

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

SENATE BILL 203

By: Garvin

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2021, Section 1-109, which relates to the school year; modifying minimum number of days of instruction required for districts that have adopted certain policy; removing certain school-hours policy option; removing reference to requirements established by the State Board of Education for adoption of certain school-hours policy; 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 1-109, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1-109. A. For all public schools in Oklahoma, school shall actually be in session and classroom instruction offered:

1. For not less than one hundred eighty (180) days; ~~or~~
2. For not less than one thousand eighty (1,080) hours each school year, if a district board of education adopts a school-hours policy and notifies the State Board of Education prior to October 15 of the applicable school year; or

1 3. Beginning with the ~~2021-2022~~ 2023-2024 school year, for not
2 less than one thousand eighty (1,080) hours with a minimum of ~~one~~
3 ~~hundred sixty five (165)~~ one hundred fifty (150) days of instruction
4 each school year, if a district board of education adopts a school-
5 hours policy and notifies the State Board of Education prior to
6 October 15 of the applicable school year; ~~or~~

7 ~~4. Beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, for not less than~~
8 ~~one thousand eighty (1,080) hours each school year, if a district~~
9 ~~board of education adopts a school hours policy, notifies the State~~
10 ~~Board of Education prior to October 15 of the applicable school year~~
11 ~~and meets the requirements established by the State Board of~~
12 ~~Education pursuant to subsection H of this section.~~

13 B. A school district may not count more than thirty (30) hours
14 each school year that are used for attendance of professional
15 meetings toward the one hundred eighty (180) days or one thousand
16 eighty (1,080) hours of classroom instruction time required in
17 subsection A of this section.

18 C. Teachers off contract with an employing district shall not
19 be required by the employing school district to attend professional
20 meetings unless the teacher is paid additional compensation for the
21 additional time. Teachers may be paid additional compensation for
22 attending professional meetings in excess of their contract term.
23 Subject to district board of education policy or collective
24 bargaining agreement, additional paid professional days may be

1 granted for individual teachers to attend or participate in
2 professional meetings, staff development training, or National Board
3 certification portfolio development as provided for in Section 6-
4 204.2 of this title.

5 D. A school district may authorize parent-teacher conferences
6 to be held during a regular school day. If authorized by the school
7 district, parent-teacher conferences shall be counted as classroom
8 instruction time for no more than six (6) hours per semester, for a
9 total of twelve (12) hours per school year.

10 E. A school district may maintain school for less than a full
11 school year only when conditions beyond the control of school
12 authorities make the maintenance of the term impossible and the
13 State Board of Education has been apprised and has expressed
14 concurrence in writing.

15 F. The State Board of Education shall establish criteria for an
16 extended-day schedule for schools subject to paragraph 1 of
17 subsection A of this section. The criteria shall:

18 1. Prescribe a lengthened school day within limits determined
19 not to be detrimental to quality instruction;

20 2. Ensure that the schedule is equivalent in annual hours of
21 instruction to the one-hundred-eighty-day school year specified in
22 paragraph 1 of subsection A of this section; and
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1 3. Be consistent with the provisions of this section and
2 Sections 1-111 and 1-112 of this title, but may result in fewer
3 annual days of instruction.

4 G. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection F of this
5 section, a school district board of education subject to paragraph 1
6 of subsection A of this section may adopt and implement an extended-
7 day schedule subject to the following requirements:

8 1. The annual number of hours of instruction shall equal or
9 exceed one thousand eighty (1,080) hours, which is the equivalent of
10 one hundred eighty (180) days of instruction as specified in
11 subsection A of this section for six (6) hours each day as specified
12 in Section 1-111 of this title;

13 2. The annual number of days of instruction shall equal or
14 exceed one hundred eighty (180) days as specified in subsection A of
15 this section;

16 3. The schedule adopted shall be consistent with the provisions
17 of Sections 1-111 and 1-112 of this title, except that for not more
18 than one (1) day per week, a school day shall consist of not less
19 than five (5) hours devoted to academic instruction in a regular
20 classroom setting;

21 4. The district shall hold a public hearing prior to the
22 adoption of an extended-day schedule authorized pursuant to this
23 subsection; and
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1 5. The district shall document the impact on student
2 achievement as determined by the academic performance data score and
3 any other relevant factors that are a result of implementation of an
4 extended-day schedule authorized pursuant to this subsection and
5 provide an annual report to the State Board of Education of the
6 results. If improvement in student achievement cannot be documented
7 in the report, the district board of education shall revoke
8 authorization as provided by this subsection. If the district does
9 not revoke authorization after student achievement is not documented
10 in the report, the State Board of Education may deny accreditation
11 of any school in violation of this subsection.

12 ~~H. Beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, a school district~~
13 ~~board of education may adopt a school hours policy as provided for~~
14 ~~by paragraph 4 of subsection A of this section only if it meets or~~
15 ~~exceeds the minimum guidelines for student performance and school~~
16 ~~district cost savings established by the State Board of Education.~~
17 ~~The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules, subject to~~
18 ~~approval by the Legislature, establishing the minimum guidelines for~~
19 ~~student performance and school district cost savings.~~

20 ~~±.~~ If subject to paragraph 2 of subsection A of this section, a
21 district board of education or designee may elect to close a school
22 during the school day for inclement weather purposes. In such an
23 event, the number of hours incurred in classroom instruction time
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1 prior to school closure shall be counted toward the one thousand
2 eighty (1,080) hours per year requirement.

3 ~~F.~~ I. Nothing in this section shall be construed as affecting
4 the right of an employing school district to require teachers as
5 defined in Section 6-101.3 of this title to work in excess of the
6 one thousand eighty (1,080) hours required for student instruction.
7 In addition, nothing in this section shall be construed to affect
8 the Fair Labor Standards Act status of any school district employee.

9 ~~K.~~ J. The provisions of this section shall not prohibit the
10 Oklahoma School for the Blind or the Oklahoma School for the Deaf
11 from adopting an alternative school-hours policy if the Oklahoma
12 School for the Blind or the Oklahoma School for the Deaf notifies
13 and receives approval from the State Board of Education prior to
14 October 15 of the applicable school year.

15 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2023.

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

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