

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR ENGROSSED

SENATE BILL NO. 711

By: Pugh, Kern, Hines, and Mann
of the Senate

and

Johns of the House

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2021, Section 3-151.1, which relates to high school graduation rates; modifying calculation of the four-year and extended-year adjusted cohort graduation rates; prohibiting certain student transfers from being included in adjusted cohort rate; updating statutory references; updating statutory language; amending 70 O.S. 2021, Section 1210.545, which relates to annual school reports for the Oklahoma School Testing Program; prohibiting chronic absenteeism from being included in certain statewide measures; directing the grade of school sites to include teacher retention rate; expanding items to be included as postsecondary opportunities; allowing school sites to be eligible for bonus points based on in-person classroom instruction and improvement in chronic absenteeism rate; directing the State Board of Education to amend and submit ESSA state plan by a specific date; updating statutory language; 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 3-151.1, is amended to read as follows:

1 Section 3-151.1. A. For purposes of establishing a uniform and
2 accurate definition of high school graduation rate for school
3 districts and secondary schools in ~~the~~ this state, the State Board
4 of Education shall adopt and implement a four-year adjusted cohort
5 graduation rate and an extended-year adjusted cohort graduation
6 rate. The Board shall utilize and report the four-year adjusted
7 cohort graduation rate and the extended-year adjusted cohort
8 graduation rate at the secondary school site, the school district,
9 and the state level, and the graduation rates shall be reported in
10 the aggregate as well as disaggregated by subgroups as required in
11 the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of ~~2001~~ 1965 (ESEA), as
12 reauthorized by P.L. No. 107-110 114-95, also known as the ~~No Child~~
13 ~~Left Behind Act of 2001~~ Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

14 B. The Board shall use the four-year adjusted cohort graduation
15 rate for purposes of determining the high school graduation rate
16 indicator for the academic performance data calculation beginning
17 with state and district report cards providing results of
18 assessments administered in the 2011-2012 school year. The Board
19 shall use the four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate for
20 establishing the high school graduation rate for measuring alternate
21 year percentage growth targets as set forth in Section 3-151.2 of
22 this title beginning with the 2012-2013 school year.

23 C. The four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate shall be
24 defined as the number of students who graduate in four (4) years

1 with a standard high school diploma divided by the number of
2 students who entered high school four (4) years earlier, ~~adjusted~~
3 ~~for transfers in and~~. Students who transfer out of the school,
4 ~~émigrés~~ or emigrate to another country and deceased students shall
5 not be included in the adjusted cohort graduation rate. Twelfth-
6 grade students who transfer into a school after October 1 of any
7 school year shall not be included in the adjusted cohort graduation
8 rate. Students who graduate in four (4) years shall include
9 students who earn a standard high school diploma at the end of their
10 fourth year, before the end of their fourth year, and during a
11 summer session immediately following their fourth year. To remove a
12 student from a cohort, a school district shall confirm in writing or
13 by electronic means that a student has transferred out of the school
14 site or school district, has emigrated to another country, or is
15 deceased. For a student who transfers out of a school site or
16 school district, the written or electronic confirmation shall be
17 official and document that the student has enrolled in another
18 school site or school district or in an educational program that
19 culminates in a high school diploma recognized by a state or private
20 higher educational institution accredited or recognized by the
21 Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education for purposes of
22 admission to the institution. Students who are not enrolled in a
23 program which culminates in the award of a credential recognized by
24 a state or private higher educational institution for purposes of

1 admissions shall not be included in the graduation rate calculation
2 as set forth in this subsection as a student who graduated in four
3 (4) years with a standard high school diploma but shall be included
4 in the number of students who entered high school four (4) years
5 earlier.

6 D. The extended-year adjusted cohort graduation rate shall be
7 defined as the number of students who graduate in four (4) years or
8 five (5) years with a high school diploma divided by the number of
9 students who form the adjusted cohort for the four-year graduation
10 rate as calculated as provided for in subsection C of this section,
11 ~~provided that the adjustments add to the cohort all students who~~
12 ~~transfer into the cohort by the end of the year of graduation being~~
13 ~~considered and subtract students who transfer out, emigrate to~~
14 ~~another country or are deceased by the end of that year.~~ The
15 extended-year adjusted cohort graduation rate shall be reported
16 separately from the four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate.

17 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 1210.545, is
18 amended to read as follows:

19 Section 1210.545. A. Except as otherwise provided, as part of
20 the accountability system developed as provided for in Section
21 1210.541 of this title, the State Board of Education shall prepare
22 annual reports of the results of the Oklahoma School Testing Program
23 which describe student achievement in the state, and each school
24 site, pursuant to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965

1 (ESEA) as reauthorized by P.L. No. 114-95, also known as the Every
2 Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), and any related federal regulations.

3 B. The annual report as required pursuant to subsection A of
4 this section shall identify school sites as having one of the
5 following grades for each indicator, separately, and by a single
6 overview grade of all indicators, defined according to rules of the
7 State Board of Education:

8 1. "A" means schools making excellent progress;

9 2. "B" means schools making above average progress;

10 3. "C" means schools making satisfactory progress;

11 4. "D" means schools making less than satisfactory progress;

12 and

13 5. "F" means schools failing to make adequate progress.

14 C. Each school that has students who are tested and included in
15 the school grading system as provided for in this section shall
16 receive a school grade, except as follows:

17 1. A school shall not receive a school grade if the number of
18 students tested and included in the school grading system is less
19 than the minimum sample size necessary for statistical reliability
20 and prevention of the unlawful release of personally identifiable
21 student data. The State Board of Education is directed to establish
22 the lowest minimum sample size necessary to meet the requirements of
23 this paragraph; and
24

1 2. The academic performance of students who are enrolled full-
2 time in an online program that is offered by a school district or
3 charter school that is not the district of residence or is not
4 located in the district of residence of the student shall be
5 reported separately by the school district or charter school and
6 shall not be included when determining the grade of the school site
7 or charter school.

8 D. The State Board of Education may adopt alternate systems of
9 accountability for statewide virtual charter schools, alternative
10 education programs as defined in Section 1210.568 of this title, and
11 schools serving only grades prekindergarten or kindergarten through
12 two.

13 E. The grade of a school shall be based on a multimeasures
14 approach to accountability in accordance with the Elementary and
15 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) as reauthorized by P.L. No.
16 114-95, also known as the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and any
17 federal regulations that include, but are not limited to, the
18 following indicators:

19 1. Statewide assessments, including the establishment of
20 student performance bands;

21 2. Graduation rates for high schools;

22 3. Statewide academic measures for elementary and middle
23 schools;

24 4. English language proficiency for English learners; and

1 5. At least one additional statewide measure of school quality
2 or student success, including, but not limited to, school climate,
3 school safety, student engagement, educator engagement, and/or
4 advanced coursework and postsecondary readiness. Chronic
5 absenteeism shall not be included as a statewide measure of school
6 quality or student success.

7 F. Of the indicators included in subsection E of this section,
8 not less than seventy percent (70%) of the overview grade ~~must~~ shall
9 be given to indicators 1, 2, 3, and 4 and, in the aggregate, with
10 not more than thirty percent (30%) of the grade given to indicator
11 5.

12 G. Further, the grade of an elementary or middle school site
13 shall include, but not be limited to, a measure of status for
14 English language arts (ELA), math, and science, growth in ELA and
15 math, ~~English Language Proficiency Assessment~~ language proficiency
16 assessment (ELPA) progress, and ~~chronic absenteeism~~ the retention
17 rate of teachers over a two-year period, not including teachers who
18 retired during the two-year period.

19 H. The grade of a high school site shall include, but not be
20 limited to, a measure of status for English language arts (ELA),
21 math and science status, ~~English Language Proficiency Assessment~~
22 language proficiency assessment (ELPA) progress, graduation rate,
23 ~~chronic absenteeism, and postsecondary opportunities, and the~~
24 retention rate of teachers over a two-year period, not including

1 teachers who retired during the two-year period. For purposes of
2 this section, postsecondary opportunities shall include ~~Advanced~~
3 ~~Placement~~ advanced placement, International Baccalaureate, dual and
4 concurrent enrollment, scoring Silver level or above on American
5 College Testing (ACT) WorkKeys, internships, mentorships and
6 apprenticeships, military readiness as evidenced by being accepted
7 for enlistment into any branch of the military within the first year
8 after high school graduation or earning a military readiness score
9 on the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB), and
10 industry certifications. The Board shall adopt a ~~time-line~~ timeline
11 for moving from completion of such opportunities to crediting
12 achievement of such opportunities.

13 I. Elementary, middle, and high school sites shall be eligible
14 for the following bonus point amounts to be used in the calculation
15 of the site's single overview grade:

16 1. Up to three bonus points if the school site provides in-
17 person classroom instruction in excess of one hundred seventy-three
18 (173) days and one thousand thirty-eight (1,038) hours, not
19 including in-person classroom instruction time used for professional
20 development or parent-teacher conferences; and

21 2. Up to two bonus points if the school site's chronic
22 absenteeism rate shows improvement.

23 J. The annual report shall identify the performance of each
24 school as having improved, remained the same, or declined. This

1 school improvement rating shall be based on a comparison of the
2 student and school performance data of the current year to the
3 previous year data.

4 ~~J.~~ K. The State Department of Education shall annually develop
5 a school site report card to be delivered to parents or legal
6 guardians throughout each school district. The report card shall be
7 in accordance with the requirements of the Elementary and Secondary
8 Education Act of 1965 (ESEA),~~7~~ as reauthorized and amended by P.L.
9 No. 114-95, also known as the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and
10 ~~includes~~ include the grade for the school, information regarding
11 school improvement, an explanation of school performance, and
12 indicators of return on investment. The report card for each school
13 site shall be published annually by the Department on its website,
14 and every school district shall provide the school site report card
15 to the parent or legal guardian of each student enrolled in the
16 school site. In order to provide information regarding school
17 performance for school report cards issued during the 2016-2017 and
18 2017-2018 school ~~year~~ years, the Department shall include an
19 explanation of the changes to the statewide system of student
20 assessments as required in Section 1210.508 of this title and how
21 the transition in assessments may impact school performance. The
22 Department shall issue school report cards using the 2016-2017
23 school year assessment data that is available.

1 ~~K.~~ L. The Legislature may factor in the performance of schools
2 in calculating any performance-based funding policy that is provided
3 to public school districts.

4 M. The State Board of Education shall amend the ESSA
5 Consolidated State Plan in accordance with the requirements of the
6 Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) to replace the measure of chronic
7 absenteeism to reflect the provisions of this section. The Board
8 shall submit the proposed amendment to the United States Department
9 of Education no later than August 1, 2025.

10 ~~L.~~ N. The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules to
11 implement the provisions of this section.

12 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2025.

13 SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
14 of the public peace, health, or safety, an emergency is hereby
15 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
16 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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