



JOY HOFMEISTER

STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Members of the State Board of Education

FROM: Joy Hofmeister

DATE: January 25, 2018

SUBJECT: Petitions to add *Success with OAS Mathematics*, Grades 1-7

Oklahoma law, at 70 O.S. §16-102, provides that the State Textbook Committee is to select textbooks in each subject area, which in its judgment are satisfactory. Further, the law provides that upon petition by five or more district boards of education, the State Board of Education may add a book or series of textbooks to the approved list selected by the State Textbook Committee. *Id.*

On November 17, 2017, the State Textbook Committee affirmatively voted to exclude *Success with OAS Mathematics*, Grades 1-7, from the approved list of state textbooks. Pursuant the aforementioned authority, the school districts identified below have submitted petitions requesting that the Board approve the addition of *Success with OAS Mathematics*, Grades 1-7, to the list of approved textbooks.

Each of these textbooks were written and produced by Alpha Plus Educational Systems, Inc., and enclosed for your reviews are the Oklahoma State Textbook Committee General Evaluation Forms relating to these textbooks.

State Board of Education action is requested on these matters.

Districts that submitted petitions:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Achille Public Schools | 7. Prue Public Schools |
| 2. Big Pasture Public Schools | 8. Sweetwater Public Schools |
| 3. Cherokee Public Schools | 9. Watts Public Schools |
| 4. Flower Mount Public School | 10. Wetumka Public Schools |
| 5. Kenwood Public Schools | 11. Erick Public Schools |
| 6. Merritt Public Schools | |

Enclosures



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Title 70. Schools

Oklahoma Statutes Citationized

Title 70. Schools

Chapter 1 - School Code of 1971

Article Article XVI - Textbooks

Section 16-102 - Meetings of State Textbook Committee - Selection of Textbooks - Petition to Add Books - Rules

Cite as: 70 O.S. § 16-102 (OSCN 2017)

A. The State Textbook Committee shall meet at the call of the chairperson as often as necessary, with two (2) weeks' public notice, to discharge its responsibilities. If necessary, not later than the first day of December of each year the State Textbook Committee shall meet at the call of the chairperson at the State Capitol and select textbooks for subjects taught in the public schools of the state up to and including the twelfth grade, which selections shall be for not more than six (6) years for every textbook.

B. The Committee may suspend any currently pending selection process of textbooks and may extend by at least two (2) years the six-year adoption period of those textbooks currently on the state adopted list, for the purpose of delaying for two (2) years the six-year adoption cycle of subjects.

C. "Textbooks", as used in Sections 16-101 through 16-124 of this title, means instructional materials that are designed for use by pupils as a learning resource. Instructional materials may be printed or nonprinted and may include textbooks, technology-based and other educational materials.

D. The Committee shall select textbooks or series of textbooks for each subject, which are in its judgment satisfactory. The State Textbook Committee may determine that unusual or extraordinary circumstances exist in a particular subject area during the period for which textbooks have been selected for that subject area. Unusual or extraordinary circumstances shall include but not be limited to significant new techniques of teaching in a particular subject area or significant new findings or discoveries in a particular subject area. Upon a determination by three-fourths (3/4) of the members of the State Textbook Committee that unusual or extraordinary circumstances exist in a particular subject area, the Committee may select one or more textbooks in that subject area for the remainder of the adoption period.

E. Five or more district boards of education may petition the State Board of Education to add a book or series of textbooks to the approved list selected by the State Textbook Committee.

The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules to implement the method and time frame for handling the petitions in the most expeditious manner.

Historical Data

Laws 1971, HB 1155, c. 281, § 16-102, emerg. eff. July 2, 1971; Amended by Laws 1976, HB 1896, c. 99, § 3, emerg. eff. May 11, 1976; Amended by Laws 1977, SB 403, c. 229, § 1, emerg. eff. June 14, 1977; Amended by Laws 1979, SB 134, c. 94, § 1, emerg. eff. April 23, 1979; Amended by Laws 1984, HB 1817, c. 241, § 4, eff. November 1, 1984; Amended by Laws 1991, HB 1236, c. 280, § 69, emerg. eff. July 1, 1991; Amended by Laws 1993, HB 1298, c. 229, § 3, emerg. eff. July 1, 1993; Amended by Laws 2010, HB 3029, c. 457, § 5 ([superseded document available](#)); Amended by Laws 2011, HB 1374, c. 49, § 1, emerg. eff. April 13, 2011 ([superseded document available](#)); Amended by Laws 2016, HB 3115, c. 75, § 1, emerg. eff. July 1, 2016 ([superseded document available](#)).

Citationizer[®] Summary of Documents Citing This Document

Cite Name	Level
Oklahoma Attorney General's Opinions	
Cite	Name
2000 OK AG 7,	Question Submitted by: The Honorable Penny Williams, Oklahoma State Senator, District 33
	Level
	Cited

Cite Name	Level	
Title 70. Schools		
Cite	Name	Level
<u>70 O.S. 16-106,</u>	<u>Contracts with Publishers - Purchase of Textbooks - Change in Contract - Braille</u>	Cited
	<u>Versions</u>	

Citationizer: Table of Authority

Cite Name	Level	
Title 70. Schools		
Cite	Name	Level
<u>70 O.S. 16-101,</u>	<u>State Textbook Committee - Members - Qualifications</u>	Cited
<u>70 O.S. 16-124,</u>	<u>Violations of Act - Punishment</u>	Cited



November 20, 2017

Timmie Spangler
Secretary
Oklahoma State Textbook Committee
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105

Dear Timmie Spangler:

As Chief Executive Officer of Alpha Plus Educational Systems Inc., I was surprised at the State Textbook Committee's actions on Friday to approve one book out of a series of nine submitted for adoption. When we arrived at the meeting at the scheduled time of 8 a.m. according to the agenda, Dr. Edna Manning and I were concerned that the meeting had been changed to 10 a.m. Was the time change submitted in accordance to the Oklahoma Open Meetings Act? OKLA. STAT. tit. 25, § 311(A)(9)(11)

In order to determine if and how we need to modify our books so they will all be worthy of approval, we need more information. We would like a copy of each committee member's completed general evaluation form for each of the books Alpha Plus submitted. We would also like a copy of the meeting minutes.

Please let us know the process for petitioning the State Board of Education to add a book or series of textbooks to the approved list selected by the State Textbook Committee per Title 70 Oklahoma Statutes Section 16-102.

Thank you for your assistance with this process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jan Barrick'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Jan' and last name 'Barrick' clearly visible.

Jan Barrick, CEO
Alpha Plus Educational Systems, Inc.

cc: Jason Johnson, Chairperson
Jill Andrews, Co-Chairperson
Brad Clark, State Board of Education General Counsel

ACHILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL

RICK BEENE, SUPERINTENDENT

DANA BEENE
SECONDARY PRINCIPAL
(580) 283-3260

P.O. BOX 280
ACHILLE, OK 74720
PHONE (580) 283-3775
FAX (580) 283-3787
HOME OF THE EAGLES

LORA STANGLIN
ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL
(580) 283-3002

12-7-2017

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to petition to include Alpha Plus mathematics books on the textbook list. As a superintendent for Achille school district we understand the quality that Alpha Plus produces. We have used Alpha Plus products and services for about eight years. We know the high-quality of their materials and that they align completely with Oklahoma standards. We were able to turn our school from a failing school to a reward school by implementing Alpha Plus materials and ideas. We have seen a backward slide when we deviated from their materials. We find creative ways to afford Alpha Plus, but it would be helpful to see Alpha Plus curriculum on the textbook list. Our teachers are currently using this math series and find it be easy to use and effective. The State Textbook Committee recently adopted their *Success with OAS Mathematics* for 8th grade but did not approve the series that includes Kindergarten through 7th grade. These books have the same format, lesson, elements, and were developed and published in the same manner by the same Oklahoma team. We have found this series to help our students with academic success. We respectfully request the *Success with OAS Mathematics* books for Kindergarten through seventh grade be added to the state-adopted list of mathematics textbooks approved for FY19.

If you have any questions, please call me at 580-567-0090. Thank you for considering this important matter.

Sincerely,

Rick Beene

WETUMKA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DONNA L. MCGEE
Superintendent

RODNEY LUELLEN
High School Principal

ROBIN D. GANN
Elementary School Principal

416 South Tiger Street
Wetumka, Oklahoma 74883



SUPERINTENDENT
405-452-5150
Fax: 405-452-3052

HIGH SCHOOL
405-452-3291
Fax: 405-452-5836

ELEMENTARY
405-452-3245
Fax: 405-452-5809

Terrie Cheadle, Chief Executive Secretary
State Board of Education
2500 N. Lincoln Boulevard
Oklahoma City, OK 37105

December 8, 2017

Dear State Board of Education:

Wetumka Public Schools has used the Alpha Plus Learning System and the corresponding products for many years. We appreciate the research done to provide high quality products that are well aligned to state academic standards. Our goals are academic growth and success for each student. We find that Alpha Plus helps us meet those goals.

Currently, our Math teachers are using the *Success with OAS Mathematics* and are finding the students to respond well to the methods used in the text. The State Textbook Committee adopted this series for the 8th grade but did not approve the series for that includes Kindergarten through 7th grades. These books include the same type of lessons, the same organization, and were developed and published in the same manner by the same development team.

With the greatest respect, Wetumka Public Schools request that the series *Success with OAS Mathematics* be added to the state adopted list of approved mathematics textbooks approved for FY 19.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Donna McGee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Donna McGee
Superintendent

WATTS PUBLIC SCHOOLS --- *Engineers*

District I-004
616 6th Street
Watts, Oklahoma 74964

Telephone: 918-422-5311
FAX: 918-422-5556
lweaver@wattsschool.com

December 7, 2017

Dear Members of the Oklahoma State Board of Education:

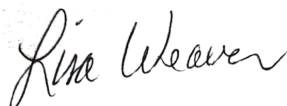
Our school district has used Alpha Plus products and services for several years. I know well their reputation and have seen first-hand that Alpha Plus provides high-quality resources that are aligned to the Oklahoma Academic Standards. Currently, our teachers and students are using the Alpha Plus math series, *Success with OAS Mathematics*, for kindergarten through 8th grade.

The results we have seen using the Alpha Plus aligned curriculum indicate significant improvement in students' academic growth. The math books are proving to be highly effective and are the best books we could find that are truly aligned to the standards. We are confident that this math series will continue to support growth and improvement in our students' math skills.

The teachers like the *Success with OAS Mathematics* series. All the books have the same format and lesson elements. Each book in the math series was developed and published in the same manner by the same Oklahoma team. The teachers value the vertical alignment that this provides. The teachers find the continuous review and the vocabulary component for every lesson in these books to be highly effective. Our data indicates that our students have struggled with vocabulary and with retention of math skills in the past. These books are helping our teachers address these issues as the students work towards mastery of all the standards.

The State Textbook Committee recently adopted the Alpha Plus *Success with OAS Mathematics* for 8th grade but did not approve the other books in the series. I respectfully request the *Success with OAS Mathematics* books for kindergarten through 7th grade be added to the state-adopted list of mathematics textbooks for FY19.

Sincerely,



Lisa Weaver, Superintendent



Sweetwater Public Schools

Bulldog Pride

Mr. Casey Reed
Superintendent

Mrs. Brenda Quinn
Elementary Principal

11107 N. HWY 30
SWEETWATER, OK 73666
www.sweetwater.k12.ok.us

May 17, 2017

December 7, 2017

Terrie Cheadle
Chief Executive Secretary
State Board of Education
2500 N. Lincoln Boulevard
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

To: State School Board of Education

As superintendent for Sweetwater school district, which has used Alpha Plus products and services for some years as it was aligned to our PASS skills, I know well their reputation for having high-quality resources that are aligned to state standards. The results we have seen using Alpha Plus aligned curriculum indicate significant improvement in students' academic growth.

Recently after reviewing our newest test scores our curriculum committee voted to use the Alpha Plus Success with OAS to get a jump start on the OAS. Our teachers are currently using this math series and finding it to be effective. Not only do we deem this effective we believe that the simple design and layout will be instrumental in our newest teachers learning to teach the standards effectively.

The State Textbook Committee recently (Nov. 17) adopted their Success with OAS Mathematics for 8th grade but did not approve the series that includes Kindergarten through 7th grade. We are using this text from grades 1-8 with highly qualified teachers who believe it to be exceptional in its design and instruction method. All of these books have the same format, lesson elements, and were developed and published in the same manner by the same Oklahoma team.

Our district respectfully petitions the State Board of Education for all of the Success with OAS Mathematics books to be added to the state-adopted list of mathematics textbooks approved for FY19. We for one school will be using this textbook for the coming years and be able to see the data as the test scores improve using Oklahoma based textbooks for Oklahoma children. We would also like to see this book company in the textbook caravan so that other schools can have this opportunity.

Sincerely,

Mr. Casey Reed, Superintendent

cc Brad Clark, General Counsel, State Board of Education
Cindy Koss, Deputy State Superintendent for Academic Affairs and Planning.

December 7, 2017



Prue Public Schools

To Whom It May Concern:

I have been the Superintendent of Prue Public Schools for nine years. For six of those years we have used various Alpha Plus products and services. We have been extremely satisfied with their quality resources that are aligned with state standards.

Our students have shown impressive academic growth while using Alpha Plus aligned curriculum. We are currently using the math series with great success.

Prue Public Schools would very much like to continue to use Alpha Plus products, because they work. Therefore, we respectfully request the Success with OAS Mathematics books for Kindergarten through Seventh Grade be added to the State-adopted list of mathematics textbooks approved for FY 19.

Sincerely

Tom Scully
Superintendent
Prue Public Schools

Phone: 918-242-3351
Fax: 918-242-3888
Tom Scully, Superintendent
Box 130
Prue, Oklahoma 74060

December 8, 2017

State Board of Education:

As Superintendent of Merritt Public Schools , I would ask you to consider adding Alpha Plus math books to the state adoption list.

We have used their curriculum and materials for the last five years. By using their products and services, our school has increased our content rigor and improved our school.

We feel that our students and teachers have benefited greatly from the materials and services and would appreciate your consideration.

Respectfully

Jeff Daugherty
Superintendent
Merritt Public Schools



KENWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL

Billy Taylor, Superintendent

48625 S 502 RD
Salina OK 74365
918.434.5799 phone
918.434.6552 fax

To: Terrie Cheadle, Chief Executive Secretary
State Board of Education
2500 N Lincoln Boulevard
Oklahoma City, OK 73015

As Superintendent for Kenwood School district, which has used Alpha Plus products and services for some years, I know well their reputation for having high-quality resources that are aligned to state standards.

The results we have seen using Alpha Plus aligned curriculum indicate significant improvement in students' academic growth. Our teachers are currently using the math series and finding it to be effective.

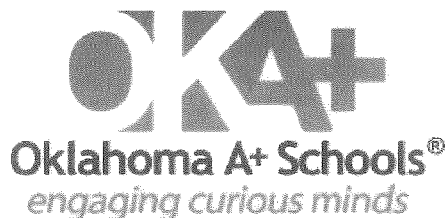
The state textbook committee recently adopted their success with OAS Mathematics for 8th grade but did not approve the series that includes Kindergarten through 7th grade.

All of these books have the same format, lesson elements, and were developed and published in the same manner by the same Oklahoma team.

We respectfully request the Success with OAS Mathematics books for Kindergarten through seventh grade be added to the state-adopted list of mathematics textbooks approved the FY19.

Sincerely,

Billy Taylor, Superintendent



Flower Mound School

Dax Trent, Superintendent/ Principal

2805 S. E. FLOWER MOUND ROAD LAWTON, OK 73501-9770

PHONE # (580) 353-4088 FAX # (580) 353-5742

AdvanceED ACCREDITED

Oklahoma A+ School

2015 NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

December 8, 2017

To the State Board of Education:

As Superintendent of Flower Mound Public School, I am writing this letter to request that the State Board of Education review *Success with OAS Mathematics* from Alpha Plus for the Mathematics textbook adoption for Oklahoma. I know well their reputation for having high-quality resources that are aligned to the new state standards. When our school began the relationship with Alpha Plus, we were looking to find an in-depth way to have our teachers track specific standard mastery and give us the data to successfully improve our results for state testing. What I have found with Alpha Plus products is that they are specific to Oklahoma students success. No other curriculum has an Oklahoma specific plan.

After implementing the PASS (earlier standards) and now OAS standards into our benchmarking and using their Math curriculum, we have noticed a significant growth just this year from Benchmark A to Benchmark B. Even from going to the new testing cycle this past school year, their curriculum and resources had us prepared for the change in scoring and depth of knowledge questioning, so that we still scored higher than 85% of other schools in the state without knowing what was being tested. I find it to be a highly regarded resource and curriculum for the State of Oklahoma and I respectfully request you adopt their K-7th grade materials for Mathematics for textbook consideration. Without the help of the Alpha Plus framework, we would not have excelled to receive the level of a National Blue Ribbon School for the USDE in 2015.

Thanks for your time and call with any questions.

Sincerely,

Dax Trent, Superintendent of Schools

Flower Mound School

ERICK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

JEFF KELLY, SUPERINTENDENT
325 S. PINE ST. • P.O. BOX 9
ERICK, OKLAHOMA 73645
(580) 526-3476 • FAX 526-3308



December 15, 2017

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter to show my support for including in the textbook adoption list of the State of Oklahoma any and all materials produced by Alpha Plus. Erick Public Schools has been working with Alpha Plus for several years. Their organization is Oklahoma based and driven by the needs of Oklahoma schools in comparison to the larger textbook companies who cater to states like Texas and California.

Jan Barrick and her outstanding team at Alpha Plus have been and continue to be at the forefront of education in Oklahoma. The materials and textbooks they produce are specifically Oklahoma standards based. My staff at Erick is especially pleased with the new mathematics texts.

Thank you in advance for your strong consideration.

Sincerely,

Jeff Kelly
Superintendent
Erick Public Schools



CHEROKEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DONNA ANDERSON, SUPERINTENDENT

P.O. BOX 325

CHEROKEE, OK 73728

580-596-3391 • Fax 580-596-2319



RUTH RICHMOND

Elementary Principal

(P) 580-596-3277

JEREMY HICKMAN

H.S. & J.H. Principal

(P) 580-596-3391

To the State Board of Education:

As the superintendent of Cherokee Public School District, which has used Alpha Plus products and services for many years, I know their reputation for having high-quality resources that are aligned to state standards.

The results we have seen using Alpha Plus aligned curriculum indicate significant improvement in student's academic growth. Our teachers are currently using this math series and it is very effective. The State Textbook Committee recently adopted their *Success with OAS Mathematics for 8th Grade* but did not approve the series that includes K-7th grade.

All the books have the same format, lesson elements, and were developed and published in the same manner by the same Oklahoma team. I respectfully request the *Success with OAS Mathematics* books for kindergarten through seventh grade be added to the state-adopted list of mathematics textbooks approved for FY19.

Thank you for your consideration,

Donna Anderson

Superintendent

Cherokee Public Schools

BIG PASTURE

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT I-333

Post Office Box 167 * 1502 N. 10th Street * Randlett, OK 73562 * Superintendent 580.281.3831 * High School 580.281.3276 * Elementary 580.281.3299 * Fax 580.281.3299

12/08/17

To: Terrie Cheadle, Chief Executive Secretary
State Board of Education
2500 N Lincoln Boulevard
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105

From: Danny F. McCuiston
Superintendent of Schools
Big Pasture Public Schools
1502 N 10th Street
Randlett, Oklahoma 73562

Dear Chief Executive Secretary Cheadle;

Please accept my letter as a Superintendent of Schools who is very familiar with the Alpha Plus Learning System organization and the individuals who make up the company. As Superintendent, I have had the pleasure of a long standing working relationship with Alpha Plus, and have first hand knowledge of the excellent quality of the products they produce. Alpha Plus has always produced a quality curriculum aligned to current state standards. Utilizing Alpha Plus district students have performed well beyond the state average on assessments, as well as continued a pattern of growth through the years.

Now, Alpha Plus has developed their series of OAS Mathematics aligned curriculum, *Success with OAS Mathematics*. The State Textbook Committee most recently approved the 8th Grade curriculum in the series while failing to approve the remaining K-7 curriculums. The remaining K-7 curriculum should be included the State Adopted List for Mathematics. Rest assured, all districts who have been successful with the Alpha Plus Learning Systems (there have been many) will be giving this curriculum very serious consideration during this adoption cycle.

As Superintendent of Big Pasture Schools, I formally petition the State Board of Education to add the Success with OAS Mathematics, books K-7, to the state – adopted list of mathematics textbooks approved for FY19.

Sincerely,



Danny McCuiston

Big Pasture Schools