

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

3 SENATE BILL 1630

By: Thompson

6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2021,  
8 Section 1-109, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter  
9 480, O.S.L. 2025 (70 O.S. Supp. 2025, Section 1-109),  
10 which relates to the length of the school year;  
11 allowing a school district or charter school to count  
12 certain day or number of hours toward certain  
13 requirement under certain circumstances; providing an  
14 effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

16 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 1-109, as  
17 last amended by Section 1, Chapter 480, O.S.L. 2025 (70 O.S. Supp.  
18 2025, Section 1-109), is amended to read as follows:

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

21 1. For not less than one hundred eighty-one (181) days;  
22 2. For not less than one thousand eighty-six (1,086) hours each  
23 school year, if a district board of education adopts a school-hours  
24 policy and notifies the State Board of Education prior to October 15  
of the applicable school year;

1       3. Beginning with the 2025-2026 school year, for not less than  
2 one thousand eighty-six (1,086) hours with a minimum of one hundred  
3 sixty-six (166) days of instruction each school year, if a district  
4 board of education adopts a school-hours policy and notifies the  
5 State Board of Education prior to October 15 of the applicable  
6 school year; or

7       4. Beginning with the 2025-2026 school year, for not less than  
8 one thousand eighty-six (1,086) hours each school year, if a  
9 district board of education adopts a school-hours policy, notifies  
10 the State Board of Education prior to October 15 of the applicable  
11 school year, and meets the requirements established by the State  
12 Board of 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-one (181) days or one  
16 thousand eighty-six (1,086) hours of classroom instruction time  
17 required in 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-one-day school year specified  
22 in paragraph 1 of subsection A of this section; and

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-six (1,086) hours, which is the  
10 equivalent of one hundred eighty-one (181) days of instruction as  
11 specified in subsection A of this section for six (6) hours each day  
12 as specified in Section 1-111 of this title;

13       2. The annual number of days of instruction shall equal or  
14 exceed one hundred eighty-one (181) days as specified in subsection  
15 A of 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

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 board  
9 of education does not revoke authorization after student achievement  
10 is not documented in the report, the State Board of Education may  
11 deny accreditation 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       I. 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-six (1,086) hours per year requirement.

3       J. 1. Except as provided for in paragraph 2 of this  
4 subsection, beginning with the 2026-2027 school year a school  
5 district or charter school shall not count days or portions of days  
6 when school is closed and virtual instruction is provided toward the  
7 one hundred eighty-one (181) days or one thousand eighty-six (1,086)  
8 hours of classroom instruction time required by subsection A of this  
9 section. For the purposes of this subsection, "virtual instruction"  
10 means the use of the Internet or other digital information  
11 transmission systems as a form of instruction.

12       2. Beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, a school district  
13 or charter school may count up to two (2) days or twelve (12) hours  
14 when school is closed and virtual instruction is provided toward the  
15 one hundred eighty-one (181) days or one thousand eighty-six (1,086)  
16 hours of classroom instruction time required by subsection A of this  
17 section only if:

18           a. the Superintendent of Public Instruction has approved  
19                   the virtual instruction plan submitted by a school  
20                   district board of education or charter school  
21                   governing board. A school district board of education  
22                   or charter school governing board shall approve its  
23                   virtual instruction plan, publish the plan on the  
24                   website for the school district or charter school, and

1 submit it to the Superintendent of Public Instruction  
2 by November 1, 2025. The Superintendent shall approve  
3 or disapprove all submitted virtual instruction plans  
4 by January 31, 2026. A school district board of  
5 education or charter school governing board shall  
6 review its virtual instruction plan annually and  
7 approve any necessary revisions for submission to the  
8 Superintendent of Public Instruction by November 1  
9 each subsequent year, and the Superintendent shall  
10 approve or disapprove submitted plans by January 31  
11 each subsequent year. If a plan is disapproved, the  
12 school district board of education or charter school  
13 governing board may approve a revised plan, publish it  
14 on the website for the school district or charter  
15 school, and submit it to the Superintendent. The plan  
16 shall include a virtual needs assessment which shall  
17 address availability of technology infrastructure to  
18 deliver virtual instruction. The plan shall also  
19 address how the school district or charter school  
20 plans to provide:

21 (1) instruction to students on an Individualized  
22 Education Program (IEP),  
23 (2) child nutrition services, and

(3) transportation for students enrolled in technology center school courses or programs,

- b. a state of emergency or proclamation has been issued by the Governor for a specific reason relating to school district or charter school operations, and
- c. the school district board of education or charter school governing board approves the use of virtual instruction.

3. A school district or charter school may count up to one (1) day or six (6) hours when a high school site is completing statewide assessments required by Section 1210.508 of this title and virtual instruction is provided toward the two (2) days or twelve (12) hours allowed pursuant to paragraph 2 of this subsection if the school district board of education or charter school governing board approves a virtual instruction day for high school-only sites for those students not taking the required assessments for eleventh-grade public school students if the school district or charter school attests that it has limited space and staffing to administer the assessments in a safe and secure environment.

4. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to statewide virtual charter schools or full-time virtual education programs operated by a school district.

K. By June 30, 2027, and by June 30 each subsequent year, the State Department of Education shall publish on its website and

1 electronically submit to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of  
2 the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a report  
3 with information regarding the use of virtual instruction as  
4 authorized by subsection J of this section. The report shall  
5 include, at a minimum:

6 1. The school districts and charter schools that closed school  
7 and provided virtual instruction as authorized by subsection J of  
8 this section and the length of time virtual instruction was  
9 provided; and

10 2. The reason for which school was closed and virtual  
11 instruction was provided.

12 L. Nothing in this section shall be construed as affecting the  
13 right of an employing school district to require teachers as defined  
14 in Section 6-101.3 of this title to work in excess of the one  
15 thousand eighty-six (1,086) hours required for student instruction.  
16 In addition, nothing in this section shall be construed to affect  
17 the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 status of any school district  
18 employee.

19 M. The provisions of this section shall not prohibit the  
20 Oklahoma School for the Blind or the Oklahoma School for the Deaf  
21 from adopting an alternative school-hours policy if the Oklahoma  
22 School for the Blind or the Oklahoma School for the Deaf notifies  
23 and receives approval from the State Board of Education prior to  
24 October 15 of the applicable school year.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2026.

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

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