



The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA.

OKLAHOMA WRITING PROJECT
Priscilla L. Griffith, Ph.D., Director
Audra Plummer, M.Ed.,
Co-Director for In-Service

January 21, 2016

Oklahoma State Board of Education
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105

Honorable Members of the Oklahoma State Board of Education:

The Oklahoma Writing Project is pleased to support the adoption of the Oklahoma Academic Standards for English Language Arts. The content of the standards is rigorous and requires students to engage in analysis, synthesis, evaluation, and creativity beginning as early as pre-kindergarten. OWP is confident application of these standards will ensure students are prepared for workplace and college success. In addition, the document is clearly written and user-friendly for all stakeholders.

Teachers across grade levels, representing the OWP professional community, reviewed an earlier draft of the standards and provided suggestions to strengthen the document. Our suggestions are reflected in the final version.

The Oklahoma Writing Project, a site of the National Writing Project, has been part of the University of Oklahoma since 1978. OWP serves teachers of writing at all grade levels, pre-K through university, and in all subjects. The mission of the OWP is to develop teacher leaders and to improve student achievement in writing and literacy in Oklahoma's schools, technology centers, and colleges. We believe every student deserves a good teacher of writing. Over the last five years the OWP has provided over 195,000 program service contact hours and reached over 8,000 teachers through our activities that include a summer institute for teachers, professional development to schools, and youth, family, and community activities.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the standards document. We appreciate the process of involving the community in the development of the standards through a wide reaching review process.

Sincerely,

Priscilla L. Griffith

Priscilla L. Griffith, Ph. D.
Professor
Ruth G. Hardman Chair in Education
Director of the Oklahoma Writing Project

Audra Plummer

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Co-Director for In-Service
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