



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: November 12, 2015

SUBJECT: Statutory Waiver for Library Media Specialist Certificate Exemption

The following schools are requesting exemption from library media certification requirements pursuant to 70 O.S. § 3-126 for the 2015-2016 school year. A certified teacher will be used as the librarian while pursuing library media certification. Approval is recommended.

District	County	Waiver (Years)	Students Served
Fort Gibson	Muskogee* (2)	1	841
Meeker	Lincoln* (3)	1	368

* The number in the County category represents the Congressional District.
See the attached map.

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Attachments

Section 42.8. Requirements for Exemption.

A. A school district may develop an educational improvement plan which includes exemption for the educational-related statutory requirements set forth in subsections C of this section and State Board of Education rules for the school district, a school site or any program, grade level, consortium of schools or school districts or other group within the school district. The board of education of the school district shall, through adoption of a resolution, approve the plan prior to application being made to the State board of Education.

B. Each educational improvement plan approved by the State Board of Education shall include the following components:

1. A description of the educational benefits to be derived;
2. A definition of the standards of the plan;
3. Development of definitive work products, such as site improvement plans and progress reports;
4. Demonstration of collaboration by teachers, administrators, higher education representatives, students, parents/families, and the community;
5. Development and the use of an assessment mechanism to determine progress in meeting the goals and objectives of the plan;
6. Development of an in-service training plan to be provided to personnel at the site who will participate in the project;
7. Report on the results of the plan to the State Board of Education and provision of appropriate technical assistance to other school districts and the State Department of Education as required; and
8. Explanation of how the plan will affect other schools, program or sites in the district.

C. Each educational improvement plan shall include a list of the specific educational-related statutory requirements and State Board of Education rules the school district is requesting an exemption from and why each exemption is necessary to success of the plan. The school district shall not be granted an exemption from federal educational-related requirements. A school district may request an exemption from any statutory requirement or State Board of Education rule not related to bilingual and special education programs, health and safety provisions, school finance, State Aid, pupil formula weights, teacher salary and teacher retirement, the Oklahoma School Testing Program, the Oklahoma Educational Indicators Program and the teacher preparation, examination, licensure, certification, residency and professional development system. The State Board of Education may grant district-wide exemptions from certification requirements for Library Media Specialist to districts experiencing a shortage in this area. The State Board of Education may grant an exemption from certification requirements for superintendents to any district with an unweighted average daily membership over twenty-five thousand (25,000). (70-3-126)

