



JOY HOFMEISTER  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT *of* PUBLIC INSTRUCTION  
OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT *of* EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Oklahoma State Board of Education  
**FROM:** Superintendent Joy Hofmeister  
**DATE:** April 28, 2016  
**SUBJECT:** Bills signed by Governor as of April 22, 2016

**Accountability, Evaluations, Student Data**

**SB 1431** – Updates federal statutory citations regarding what is required for schools listed as in need of improvement. Eliminates improvement models that were required under No Child Left Behind (NCLB), instead requiring schools in need of improvement to implement a locally developed, evidence-based intervention model, as required under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Schools identified for school improvement for four consecutive years are required to seek support from the state, which may include academic intervention, professional development, restructuring, or any other reasonable plan. If after two years of a state support plan the improvements are insufficient, the board may exercise the option of assuming control of the school. Effective July 1, 2016.

**Certification, Retirement**

**HB 2258** – Eliminates the requirement that the Oklahoma State Pension Commission include information regarding the analysis of the performance of the custodian bank or trust company in its annual financial performance report. It also removes the requirement that the annual report include a comparative performance piece. It requires the report to include changes in the investment policy statements adopted by each retirement system in the prior year and an analysis of the performance of the securities lending program and short-term investment fund of the custodian employed by each governing body of the retirement systems. Effective November 1, 2016.

**HB 2263** – Expands the amount of time to file an application for retirement from 30 days before the date of retirement to 60 days and allows TRS to waive the 60 day deadline for good cause. Requires the employer to provide the member's last day physically on the job, last day on payroll, any regular compensation not already reported and final unused sick leave balance to TRS no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month of retirement. If the employers fail to do so or make a mistake, they are required to reemploy the member for the time period required to reach

eligibility up to two months. Expands the abilities of certain trusts to be named beneficiaries. The bill also changes the amount related to the payment of monies without intervention of probate court from \$5,000 to \$25,000 in the event of a member who leaves no living beneficiary. Effective November 1, 2016.

## **Charter Schools**

[\*\*SB 1268\*\*](#) – Corrects a scrivener's error in the Oklahoma Charter Schools Act, allowing for certain exemptions for those schools "designated" by SDE as implementing alternative education programs. Effective July 1, 2016.

## **Children, Families, Students**

[\*\*HB 2404\*\*](#) – Directs the State Board of Education to promulgate rules that create exemptions for the maximum age at which a child may attend half-day or full-day pre-kindergarten. Effective November 1, 2016.

[\*\*HB 2518\*\*](#) – Allows for surgical procedures on a minor without consent of the parent or guardian when a physician determines that an emergency exists and the parent or other adult authorized to provide consent cannot be located or contacted after a reasonably diligent effort. Effective November 1, 2016.

## **Curriculum**

[\*\*HB 2298\*\*](#) – Requires driver education courses to include instruction on the dangers of texting while driving and the effects of being under the influence of alcohol or other intoxicating substances. Effective November 1, 2016.

[\*\*SB 1105\*\*](#) – Allows students who have been denied a diploma for not completing the required curriculum units in order to graduate from high school to re-enroll in the district following denial and be provided the opportunity for remediation and intervention in order to complete the units. Such students are exempt from the requirement to be enrolled for a full six hours. Allows districts enrolling such students to receive state aid based on the portion of the day the student is enrolled. Effective July 1, 2016.

## **Employment, Personnel, Compensation**

[\*\*HB 2097\*\*](#) – Allows members of health maintenance organization's (HMOs) to request a printed copy of their individual contract if they are not able to view and print an electronic copy. Effective November 1, 2016.

[\*\*HB 2315\*\*](#) – Allows for district treasurers and encumbrance clerks to count applicable training in the prior 3 years before assuming such position towards the training required within the first nine months of employment. Effective April 11, 2016.

## **Funding**

**[HB 3115](#)** – Amends the definition of “Textbooks” to eliminate the restriction that technology-based materials do not include the equipment required to make use of those materials. Effective July 1, 2016.

## **Red Tape Task Force Recommendations**

**[HB 2544](#)** – Changes the date for districts to notify the State Board of Education that they have adopted a school hours policy from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15. Eliminates the requirement that districts submit a report on the impact of adopting an extended day schedule and allows an extended-day schedule to be adopted for any grade. Effective July 1, 2016.

**[HB 2649](#)** – Allows for two school days of six hours each to be counted in any 24-hour period without seeking a waiver from the State Board of Education if one of those days is for parent-teacher conferences. Effective July 1, 2016.

**[SB 1004](#)** – Requires reporting of students dropping out from quarterly to annually. Effective July 1, 2016.

## **Scholarships, Adult Education**

**[HB 2615](#)** – Prohibits gifts of money or other things of value to student-athletes or a member of their immediate family to persuade them to enroll or attend a certain college or university, or for their participation in an intercollegiate sporting event, contest or exhibition. Excludes the activities of postsecondary institutions acting in accordance with policy, grants and scholarships, immediate family members and gifts under \$100. Prohibits any transactions that could cause student athletes to lose their scholarship or ability to participate in intercollegiate athletics. Requires schools to advise students of these provisions each sports season. Effective November 1, 2016.

## **School Boards**

**[HB 2281](#)** – Allows for public bodies to meet the obligation of providing “prompt, reasonable access to records” by providing records online. Effective November 1, 2016.

**[HB 2965](#)** – Prohibits a governing body or entity from interfering with an employees’ obligations to report child abuse or neglect, or retaliating or discriminating against them. Any such governing body will be held liable for damages, costs and attorney fees. Any child who is harmed by such action may file an action to recover damages, costs and attorney fees. Effective November 1, 2016.

## **School Sites**

**[HB 2432](#)** – Requires all schools to post a sign in English and Spanish with the child abuse and neglect reporting hotline in a clearly visible location in a public area of the school that is readily accessible to students. State Board of Education is to promulgate rules relating to the size and location of the sign. Effective July 1, 2016.

**[HB 2614](#)** – Adds students who have been removed from a public or private school in any state by an administrative or judicial process for cyberbullying to the list of circumstances under which a public school is not required to provide education services in a regular school setting. The school may choose to keep the student out of the regular school setting until it is determined that the student is no longer a threat. Effective July 1, 2016.

**[HB 2720](#)** – Clarifies the definition, process and required accountability for “conversion schools” – those schools created by converting all or part of a traditional public school into a charter school. Effective July 1, 2016.

**[SB 1057](#)** – Directs that business owners are prohibited from establishing a policy or rule that prohibits any person from carrying a concealed or unconcealed firearm with certain exceptions. Carrying a concealed or unconcealed firearm may be prohibited from any public property sports field or adjacent seating where a school sporting event or professional sporting event is being held. Effective November 1, 2016.

## **State Department**

**[HB 1581](#)** – Requires each state agency receiving federal funds to provide a report to the Office of Management and Enterprise Services (OMES) detailing the amount of federal funds received, sources of those funds, any conditions for the receipt of those funds, and required or prohibited actions. Effective September 1, 2016.

**[SB 1342](#)** – Requires revenue and expenditure data for federal funds to be included on the state Taxpayer Transparency Website by program beginning in FY 2017. Effective January 1, 2017.

## **Teacher Shortage**

**[HB 2371](#)** – Eliminates the requirement that a mentor teacher be employed by the school district, and allows a former classroom teacher to serve in that role at the discretion of the district. Effective July 1, 2016.

**[HB 3102](#)** – Increases the maximum number of clock hours an adjunct teacher may teach from 90 hours to 270 hours per semester, which is the equivalent of a half-day every day for a full semester. Effective July 1, 2016

**SB 1038** – Creates a Teacher Certification Scholarship Program under the Office of Educational Quality and Accountability (OEQA). Directs OEQA to establish eligibility criteria. Limits scholarship to one per teacher candidate. In order to receive a scholarship, the candidate is required to teach for one year in the state. Establishes a revolving fund for the legislature to appropriate money to and allows the program to be supported with gifts and donations. Effective January 1, 2017.

JH/ct