

September 11, 2015

Thank you for taking the time to review this draft of the new Oklahoma Academic Standards for English language arts. Your participation in this review process adds to the expert educator input that is essential to the development of quality standards for Oklahoma students.

Recommendations which were made to the writing teams beginning with changes to the PASS standards and changes for the first and second drafts of the standards included 2,500 reviews by diverse stakeholders. External reviews have also been sought from educational institutions such as the South Central Comprehensive Center, the Partnership for 21st Century Learning, and the Southern Regional Education Board. We continue to focus on the careful consideration and review by teams of teachers at schools sites and districts from across the state. Your input is critical to the final revisions of these standards.

To support the facilitation of local educator review teams, the Oklahoma State Department of Education has developed a Standards Review Toolkit, including the following items:

- □ This welcome letter;
- An overview of the standards "Eight is Great;"
- □ A content-unique Feedback Form designed for careful inspection of the standards to facilitate feedback from teams of educators, parents, business, and other community stakeholders;
- □ The English language arts standards;
- □ A Power Point to help inform teachers and stakeholders of the process and timeline leading up to the new standards, including a brief history of the relevant legislation; and
- Contact information for the ELA standards writing team.

When submitting your Feedback Form, please note that you need to have Adobe/Acrobat Pro in order to save the form before returning it. Draft Review documents should be emailed **no later than 5:00 p.m. on October 16, 2015** <u>standards_comments@sde.ok.gov</u>.

Thank you for your time and feedback. Should you have any questions about the review and feedback process, please feel free to contact us at your Oklahoma State Department of Education. Our contact information is included below.

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The Oklahoma State Department of Education