16 school district board of education shall adopt a policy allowing a
17 parent or legal guardian to observe a class in which the parent or
18 legal guardian's child is enrolled or shadow the parent or legal
19 guardian's child during a school day. The policy shall include:

20 a. a requirement that the parent or legal guardian submit
21 a written request to observe a class or shadow a
22 student to the principal of the school site the
23 student attends,

1 b. a requirement that the school site principal approve
2 or deny the request within a period of two weeks from
3 the date of submission. If a request is denied, a
4 parent or legal guardian may appeal the decision to
5 the school district superintendent. If a school
6 district superintendent denies the request, a parent
7 or legal guardian may appeal the decision to the
8 school district board of education, and

9 c. a requirement that the observation or shadowing be
10 conducted with minimal interference to the school's
11 learning environment and with all due consideration to
12 the safety of students and school district employees.

13 C. The State Board of Education shall also establish a program
14 for encouraging private employers to give employees who have
15 children in preschool programs, kindergarten, or school programs
16 time off to visit the schools for parent-teacher conferences at
17 least once each semester.

18 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2022.

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