MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Members of the State Board of Education

FROM: Janet Barresi

DATE: August 23, 2012

SUBJECT: Update regarding the Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Evaluation System implementation.

Since the July 26, 2012 State Board of Education meeting, the Office of Educational Support has been involved in numerous aspects of Teacher and Leader Evaluation implementation. On or about July 26, 2012, districts received funding Allocation Notices based on the number of administrators in need of teacher and/or leader evaluation training. The State Department of Education assigned the “Teacher Leader Effectiveness (TLE) Training Pilot” Project Code 308. The State Department of Education informed districts that these funds are strictly to be used for Teacher and Leader Evaluation Training. To date, approximately $1,403,525.00 in funding has been allocated.

Throughout July and August, administrators across the state have received teacher and leader evaluation framework training. Over 2,000 administrators have received evaluation training in the use of the Tulsa TLE Observation and Evaluation System or the Marzano Causal Teacher Evaluation System. Over 600 administrators have received evaluation training in the use of the McREL Principal Evaluation System. Each training organization is in the process of scheduling the necessary make-up training sessions to ensure that all required administrators are trained within a reasonable time.

Because the Marzano School Leadership Model was recently added by the State Board to the list of approved leadership models, Learning Sciences International, Inc., the organization responsible for the Marzano leader training, is in the process of finalizing the training schedule.

Twenty-two districts originally selected the Reeves Leadership Performance Matrix. However, several of these districts notified the State Department of Education their desire to change leader frameworks, therefore, Leadership and Learning, the organization responsible for the Reeves training, declined to conduct training in Oklahoma. As a result, a small number of districts are in the process of making new leader evaluation selections.
Each teacher framework developer has created a specific examination to test the administrator’s knowledge of the framework. As administrators complete the training process, they will take this certification examination. If an administrator should not pass the certification, the framework developer has created a plan to assist the administrator in the reviewing of relevant material and test re-take process. Each organization responsible for the administration and scoring of the certification test will report to the State Department of Education the name and school district of each administrator who passes the certification test. This information will be used to identify those administrators who are qualified to evaluate teachers in Oklahoma.

The Office of Educational Support has hosted three educator work sessions to discuss the quantitative components of TLE. Specifically, on August 7, 2012, the twelve 2013 Oklahoma Teacher of the Year finalists spent several hours discussing appropriate student growth measures for teachers in non-tested grades and subjects, as well as possible options for Other Academic Measures. In addition, on August 10, 2012, and August 13, 2012, members of the REAC3H Network met via WebEx to discuss these same topics. This information was shared with the TLE Commission at its August 15, 2012, Commission meeting.

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