

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

3 HOUSE BILL 2072

By: Caldwell (Chad)

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2021,
8 Section 5-106, which relates to school district
9 boards of education; prescribing minimum education
10 requirement for superintendents; authorizing board to
11 establish additional requirements and qualifications
12 for superintendents; amending 70 O.S. 2021, Section
13 6-189, which relates to superintendent and principal
14 certification; modifying certification requirements
15 for superintendents; deleting alternative
16 certification for superintendents; providing an
17 effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

19 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 5-106, is
20 amended to read as follows:

21 Section 5-106. A. The governing board of each school district
22 in Oklahoma is hereby designated and shall hereafter be known as the
23 board of education of such district. Except as otherwise provided
24 in this section, the superintendent of schools appointed and
employed by the board shall be the executive officer of the board
and shall perform duties as the board directs. A superintendent of
schools appointed and employed by the board shall possess, at a

1 minimum, a baccalaureate degree. The board may establish additional
2 requirements and qualifications for superintendent candidates as it
3 deems necessary to fulfill the duties of employment.

4 B. The board may contract with a superintendent for a term as
5 mutually agreed upon but not to exceed three (3) years beyond the
6 fiscal year in which the contract is approved by the board and
7 accepted by the superintendent. The contract shall include all
8 other terms and conditions as agreed upon in writing by the board
9 and the superintendent.

10 C. The boards of two or more school districts may contract with
11 one superintendent to serve as superintendent of the school
12 districts as provided in Section 4 5-106A of this ~~act~~ title.

13 D. No board of a school district having average daily
14 membership (ADM) of fewer than five hundred (500) pupils shall be
15 prohibited from allowing a superintendent to serve simultaneously as
16 a principal.

17 E. The chief executive officer of the board of education of a
18 district in which a public developmental research school is
19 established shall be the director of the school appointed as
20 provided in Section 1210.577 of this title.

21 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 6-189, is
22 amended to read as follows:

23 Section 6-189. A. The certification system required by the
24 Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act as part of the new teacher

1 preparation system shall be competency-based. The competencies for
2 certification shall be integrated with competencies specified in
3 Section 6-185 of this title. By July 1, 1996, the State Board of
4 Education shall adopt general competencies for certification, and by
5 January 1, 1997, the Board shall have adopted full competencies and
6 implemented the certification system as required in this act. No
7 higher education courses or credit hours may be specified by the
8 State Board of Education in rules for certification. Nothing in the
9 certification rules adopted by the Board shall prohibit the Oklahoma
10 State Regents for Higher Education from adopting policies and
11 procedures it deems appropriate for coursework, grade point average,
12 or credit hours for teacher preparation at institutions in The
13 Oklahoma State System of Higher Education.

14 B. The certification requirements for a school principal not
15 alternatively certified under subsection D of this section shall
16 include not less than:

- 17 1. Completion of a standard master's degree;
- 18 2. Completion of a program in education administration approved
19 by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation with an emphasis
20 on curriculum, instruction and building-level leadership skills.

21 The requirement in this paragraph shall not apply to any person who
22 has completed a master's degree program in education that included
23 competencies that are substantially equal to those listed in this
24 paragraph and if the degree was completed prior to July 1, 2005;

1 3. Any other professional education and requirements as may be
2 fixed by the State Board of Education;

3 4. A passing score on the subject area competency examination
4 required in Section 6-187 of this title; and

5 5. A minimum of two (2) years of successful teaching experience
6 in public or private schools accredited by the State Board of
7 Education or by the proper accrediting authority of another state of
8 the United States.

9 C. The certification requirements for a superintendent of
10 schools ~~not alternatively certified under subsection D of this~~
11 ~~section shall include not less than:~~

12 ~~1. Certification as a school principal or completion of the~~
13 ~~certification requirements for a school principal as set forth in~~
14 ~~subsection B of this section;~~

15 ~~2. Completion of a program in education administration approved~~
16 ~~by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation with an emphasis~~
17 ~~on district-level leadership skills, and which shall include the~~
18 ~~following competencies:~~

19 ~~a. instructional leadership,~~

20 ~~b. organizational leadership, including education~~
21 ~~finance, education law, and risk management,~~

22 ~~c. collaborative and community leadership, and~~

23 ~~d. ethical leadership.~~

24

1 ~~The requirement in this paragraph shall not apply to any person~~
2 ~~who has completed an Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation~~
3 ~~approved Master's Degree in Education Administration or has~~
4 ~~completed a program in education that included competencies that are~~
5 ~~substantially equal to those listed in this paragraph, and if the~~
6 ~~degree or program was completed between the effective date of this~~
7 ~~act and July 1, 2005;~~

8 ~~3. Any other professional education and requirements as may be~~
9 ~~fixed by the State Board of Education;~~

10 ~~4. A passing score on the subject area competency examination~~
11 ~~required in Section 6-187 of this title; and~~

12 ~~5. A minimum of two (2) years of administrative experience in~~
13 ~~public or private schools accredited by the State Board of Education~~
14 ~~or by the proper accrediting authority of another state of the~~
15 ~~United States, at a minimum, completion of a baccalaureate degree.~~

16 D. 1. The standards for alternative certification for
17 ~~superintendents of schools and principals shall include:~~

- 18 a. the completion of a standard master's degree,
- 19 b. two (2) years of relevant work experience in a
20 supervisory or administrative capacity,
- 21 c. a passing score on the subject area competency
22 examination required in Section 6-187 of this title,
23 and

1 d. filing with the director of teacher education at an
2 Oklahoma accredited institution of higher education a
3 plan for completing an alternative administrative
4 preparation program within three (3) years. Relevant
5 work experience and coursework may be considered and
6 applied to complete the plan.

7 2. An alternative certificate for ~~superintendent of schools and~~
8 principals shall not exceed three (3) years and shall not be
9 renewable.

10 3. Upon successful completion of an alternative administrative
11 preparation program by a participant, the State Board of Education
12 shall issue a standard certificate for ~~superintendent or principal,~~
13 ~~as applicable,~~ to the applicant.

14 4. Any person participating in an alternative certification
15 program for ~~superintendent of schools and~~ principals on the
16 effective date of this act shall be subject to the program
17 requirements in effect prior to the effective date of this act.

18 E. The certification requirements for a superintendent of a
19 technology center school district shall include not less than a
20 standard master's degree, any other professional education
21 requirements as may be fixed by the State Board of Education, and a
22 minimum of four (4) years teaching, supervisory or administrative
23 experience, which may include teaching of full-time adult students,
24 in a technology center school district. A person meeting the

1 requirements set forth in subsection C of this section shall be
2 eligible for a certificate for superintendent of a technology center
3 school district.

4 F. The State Board of Education and the State Board of Career
5 and Technology Education shall promulgate rules for a certification
6 system option specifically for teachers and instructors in the
7 technology center school districts. The teacher preparation system
8 shall be competency-based. The competencies for certification shall
9 be integrated with competencies of this title, as well as reflect
10 industry-based skills, standards and certifications.

11 G. Certificates issued by the State Board of Education may be
12 revoked by the State Board of Education for willful violation of any
13 rule of the Board or of any federal or state law or other proper
14 cause but only after sufficient hearing has been given before the
15 Board.

16 H. Teaching in a Head Start program or programs shall be used
17 for renewal of a standard teaching certificate.

18 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2023.

19 SECTION 4. 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.

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24 59-1-7053 EK 01/16/23