



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: October 27, 2022
SUBJECT: Deregulation for an Abbreviated School Day for Alternative Education

The following school is requesting deregulation from OAC 210:35-29-2 for the 2022-2023 school year in order to have an Abbreviated School Day for Alternative Education. Approval is recommended.

County	District	Alternative Means	Requested Years
Lincoln	Prague	Instructional day will be 4 hours and 15 minutes a day, 4 days a week.	1 of 1
		3 Years	
Okmulgee	Beggs	Instructional day will be 4 hours and 15 minutes a day, 4 days a week.	2 of 2

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

ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION ACADEMIES AND PROGRAMS

210:35-29-2. Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this Subchapter, shall have the following meaning, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

"Alternative Education" means an educational process incorporating appropriate structure, curriculum, interaction, and reinforcement strategies to stimulate learning with students who have not utilized their capacity to do so within traditional educational settings.

"Abbreviated school day" means, for purposes of an alternative education program approved by the State Board of Education, a school day which consists of not less than four (4) hours and 12 minutes per day devoted to school activities for the locally approved 180-day school calendar.

2010-2011 Standards for Accreditation of Oklahoma Schools

STANDARD III

ADMINISTRATION AND ORGANIZATION

210:35-3-41. Statement of the standard

The school is organized to ensure the achievement of its goals. The working relationships among the local board, superintendent, principal, and staff are such as to facilitate the successful functioning of all phases of the school's program. The principal of the school has the autonomy and authority to provide the leadership needed to accomplish the goals of the school. The school is provided with sufficient professional and service personnel to ensure effective operation of all phases of the school's program. The school is organized in a manner that encourages new and innovative ideas designed to improve the program and to help the school adapt to changing conditions. (92)

210:35-3-46. Administrative and supervisory services

- (a) The school site shall be part of a system employing a full-time superintendent. *No board of a school district having average daily membership (ADM) of fewer than 500 students shall be prohibited from allowing a superintendent with the appropriate certificate to serve simultaneously as a principal. [70 O.S. § 5-106]* If a vacancy occurs in the superintendency during the course of the school year, a certified replacement must be employed within 45 school days.
- (b) It shall further be the responsibility of the local board, upon the recommendation of the superintendent, to employ an administrative head to be known as a principal for each of the schools within the district. Private schools shall employ a full-time principal/headmaster. An elementary district shall employ a full-time elementary superintendent. With the exception of requirements for certification, the term superintendent as used in these standards shall mean an elementary school superintendent, headmaster, or superintendent. Full-time is defined as employed full time, and therefore allows these administrators to teach.
- (c) Instructional leadership shall be the chief function of the school's principal. The principal shall be responsible for the improvement of instruction and be given the authority and resources needed to accomplish this goal. The principal shall help clarify the goals of the school, help obtain resources for it, coordinate its various activities, and promote its continuous evaluation to determine improvements needed.
- (d) Lines of administrative and supervisory authority between the central office staff and the principal shall be defined clearly and shall give the principal responsibility for initiating appropriate changes to meet the needs of the students.
- (e) The principal shall be involved in the selection, assessment, evaluation, retention, and promotion of all personnel assigned to the school.
 - (1) *All certified administrative personnel designated by a local board to conduct evaluations shall be required to participate in training conducted by the State Department of Education prior to evaluating.. [70 O.S. § 6-101.10]*
 - (2) *No teacher shall be dismissed during the term of a contract or refused reemployment except at an official meeting of the board of education. The reemployment or*

2010-2011 Standards for Accreditation of Oklahoma Schools

dismissal of teachers shall be in accordance with the school laws of Oklahoma. [70 O.S. § 6-101.20 through 101.30]

- (f) While working with faculty, staff, or students in the school, central office and other supplementary personnel shall coordinate their activities through the principal.
- (g) The principal shall have the responsibility and the authority for the administration of the non-instructional programs in the school.
- (h) The local board shall adopt a school calendar and school day consistent with statutory requirements in Oklahoma.
 - (1) *The standard school year shall consist of not less than 180 days; or,*
 - (2) *For not less than one thousand eighty (1080) hours each school year, if a district board of education adopts a school-hours policy and notifies the State Board of Education prior to September 15 of the applicable school year.*
 - (3) *Not more than thirty (30) hours each school year may be used for attendance of professional meetings and teachers may be paid for a length of term in excess thereof, under conditions hereinafter outlined. Subject to district board of education policy or collective bargaining agreement, additional professional leave days may be granted for individual teachers to attend or participate in professional meetings, staff development training, or National Board certification portfolio development as provided for in Section 6-204,2 of this title, [70 O.S. § 1-109]*
 - (4) *The standard school day shall consist of not less than 6 hours devoted to school activities, exclusive of lunch, with the exception of nursery, early childhood education kindergarten, and alternative education. [70 O.S. § 1-111]*
 - (5) *The early childhood school day shall consist of not less than two and one-half hours per session.*
 - (6) *The kindergarten school day shall consist of not less than two and one-half hours per day. The requirement to attend kindergarten may be satisfied by attendance in either a half-day or full-day program. Membership in a kindergarten for either two and one-half (2 1/2) hours or six (6) hours per school day shall be counted as one (1) day for average daily membership purposes. Beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, it shall be the duty of every school district in this state to provide and offer a full six-hour day of kindergarten free of tuition for every child residing in the district who attains the age of five (5) years on or before the first day of September during the school year kindergarten is offered, provided that this duty may be satisfied by intra-district transfer to a school offering full-day kindergarten, by transferring kindergarten children to other school districts which will accept them and can provide kindergarten for such children, or by contracting for classroom space with a licensed public or licensed private child care provider based on the selection criteria established by the district, [70 O.S. § 18-108]*
 - (7) *A school district board of education may adopt and implement an extended day schedule for grades nine through twelve. All of the following conditions must be met:*
 - (A) *The annual number of hours of instruction must equal or exceed 1,080 hours which is equivalent to 180 days of instruction.*
 - (B) *Only one day per week shall consist of not less than five hours of academic instruction in a regular classroom setting.*

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- (C) The district must hold a public hearing prior to the adoption of an extended day schedule.
 - (D) The district must document the impact on student achievement as determined by the academic performance index score and any other relevant factors that are a result of the implementation of an extended day schedule.
 - (E) The district must provide an annual report to the State Board of Education on the result of the extended day schedule and the impact on student achievement. [70 O.S. § 1-109]
- (i) If, because of emergency situations, school has been missed more than fifteen (15) days, the State Board of Education will consider forgiving a portion of those days or in rare instances all days missed, on a case-by-case basis. Exceptions to the fifteen (15) day minimum will be made at the recommendation of the State Superintendent and forgiveness will be considered by the State Board of Education on a case-by-case basis.
 - (j) If a school district determines that it is necessary to deviate from the required 6-hour school day because of severe weather conditions or fire, the superintendent should report this, in writing, to the State Department of Education, Accreditation Section, within 72 hours. Any loss of school time shall require the superintendent to report the amount of time lost and the procedures to be used to make up the lost time.
 - (k) *Schools shall obtain permission from the State Board of Education before conducting Saturday classes to complete a standard school term including professional days.* [70 O.S. § 1-112] (09)

210:10-1-4. Length of term

- (a) The minimum length of term will be ten (10) months (180 days actually taught). Provided not to exceed five (5) days of 180 days required may be used for attendance of professional meetings. Where professional days are taken, they shall be so recorded in the register of attendance in a like manner as holidays are recorded. The legal aggregate days attendance will be divided by days actually taught to obtain the legal average daily attendance. Any school district holding less than a full term will have its state aid reduced proportionately. No district may have less than a full term of school unless conditions over which it has no control exist that would prevent the district holding a full term. In cases where sites within a district have different length terms the average daily membership (ADM) and average daily attendance (ADA) shall be calculated for each site separately.

210:35-3-47. School reports and records

Well delineated policies and procedures for records and reports shall be developed and kept current.

- (1) Records and reports needed for effective planning, operation, evaluation, and reporting shall be kept relative to the following components of the educational program:
 - (A) Administrative operations
 - (B) Curriculum
 - (C) Guidance
 - (D) Health services

- A. Reason for the Deregulation request. Please include how your students would benefit from this deregulation, what alternative means will have to be employed, and negative effects on your alternative education population if your waiver was to be denied.

OAC 210:35-29-2

Our students will be able to work more hours which helps them pay for any financial obligations they may have. If the waiver is denied, it will make it that much harder for the students to help pay for financial obligations they have or their families have.

- B. List alternate strategies/plans which the district/site proposes, and how this plan will best serve the students of your alternative education program, i.e., a description of the educational benefits to the students, graduation rate if a waiver has been awarded prior to this year, and the result of the previous years alternative education audit.

The Prague School District proposes to have an alternative school that will operate from 8:00 am to 12:15 pm Monday-Thursday. The strategies include offering the alternative students in grades 6-12, as well as to dropouts up to the age of 21. The school will have a maximum number of 15 students. This structure will best serve the students by providing a shortened day. The shortened day benefits students in many ways, but especially helps those students who need to work to help their families meet financial obligations. It also helps parenting students who need to be with their young children and cannot handle the burden of financing or finding child care. The shortened day format proves to have educational benefits of helping students stay in school because they can handle 4 hours and 15 minutes of a school day much easier than a longer day. Four seniors were enrolled in the 2021-2022 school year. All the seniors finished early and graduated.

- C. Educational impact to the district: Results of the Statutory Waiver, i.e., effect on student performance levels, and predicted graduation rate.

The Prague School District proposes to have an alternative school that will operate from 8:00 am to 12:15 pm Monday-Thursday. The strategies include offering the alternative students in grades 6-12, as well as to dropouts up to the age of 21. The school will have a maximum number of 15 students. This structure will best serve the students by providing a shortened day. The shortened day benefits students in many ways, but especially helps those students who need to work to help their families meet financial obligations. It also helps parenting students who need to be with their young children and cannot handle the burden of financing or finding child care. The shortened day format proves to have educational benefits of helping students stay in school because they can handle 4 hours and 15 minutes of a school day much easier than a longer day. Four seniors were enrolled in the 2021-2022 school year. All of the seniors finished early and graduated.

- D. Timeline: Please submit class schedule, calendars, assessment forms and other attachments as necessary, or described in instructions. A waiver/deregulation can be granted for up to 3 years. (Please see instructions for additional requirements)

The alternative school operates from 8:00 am to 12:15 pm Monday-Thursday. The school will follow the same calendar as the LEA which is Prague Schools. It will have the same beginning and ending day, as well as all of the same breaks and holidays. Students are able to earn units of credits at a slightly higher rate than day school students. Some students graduate in three and one half years, or even quicker, depending on how hard the students work and if they choose to be on performance based contracts. The alternative school teachers also participate in parent-teacher conferences on the same schedule as Prague Schools.

- E. Any financial impact to the District (positive or negative) for the proposed waiver/deregulation? If positive please describe where the available would be reallocated.

Without the deregulation, Prague Schools would not be able to offer the alternative school to those students that are not able to attend traditional school. Those students would choose to dropout or continue their education elsewhere. This would cause the school to loose thousands of dollars in funding. By providing this program during the times we have chosen, we are able to use highly qualified teachers that are already employed by the school. If we do have a positive financial impact, the funds will be reallocated towards the curriculum and teacher stipends.

- F. Describe method of assessment or evaluation of effectiveness of the plan both for staff and students, I.E., TLE, ACT scores, graduation rates, RSA, School Report Card, etc. Teachers evaluate students weekly and document at least two grades per week. Students may repeat assignments/tests until they prove competency before moving on. Students are tested at the end of each nine week period and grades are evaluated with interventions as necessary. At the end of each semester, the transcript is used to see if individual performance has improved by moving any " F" to a passing grade. The GPA is also recorded and compared to the beginning GPA to make sure improvements are made. State mandated tests are given and students are expected to perform at an acceptable level just like traditional students. If a student doesn't show academic improvement and competency, the teachers, principal, and counselor meet with the parents and student to see what changes need to be made with everyday strategies and the graduation plan

** You will be contacted if more information is needed to process this request.



Prague Public Schools

3504 NBU
PRAGUE, OK 74864

PHONE: 405-567-2281
FAX: 405-567-3095

www.prague.k12.ok.us

September 1, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

The purpose of this letter is to explain our request for deregulation of the Prague Schools Alternative School Program.

Deregulation of the school is necessary because hiring certified teachers to teach students after school hours will be a financial burden on the school.

Using facilities after school hours costs the school more money in utilities. Physical education facilities are also not available after school due to practices and games.

Funding also makes it a necessity to teach the school on a shortened day and week as the school operates on a budget under \$40,000 and it would not be possible to meet all financial needs if the school were not deregulated.

Students of the school benefit because many must work afternoons and evenings to help support their children or help their parents with support. Students being able to attend school on a shortened schedule will make it easier to find babysitting options for those with children.

For all the above reasons, I ask for deregulation of the alternative school.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any, please feel free to contact me at 405-567-2281

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kevin Engle', written over a white background.

Kevin Engle
Superintendent
Prague Public Schools


SCHOOL SITE STATUTORY WAIVER/DEREGULATION APPLICATION

for 20 22 - 20 25 school year

Okmulgee COUNTY Beggs SCHOOL DISTRICT

1201 W 9th St SCHOOL DISTRICT MAILING ADDRESS Beggs CITY 74421 ZIP CODE

Beggs High School Demon Academy NAME OF SITE


 PRINCIPAL SIGNATURE* 08/10/2022 DATE

PRINCIPAL SIGNATURE* DATE

PRINCIPAL SIGNATURE* DATE

Shawn Tennyson SUPERINTENDENT NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

stennyson@beggs.k12.ok.us SUPERINTENDENT E-MAIL ADDRESS

 SUPERINTENDENT SIGNATURE* 08/10/2022 DATE

I hereby certify that this waiver/deregulation application was approved by our local board of education at the meeting on 8/10, 20 22

 BOARD PRESIDENT SIGNATURE

NOTARY SEAL →

 NOTARY 8-10-2022 DATE

8-20-2024 COMMISSION EXPIRATION DATE

Statute/Oklahoma Administrative Code to be Waived:
(specify statute or OAC (deregulation) number: (see instructions))

*Original signatures are required. The attached questionnaire must be answered to process.**

THE WAIVER/DEREGUALTION IS REQUESTED FOR:

One Year Only

Three Years*

*Please see instruction page for additional requirements for a three year request

SDE USE ONLY

PROJECT YEARS _____ of _____

ENROLLMENT

High School

Jr./Middle High

Elementary

District Total

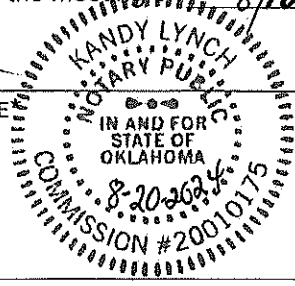
RECEIVED SEP 14 2022

DATE RECEIVED

70 O.S. _____

OAC 210:35-29-2

Abbrenated Day NAME OF WAIVER



- A. Reason for the Waiver request. Please include distance from your alternative education site to the closest possible district to coop with, what alternative means will have to be employed if your waiver was to be denied, and what percentage of your student population will benefit from the waiver if approved.

Standard OAC Code 210:35-29-2

Abbreviated school day for alternative education.

The distance from the nearest COOP is not near our town which causes several challenges for our students to attend school that is not near us. Transportation to and from a distant school is not ideal or within our students best interest which could cause increase of student drop-out and distance of connection with community and their peers.

- B. List alternate strategies/plans which the district/site proposes, and how this plan will best serve the students of your district, i.e., a description of the educational benefits to the students, graduation rate if a waiver has been awarded prior to this year, and learning achievement.

1. Increase attendance for students by reducing the number of hours in which to complete credit requirements.

2. Reduce the drop-out rate by two percent.

3. Allows students who are in service learning or careers more hours in which to complete credit requirements.

4. Allows students to work within their communities through service learning projects. This increases visibility of the program.

5. Students enrolled in program are best served by our student-teacher ratios due to their "at task" status. These students are at greater risk of not completing high school if placed in traditional school setting or placed in a COOP program that is not located within their own town.

- C. Have you participated in an alternative education coop previously? Have you been awarded this waiver before and what was the educational impact to the district: Results of the Statutory Waiver, i.e., effect on student performance levels, impact of plan on other sites in the district. We have not participated in an alternative education COOP in many years. We have been awarded this waiver for several year and the educational impact to our district has resulted in student achievement, student graduation, student career guidance, positive social interactions, counseling services for students, student enrichment and connection with community. We expect our students to complete the desired number of credits in a timely fashion while enrolled in the alternative education program. Students will receive individual and group counseling, life skills guidance and trainings, participate in the arts and other extra-curricular activities.

- D. Timeline: Please submit class schedule, calendars, assessment forms and other attachments as necessary.

Our Demon Academy (Alternative Education Program) follows the Beggs Public School Calendar. Demon Academy provides instruction with four hours and fifteen minute days, four days a week. The class daily bell schedule is as follows:

1st hr- 8:00-8:50
2nd hr- 8:55-9:45
3rd hr- 9:50-10:40
4th hr- 10:45-11:30
LUNCH- 11:30-11:45
5th hr- 11:45-12:30

- E. Any financial impact to the District (positive or negative) for the proposed waiver/deregulation? If positive please describe where the available would be reallocated.

Our district will be negatively impacted if these students drop out or if they are forced to attend the traditional school setting or a COOP that is not located in or near our town. Funds would be reallocated to pay our Alternative Education teachers and director and to supplement the cost of our curriculum. We will also use the funds to pay everyday costs to run the program.

- F. Describe method of assessment or evaluation of effectiveness of the plan both for staff and students, I.E., TLE, ACT scores, graduation rates, RSA, School Report Card, etc.

Students will be constantly monitored to ensure adequate progression in their classes in order to meet all graduation requirements. We will also monitor attendance, participation in counseling groups and in life skills training. Students and parents will complete surveys throughout the school year in order to ensure they are staying on track and to offer feedback to improve the program. ACT scores, Pre ACT scores, semester exams and report cards will be used to identify deficiencies and areas of weakness as well as strengths that we can continue to build on.

** You will be contacted if more information is needed to process this request.



Beggs Public Schools

Home of the Golden Demons

Shawn Tennyson, Superintendent
Rick Martin, President
Autumn Caldwell, Principal
Kandi Stanton, Alternative Education Director

Beggs Public School
Independent School District No. 4
1201 W. 9th Street
Beggs, Ok 74421-0690
918-267-3625

Oklahoma State Department of Education:

Accreditation Section:

Beggs Public School would like to request a deregulation for our Alternative Education Demon Academy. This request is based on OAC 210:35-29-2 Abbreviated day for Alternative Education. This request has been approved by the school board in August 2022.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Shawn Tennyson
Superintendent, Beggs Public Schools