



Director of District OutREAC³H

Cara Cusick is the Oklahoma State Department of Education's new Director of District OutREAC³H. Cusick's job will include collaborating with REAC³H coordinating districts as they work to disseminate information about the transition to Oklahoma C³ Standards, which encompass Common Core State Standards, as well as other vital education programs important to state school districts.



Cara Cusick

Cusick has a Masters Degree in Counseling and a Masters Degree in Human Relations and has worked as a licensed alcohol and drug counselor. She most recently has worked at the Oklahoma State Department of Education as a lead program specialist for Titles I, IIA, VI and X.

Her duties as director of District OutREAC³H include:

- Providing ongoing technical assistance to leadership of the SDE, school districts, higher education, and career and technical education in implementation of statewide initiatives through regional networks.
- Extracting best practices in collaboration strategies, facilitate information sharing across networks, assess effectiveness of networking strategies, and communicate best practices via newsletters and other media.
- Directing the development of long-range plans, goals, and objectives related to educational collaboration and networking.
- Facilitating summits, webinars, videoconferences, workshops, and meetings of REAC³H Network leadership, standing committees and working groups, and regional networks.
- Connecting districts that are not currently participating in formal or informal networks to active regional networks for collaboration leading to implementation of statewide initiatives.

Cusick is a Ponca City native, where she attended Ponca City Public Schools. Her mother is still an employee of the Ponca City School District. Her father is a retired police officer and is now an employee for Ponca City Public Schools as well. Cusick attended college at the University of Central Oklahoma for her Bachelors degree, Southwestern Oklahoma State University for her Masters in Counseling, and the University of Oklahoma for her Masters in Human Relations. She is co-founder of Living Stones church, where she leads worship.

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