

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 SENATE BILL 1894

By: Reinhardt

6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to teachers; amending 70 O.S. 2021,
8 Section 6-194, as last amended by Section 5, Chapter
9 101, O.S.L. 2025 (70 O.S. Supp. 2025, Section 6-194),
10 which relates to professional development programs;
11 removing language placing a limit on certain required
professional development or training hours; requiring
electronic submission of certain report; updating
statutory language; providing an effective date; and
declaring an emergency.

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

14 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 6-194, as
15 last amended by Section 5, Chapter 101, O.S.L. 2025 (70 O.S. Supp.
16 2025, Section 6-194), is amended to read as follows:

17 Section 6-194. A. The district boards of education of this
18 state shall establish professional development programs for the
19 certified teachers and administrators of the district. Programs
20 shall be adopted by each board based upon recommendations of a
21 professional development committee appointed by the board of
22 education for the district.

23 B. Each professional development committee shall include
24 classroom teachers, administrators, school counselors or licensed

1 mental health providers, and parents, legal guardians, or custodians
2 of children enrolled in the school district and shall consult with a
3 higher education institution faculty. A majority of the members of
4 the professional development committee shall be composed of
5 classroom teachers. The teacher members shall be selected by a
6 designated administrator of the school district from a list of names
7 submitted by the teachers in the school district. The members
8 selected shall be subject to the approval of a majority vote of the
9 teachers in the district.

10 C. In developing program recommendations, each professional
11 development committee shall annually utilize a data-driven approach
12 to analyze student data and determine district and school
13 professional development needs. The professional development
14 programs adopted shall be directed toward development of
15 competencies and instructional strategies in the core curriculum
16 areas for the following goals:

- 17 1. Increasing the academic performance data scores for the
18 district and each school site;
- 19 2. Closing achievement gaps among student subgroups;
- 20 3. Increasing student achievement as demonstrated on state-
21 mandated tests and the ACT;
- 22 4. Increasing high school graduation rates; and
- 23 5. Decreasing college remediation rates.

1 Each program may also include components on classroom management
2 and student discipline strategies, outreach to parents, legal
3 guardians, or custodians of students, special education, and racial
4 and ethnic education, which all personnel defined as teachers in
5 Section 1-116 of this title shall be required to complete at a
6 frequency as determined by the board of education. The State Board
7 of Education shall provide guidelines to assist school districts in
8 developing and implementing racial and ethnic education components
9 into professional development programs.

10 D. A program which includes the following information shall be
11 completed the first year a certified teacher is employed by a school
12 district, and then once every fifth academic year:

13 1. Training on recognition of child abuse and neglect;

14 2. Recognition of child sexual abuse;

15 3. Proper reporting of suspected abuse including the reporting
16 requirements of Section 1-2-101 of Title 10A of the Oklahoma
17 Statutes and Section 1210.163 of this title and associated penalties
18 for failure to report; and

19 4. Available resources.

20 E. One time per year, beginning in the 2009-2010 school year,
21 training in the area of autism shall be offered and all resident
22 teachers of students in early childhood programs through grade three
23 shall be required to complete the autism training during the
24 resident year and at least one time every three (3) years

1 thereafter. All other teachers and education support professionals
2 of students in early childhood programs through grade three shall be
3 required to complete the autism training at least one time every
4 three (3) years. The autism training shall include a minimum
5 awareness of the characteristics of ~~autistic~~ children with autism,
6 resources available, and an introduction to positive behavior
7 supports to challenging behavior. Each adopted program shall allow
8 school counselors to receive at least one-third (1/3) of the hours
9 or credit required each year through programs or courses
10 specifically designed for school counselors.

11 Districts are authorized to utilize any means for professional
12 development that is not prohibited by law including, but not limited
13 to, professional development provided by the district, any state
14 agency, institution of higher education, or any private entity.

15 F. One time per year, beginning in the 2020-2021 school year, a
16 dyslexia awareness program shall be offered. Beginning in the 2023-
17 2024 school year, the program shall include information and training
18 in dysgraphia. At a minimum, the program shall include:

- 19 1. Training in awareness of dyslexia characteristics in
20 students;
- 21 2. Training in effective classroom instruction to meet the
22 needs of students with dyslexia; and
- 23 3. Available dyslexia resources for teachers, students, and
24 parents.

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1 G. Except as otherwise provided for in this subsection, each
2 certified teacher in this state shall be required by the school
3 district board of education to meet the professional development
4 requirements established by the board, or established through the
5 negotiation process. Except as otherwise provided for in this
6 subsection, the professional development requirements established by
7 each board of education shall require every teacher to annually
8 complete a minimum number of the total number of points required to
9 maintain employment; ~~provided, no more than a total of one hundred~~
10 ~~fifty (150) hours of local, state, or federal professional~~
11 ~~development or training shall be required for classroom teachers~~
12 ~~during any five-year period.~~ Failure of any teacher to meet
13 ~~district~~ board of education professional development requirements
14 may be grounds for nonrenewal of such teacher's contract by the
15 board. Such failure may also be grounds for nonconsideration of
16 salary increments affecting the teacher. Teachers shall maintain
17 written documentation of all their completed professional
18 development.

19 H. Each school district shall annually electronically submit a
20 report to the State Department of Education on the ~~district level~~
21 district-level professional development needs, activities completed,
22 expenditures, and results achieved for each school year by each goal
23 as provided in subsection C of this section. If a school district
24 elects not to adopt and offer a professional development program as

1 provided for in subsection A of this section, the district shall not
2 be required to submit an annual report as required pursuant to this
3 subsection but shall report to the State Department of Education its
4 election not to offer a program and all professional development
5 activities completed by teachers and administrators of the school
6 district.

7 I. Subject to the availability of funds, the Department shall
8 develop an online system for electronic reporting as required in
9 subsection H of this section. The Department shall also make such
10 information available on its website.

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

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

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