MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Members of the State Board of Education
FROM: Janet Barresi
DATE: June 28, 2012
SUBJECT: Statutory Waiver to Allow Two School Days in a 24-Hour Period

The following schools are requesting a statutory waiver of 70 O.S. § 1-111 for the 2012-2013 school year; whereby, they can count a full day of school and six (6) hours of parent-teacher conferences as two school days. Approval is recommended.

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

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Attachments
Section 12. School Day - Six Hours - Exceptions.

A. Except as otherwise provided for by law, a school day shall consist of not less than six (6) hours devoted to school activities. A district board of education may elect to extend the length of one (1) or more school days to more than six (6) hours and reduce the number of school days as long as the total amount of classroom instruction time is not less than one thousand eighty (1,080) hours per year as required pursuant to Section 1-109 of this title.

B. A school day for nursery, early childhood education, kindergarten, and alternative education programs shall be as otherwise defined by law or as defined by the State Board of Education. Not more than one (1) school day shall be counted for attendance purposes in any twenty-four-hour period.

C. Students absent from school in which they are regularly enrolled may be considered as being in attendance if the reason for such absence is to participate in scheduled school activities under the direction and supervision of a regular member of the faculty or to participate in an online course approved by the district board of education. The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to provide for the implementation of online courses which shall include, but not be limited to, provisions addressing the following:

1. Criteria for student admissions eligibility;
2. A student admission process administered through the district of residence, which provides the ability for the student to enroll in individual courses;
3. An electronic student transfer system which does not require the student desiring to transfer to another district for enrollment in an online course to personally appear in the district to which the transfer is sought;
4. A process by which students are not denied the opportunity to enroll in educationally appropriate courses by school districts;
5. Creation of a system which provides ongoing enrollment access for students throughout the school year;
6. A grace period of fifteen (15) calendar days from the first day of an online course for student withdrawal from an online course without academic penalty;
7. Establishment of an Individualized Learning Plan (ILP) for each student;
8. Mastery of competencies for course completion rather than Carnegie units;
9. Student participation in extracurricular activities in the district of residence;
10. Parent authorization for release of state test results to online course providers, on a form developed by the State Department of Education;
11. Student participation in assessments administered pursuant to Section 1210.508 of this title at a school in the district of residence;
12. Provision for ongoing weekly telephonic communication between teacher and student, and monthly telephonic communication between teacher and parent; and
13. A review process to identify and certify online course providers and a uniform payment processing system.

D. Each district board of education shall adopt policies and procedures that conform to rules for online courses as adopted by the State Board. Such policies shall include criteria for approval of the course, the appropriateness of the course for a particular student, authorization for full-time students to enroll in online courses, and establishing fees or charges. No district shall be liable for payment of any fees or charges for any online course for a student who has not complied with the district’s policies and procedures. School districts shall not deny students the opportunity to enroll in educationally appropriate courses and shall provide an admissions process which includes input from the student, the parent or guardian of the student, and school faculty.

E. Districts shall require students enrolled in online courses to participate in the Oklahoma School Testing Program Act. Students participating in online courses from a remote site will be responsible for providing their own equipment and Internet access, unless the district chooses to provide the equipment. Credit may not be granted for such courses except upon approval of the State Board of Education and the district board of education.

F. The school day for kindergarten may consist of six (6) hours devoted to school activities.

(70-1-111)

Note: Amended by SB 2319, Sec. 1 of the 2010 Reg. Sess.
Name of Site(s): Bennington High School 9-12
Bennington Elementary PK-8

Name of School District: Bennington Public School

Signature of Principal(s): *Mary Knight

Date

Signature of Superintendent: *Donna Anderson

County Name: Bryan

I hereby certify that this deregulation application was approved by our local board of education at the meeting on April 19, 2012.

Signature of Board President:

Notary: Gracie Ferguson

Date: 4-19-12 My Commission Expires: 7-9-14

1. **Statement of the Statute to be Waived:** (specify statutory citation)

   ...Except for schools operating under an extended day schedule as provided for in Section 1-109 of this title, not more than one (1) school day shall be counted for attendance purposes in any 24 hour period. (70 1 111)

*Original signatures are required.*
A. A description of the educational benefits to be derived (i.e., describe specific benefits to learning/achievement).

The parent teacher conference held from 3:00 to 9:00 will allow working parents a greater opportunity to be attending scheduled meetings. Attendance at the conference is imperative for relationship building between parents and the school and the school and the student. The better the communication between all parties, the more successful the student.

B. A definition of the standards of the plan (i.e., alternate strategies proposed).

The plan is to offer access to teachers and administrators during a period where they do no have to miss work. We also add two additional parent/teacher conferences during the year where we do not use them as two days. This is an attempt to gain more access to parents at key times of the year for student performance.

C. Development of definitive work products, such as site improvement plans and progress reports (i.e., describe the expected student performance levels to be demonstrated or results of the Statutory Waiver).

We will keep a log of parental participation so that we can get a gage of nonparticipants. We will use the list to make contacts after the conference in order to have communication with all parents regardless of their ability to attend. Progress reports will be sent to those parents by mail who can not attend.
D. Demonstration of collaboration of teachers, administrators, higher education representatives, students, parents/families, and the community. During this time we will have representatives from SEOSU, Upward Bound and 4H to meet with parents and students in a relaxed, appropriate setting. At least one of the conference is a community dinner where parents can sample the menu of the school and fellowship with the staff.

E. Development and the use of an assessment mechanism to determine progress in meeting the goals and objectives of the plan (i.e., method of evaluation). We evaluate the success of the meeting by attendance, progress of students whose parents attend, and the feedback of the teachers about their conferences.

F. Development of an in-service training plan to be provided to personnel at the site who will participate in the projects. Building principals meet with their staff weekly to track the progress of parental involvement. After parent/teacher conferences an administrative meeting is held to assess the success of the conference and to make modifications if needed.
G. 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 (i.e., describe how you will report to the State Board of Education annually).
Reports to the SDE will be sent upon request.

H. Explanation of how the plan will affect other schools, programs or sites in the district. The conferences will be held at the same time for each site so that parents may visit all teachers if they have students in multiple grades. There will be no adverse affect on other sites.

I. Period of public review on the proposed plan. We have been offering parent/teacher conferences in this manner for 8 years and have had good feed back from our community. They appreciate that we add two additional dates that are not required and we have excellent turn out for the community meal.
J. Notification and comments from the district bargaining agent, or if no bargaining agent exists, the teachers directly affected.
   Not Applicable.

K. All comments, recommendations and objections made by the bargaining agent and others to the local board of education shall be forwarded to the State Board of Education for consideration prior to review of the plan.
   Not Applicable.

L. Timeline for implementing the Statutory Waiver, specifying the period requested.
   The first parent/teacher conference will be September 13, 2012 and the second will be April 4, 2013. We will have two extra that we do not count as two days taught on November 15, 2012 and February 7, 2013.
May 7, 2012

To: Oklahoma State Department of Education
   Accreditation and Standards

Reference: Statutory Waiver for Parent-Teacher Conferences for 2012-2013

Bennington Public School is requesting a statutory wavier for our two parent-teacher conferences for 2012-2013 following a regular school day. This statutory wavier would allow us to count two days of school during a 24 hour period. Bennington Public School feels that parents are best served during the evening hours. We appreciate your consideration of this matter.

Thank you,

Donna Anderson
Superintendent
Bennington ISD
1. **Statement of the Statute to be Waived**: (specify statutory citation)

...Except for school operating under an extended day schedule as provided for in Section 1-109 of this title, not more than one (1) school day shall be counted for attendance purposes in any twenty-four-hour period (70-1-111).

*Original signatures are required.*
A. A description of the educational benefits to be derived (i.e., describe specific benefits to learning/achievement).

This will allow parents the opportunity to attend parent-teacher conferences from 3:00-9:00 p.m., which will result in a higher parent participation rate. This will be a point of emphasis during the 2012-2013 school year as our district has been identified as a Targeted Intervention School.

Better and more efficient communication between the school and parents.

B. A definition of the standards of the plan (i.e., alternate strategies proposed).

Two parent-teacher conference days are being requested from 3:00-9:00 p.m. during the middle of each semester grading period after a full day taught.

Better and more efficient communication between the school and parents.

C. Development of definitive work products, such as site improvement plans and progress reports (i.e., describe the expected student performance levels to be demonstrated or results of the Statutory Waiver).

Higher percentage of parent participation at parent-teacher conferences.

Decrease in the number of discipline referrals to the office.

Higher OCCT and EOI Scores.
D. Demonstration of collaboration of teachers, administrators, higher education representatives, students, parents/families, and the community.

The faculty, staff, and administration collaborated on a plan for the 2012-2013 school calendar to obtain more parental involvement and communication between parents, teachers, and administrators.

E. Development and the use of an assessment mechanism to determine progress in meeting the goals and objectives of the plan (i.e., method of evaluation).

Higher percentage of parents attending parent/teacher conferences.

Teachers will keep a log of parent/guardian attendance for school records. This information will be used to enhance planning for future parent/teacher conferences.

F. Development of an in-service training plan to be provided to personnel at the site who will participate in the projects.

A training session for personnel will be provided to enhance better communication skills with parents/guardians.

Teachers will give parents in-service on how to access grading information through the student information system.
G. 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 (i.e., describe how you will report to the State Board of Education annually).

Parent participation results will be documented by site principal and can be disseminated to the community and the State Board of Education upon request.

H. Explanation of how the plan will affect other schools, programs or sites in the district.

More time during the evening hour will allow parents with children at different sites to discuss the progress of their children with their teachers.

I. Period of public review on the proposed plan.

Community planning calendar meetings.

Regular scheduled meeting for May 14, 2012.
J. Notification and comments from the district bargaining agent, or if no bargaining agent exists, the teachers directly affected.

Teachers were on the committee on the development and selection of the calendar and parent/teacher dates.

K. All comments, recommendations and objections made by the bargaining agent and others to the local board of education shall be forwarded to the State Board of Education for consideration prior to review of the plan.

There were no objections to the plan.

L. Timeline for implementing the Statutory Waiver, specifying the period requested.

Requesting approval for one school calendar year.
May 15, 2012

Dr. Bob Neel, Accreditation Department
Oklahoma State Department of Education
2500 N. Lincoln Blvd.
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Dr. Bob Neel,

Braggs Public Schools is asking for a statutory waiver for the 2012-2013 school year. We are requesting two (2) parent-teacher conference days. The request specifically is to count two (2) days in a twenty-four (24) hour period. We are hoping that this will increase the participation at our parent-teacher conferences.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (918) 487-5265 Ext. 170.

Sincerely,

Michael Broyles, Superintendent
Braggs Public Schools

Bill Rogers, Principal
Braggs Public Schools
PO Box 59
Braggs, OK 74423
OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

ACCREDITATION DIVISION
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard, Suite 210
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105-4599
(405) 521-3333

SCHOOL SITE STATUTORY WAIVER/EXEMPTION APPLICATION
FOR 2012 - 2013 SCHOOL YEAR

Name of Site(s): Emerson Elementary
Wallace Byrd Middle School
Coalgate High School

Name of School District: Coalgate

Signature of Principal(s): [signature] Date 6-4-12
[signature] Date 6-4-12
[signature] Date 6-4-12

Signature of Superintendent:* [signature]

County Name: Coal...

I hereby certify that this deregulation application was approved by our
local board of education at the meeting on
[signature] 6/12

Signature of Board President*

Notary: [signature] Exp. 9/9/17

Date: 6-4-12 My Commission Expires: 10-19-15

1. Statement of the Statute to be Waived: (specify statutory citation)

.....Except for schools operating under an extended day schedule
as provided for in Section 1-109 of this title, not more than one
(1) school day shall be counted for attendance purposes in any
twenty-four period (70-1-111)

*Original signatures are required.
A. A description of the educational benefits to be derived (i.e., describe specific benefits to learning/achievement).

Parents that work or have scheduling conflict would be able to attend the Parent Teacher Conference. Parental involvement is a key ingredient to quality educational programs.

B. A definition of the standards of the plan (i.e., alternate strategies proposed).

Parent Teacher Conferences are scheduled each 9 weeks with the purpose of the Parent being apprised of their Student's progress and building a partnership in their child's educational future.

C. Development of definitive work products, such as site improvement plans and progress reports (i.e., describe the expected student performance levels to be demonstrated or results of the Statutory Waiver).

Evaluation would be measured by the number of parents able to participate.
D. Demonstration of collaboration of teachers, administrators, higher education representatives, students, parents/families, and the community. 
Parents, Teachers and Administrators would all have input on a plan for a Teacher-Parent Committee.

E. Development and the use of an assessment mechanism to determine progress in meeting the goals and objectives of the plan (i.e., method of evaluation).
Evaluations with the Committee.

F. Development of an in-service training plan to be provided to personnel at the site who will participate in the projects.
N/A
G. 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 (i.e., describe how you will report to the State Board of Education annually).

Statement to be prepared by the Building Principals and the Committee on the participation and the effect (if any) on the students performance in the classroom.

H. Explanation of how the plan will affect other schools, programs or sites in the district.

N/A

I. Period of public review on the proposed plan.

The proposed plan was discussed at a monthly Board of Education meeting.
J. Notification and comments from the district bargaining agent, or if no bargaining agent exists, the teachers directly affected.

N/A

K. All comments, recommendations and objections made by the bargaining agent and others to the local board of education shall be forwarded to the State Board of Education for consideration prior to review of the plan.

N/A

L. Timeline for implementing the Statutory Waiver, specifying the period requested.

We are requesting 1 year. 2012/2013
Coalgate Public Schools

Home of the Wildcats

June 5, 2012

Ramona Coats/ Assistant State Superintendent
Accreditation /Standards
2500 North Lincoln Blvd.
Oklahoma City, OK  73105-4599

Dear Ms. Coats:

Coalgate Public Schools has previously been approved by the State Department of Education for a deregulation, Statutory waiver. The waiver of 70 O.S., 1-111 involved waiving the statute that only one school day can be allowed in any twenty-four hour period, was used to have an extended parent teacher conference. This has been used by our District for several years with a steady increase in the attendance and involvement of parents in their students progress, especially for the parents that have students in more than one building and work during the school day.

We would like to apply for the waiver for the 2012/2013 school year. Please consider this my request for approval of the attached Statutory Waiver Application.

If further information is needed, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

\[Signature\]

Jim Gitten
Superintendent

jg/yd
OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

ACCREDITATION DIVISION
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard, Suite 210
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105-4599
(405) 521-3333

SCHOOL SITE STATUTORY WAIVER/EXEMPTION APPLICATION
FOR 2012 - 2013 SCHOOL YEAR

Name of Site(s): Fletcher Elementary 105
Fletcher Junior High 615
Fletcher High School 715

Name of School District: Fletcher Public Schools

Signature of Principal(s): Date 12/24/12
Date 12/24/12

Signature of Superintendent: Date

County Name: Comanche

I hereby certify that this deregulation application was approved by our local board of education at the meeting on 12th Apr, 2012.

Signature of Board President*

Notary: Barbara A. Scott Date: 12/24/12 My Commission Expires: 23 Oct 12

1. Statement of the Statute to be Waived: (specify statutory citation)
70 O.S. 1-111 attached

SDE USE ONLY

PROJECT YEARS
2 of 2

ENROLLMENT

High School 132
Jr./Middle High 109
Elementary 355
District Total 456

Date Received ___________________

70 O.S. __________________

*Original signatures are required.
A. A description of the educational benefits to be derived (i.e., describe specific benefits to learning/achievement).

By conducting our parent-teacher conferences from 3:15 - 9:15 p.m., we are increasing the opportunity for more parents to come and have a meaningful discussion with their child's teacher(s). Most parents work during the normal school hours, and this schedule allows parents to attend parent-teacher conferences after the work day until 9:15 p.m.

This request was submitted and approved for the 2011-2012 academic calendar. Our teachers saw an increase in the number of parents and guardians attending conferences during 2011-2012. Additionally, teachers commented that parents appeared less stressed because they were not having to miss their job, but could schedule conferences during the afternoon and evening.

B. A definition of the standards of the plan (i.e., alternate strategies proposed).

Parent-teacher conferences will be during the "after-work" hours which will allow more parents and guardians to attend these important conferences. As an alternative, we have tried parent-teacher conferences during normal school hours (8 a.m. - 3 p.m.), and have not had an acceptable level of attendance from the parents and guardians.

C. Development of definitive work products, such as site improvement plans and progress reports (i.e., describe the expected student performance levels to be demonstrated or results of the Statutory Waiver).

The district predicts that making the parent-teacher conferences available during "after-work" hours will increase the communication between teachers and parents, and have a positive effect on student performance.

This request was submitted and approved for the 2011-2012 academic calendar. Our teachers saw an increase in the number of parents and guardians attending conferences in 2011-2012. Additionally, teachers commented that parents appeared less stressed because they were not having to miss their job, but could schedule conferences during the afternoon and evening.

Interaction among and between the school and community has increased during the 2011-2012 school year. We attribute at least some of that to the parent-teacher conference schedule change.
D. Demonstration of collaboration of teachers, administrators, higher education representatives, students, parents/families, and the community.

The district believes that our plan increases the collaboration between teachers, administrators, and parents by providing a time frame that is more flexible and relaxed for those parents and guardians who work during the day.

E. Development and the use of an assessment mechanism to determine progress in meeting the goals and objectives of the plan (i.e., method of evaluation).

The district will track the attendance rates and participation level from this schedule change, and compare like data compiled from previous parent-teacher conferences that were conducted during the normal school hours of 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

This request was submitted and approved for the 2011-2012 academic calendar. Our teachers saw an increase in the number of parents and guardians attending conferences during 2011-2012. Additionally, teachers commented that parents appeared less stressed because they were not having to miss their job, but could schedule conferences during the afternoon and evening.

The district will continue to track attendance, as well as discuss with parents and guardians, for the afternoon and evening hours available for parent-teacher conferences.

F. Development of an in-service training plan to be provided to personnel at the site who will participate in the projects.

School site administrators will continue to provide training to teachers on successful methods in creating and maintaining effective and productive parent-teacher conferences.
G. 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 (i.e., describe how you will report to the State Board of Education annually).

The district will report our parent-teacher conference statistics to the State Department through the Education Oversight/Office of Accountability annual questionnaire.

H. Explanation of how the plan will affect other schools, programs or sites in the district.

The plan will have a positive effect on the school climate and atmosphere as we open up more lines of communication with our stakeholders in the community.

This request was submitted and approved for the 2011-2012 academic calendar. Our teachers saw an increase in the number of parents and guardians attending conferences during 2011-2012. Additionally, teachers commented that parents appeared less stressed because they were not having to miss their job, but could schedule conferences during the afternoon and evening.

Interaction among and between the school and community has increased during the 2011-2012 school year. We attribute at least some of that to the parent-teacher conference schedule change.

I. Period of public review on the proposed plan.

The district will allow for input from the public during the school board meeting.
J. Notification and comments from the district bargaining agent, or if no bargaining agent exists, the teachers directly affected.

The district will notify the teachers, and allow for comments through faculty meetings. During the development of the 2012-2013 school calendar, teachers expressed their opinion about the parent-teacher conference schedule which was in place for the current academic year. All teachers requested the continuation of the afternoon-evening parent-teacher conferences, as the schedule has been a positive experience for the 2011-2012 school year.

K. All comments, recommendations and objections made by the bargaining agent and others to the local board of education shall be forwarded to the State Board of Education for consideration prior to review of the plan.

The district shall comply with this directive.

L. Timeline for implementing the Statutory Waiver, specifying the period requested.

The plan was presented to teachers and staff during the calendar committee meetings for the 2012-2013 academic schedule. Additionally, teachers and staff had opportunities to make comments about the possible continuation of the parent-teacher conference schedule to the site administrators and the superintendent. The plan was presented to the school board members during the adoption of the 2012-2013 school calendar (March 15, 2012). This waiver request was presented to the school board during the April 12, 2012, meeting. Upon approval of the request, a copy of the school calendar and note to parents will be distributed through Monday Folders, the local and county newspapers, and with (current and future) enrollment and (2012-2013) pre-enrollment forms to students and parents. The plan will be implemented for the 2012-2013 school year on September 30, 2012, and February 7, 2013.
April 12, 2012

Oklahoma State Department of Education
Office of Accreditation
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105

Dear Sir/Madam:

Fletcher Public Schools requests a statutory waiver related to having two (2) school days within a twenty-four (24) period.

The school district would like to hold Parent-Teacher Conferences from 3:15 – 9:15 p.m. on Thursday, September 30, 2012, and Thursday, February 7, 2013. Each of these days is also a regular school day for our students.

Our school district has found success in previous school years with late afternoon and evening Parent-Teacher Conferences. Many of our students’ parents/guardians work during regular school hours, often making it difficult to schedule time off for their child(ren)’s conference. Hosting the conferences after school and in the evening allows families to have more flexibility in scheduling conferences with our teachers and administrators.

Fletcher Public Schools respectfully requests the waiver regarding 70 O.S. § 1-111 to be approved for the 2012-2013 academic year.

Respectfully,

Kristy K Ehlers, Ph.D.
Superintendent
Name of Site(s): Harmony Public School District C021

Name of School District: Harmony District C021

Signature of Principal(s): Mark Thomas Date 05/21/12

Signature of Superintendent: Mark Thomas

County Name: Atoka

I hereby certify that this deregulation application was approved by our local board of education at the meeting on May 21, 2012.

Signature of Board President: [Signature]

Notary: [Signature]

Date: 05/21/12 My Commission Expires: 06/08/12

1. Statement of the Statute to be Waived: (specify statutory citation)

...Except for schools operating under an extended day schedule as provided for in Section 1-11 of the title, not more than one (1) school day shall be counted for attendance purposes in any twenty-four hour period.

Harmony Public School is requesting to have the September 11, 2012 and the February 5, 2013 Parent/Teacher Conferences following a regular school day from 3:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. during the school year 2012/13

*Original signatures are required.
A. A description of the educational benefits to be derived (i.e., describe specific benefits to learning/achievement).
More parents would be able to attend during this time frame to check on their child's progress and to confer with teachers in a more in-depth manner.

B. A definition of the standards of the plan (i.e., alternate strategies proposed).
This plan applies only to Parent/Teacher Conferences and will not disrupt or change the educational plan.

C. Development of definitive work products, such as site improvement plans and progress reports (i.e., describe the expected student performance levels to be demonstrated or results of the Statutory Waiver).
This will not impact site improvement plans, other than to increase parental involvement.
D. Demonstration of collaboration of teachers, administrators, higher education representatives, students, parents/families, and the community. Parents, teachers, and local PTA members agree that holding the conferences like this in the past have demonstrated a positive change, allowing more parents/families to attend and participate.

E. Development and the use of an assessment mechanism to determine progress in meeting the goals and objectives of the plan (i.e., method of evaluation). Assessment procedures shall include parental, teacher, administration, student, and community feedback and participation.

F. Development of an in-service training plan to be provided to personnel at the site who will participate in the projects.

N/A
G. 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 (i.e., describe how yo1 will report to the State Board of Education annually).
As needed

H. Explanation of how the plan will affect other schools, programs or sites in the district.
More parental involvement

I. Period of public review on the proposed plan.
May 1, 2012 to May 14, 2012
J. Notification and comments from the district bargaining agent, or if no bargaining agent exists, the teachers directly affected. This item will be posted and a copy will be given to teachers affording them the opportunity to voice their comments.

K. All comments, recommendations and objections made by the bargaining agent and others to the local board of education shall be forwarded to the State Board of Education for consideration prior to review of the plan. Needed attachments shall include statements concerning what is attached and examples of comments and/or objections.

L. Timeline for implementing the Statutory Waiver, specifying the period requested.
School Year: 2012/13 for the September 11, 2012 and the February 5, 2013 Parent/Teacher Conferences
June 5, 2012

Bob Neel, Accreditation  
Oklahoma State Department of Education  
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-4599

Dear Mr. Neel:

Please consider this my request for approval of the attached Statutory Waiver/Exemption Application regarding change of Parent/Teacher Conferences scheduled for the school year 2012/13.

I am requesting to have the September 11, 2012 and the February 5, 2013 Parent/Teacher Conferences following a regular school day from 3:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. More parents would be able to attend during this time frame and be informed of the progress of their children. Because of the feedback I have received from parents, teachers, and PTA members concerning this change, I feel this would be a positive modification toward school/family relations.

Thank you for your consideration concerning this matter.

Sincerely,

Mark Thomas  
Superintendent
Harmony Public School
2012/13 Calendar

August 6-8   Teachers Report for In-Service
August 9    First Day of School
September 3   Labor Day (No School)
September 11 Parent/Teacher Conference 3:00 p.m. (Students Present This Day)
September 14   No School
September 21 County Teachers Meeting (No School)
October 11    End of 1st Nine Weeks (44 days taught, 4 Prof days)
October 18-19 Fall Break (No School)
November 16   Local Teachers Meeting (No School)
November 19-23 Thanksgiving Holidays (No School)
December 20    End of 2nd Nine Weeks/1st Semester (45 days taught/1 Prof)
Dec 21-Jan 4  Christmas Holidays (No School)
January 7    School Resumes After Christmas Holidays
February 5    Parent/Teacher Conference, 3:00 p.m. (Students Present This Day)
February 8    No School
TBA 5th & 8th Grade Writing Test
March 8    End of 3rd Nine Weeks (45 days taught)
March 18-22 Spring Break (No School)
April 5    Local Teachers Meeting (No School)
TBA    Achievement Tests
TBA    Snow Day (No School)
TBA    Snow Day (No School)
May      Graduation
May 22    Last Day of School (40 days taught, 1 Prof day)

Revised: 04/16/12
OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

ACCRREDITATION DIVISION
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard, Suite 210
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105-4599
(405) 521-3333

SCHOOL SITE STATUTORY WAIVER/EXEMPTION APPLICATION
FOR 2012 - 2013 SCHOOL YEAR

Name of Site(s): HUGO HIGH SCHOOL
HUGO MIDDLE SCHOOL
HUGO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Name of School District: HUGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Signature of Principal(s): *Cynthia Buchanan* Date 6/12/12

Signature of Superintendent: *Katherine England* 6/12/12

County Name: CHOCTAW

I hereby certify that this deregulation application was approved by our local board of education at the meeting on June 11, 2012.

Signature of Board President: *Leola A. Smith*

Notary: *S. A. B. Smith*


1. **Statement of the Statute to be Waived:** (specify statutory citation)

   Except for schools operating under an extended day schedule as provided for in Section 1-109 of this title, not more than one (1) school day shall be counted for attendance purposes in any twenty-four hour period. (70-1-111)

*Original signatures are required.*
A. A description of the educational benefits to be derived (i.e., describe specific benefits to learning/achievement).

By serving parents at this extended time frame, parents will be able to check on the progress of their child/children and we will have more parent participation.

B. A definition of the standards of the plan (i.e., alternate strategies proposed).

This waiver applies only to Parent-Teacher Conference time and will not disrupt or change the educational plan.

C. Development of definitive work products, such as site improvement plans and progress reports (i.e., describe the expected student performance levels to be demonstrated or results of the Statutory Waiver).

This will not impact the site improvement plans. It will improve positive relations with the parents and afford many the opportunity to participate in the progress of their students(s).
D. Demonstration of collaboration of teachers, administrators, higher education representatives, students, parents/families, and the community.

We have seen an increased number of parents attending Parent-Teacher Conferences by offering this time frame. Extending the time in the evening is advantageous to parents who have children in more than one school site. A survey of parents indicates this is their preference.

E. Development and the use of an assessment mechanism to determine progress in meeting the goals and objectives of the plan (i.e., method of evaluation).

Parent, teacher, administrator, student and community survey.

F. Development of an in-service training plan to be provided to personnel at the site who will participate in the projects.

N/A
G. 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 (i.e., describe how you will report to the State Board of Education annually).

As needed and requested.

II. Explanation of how the plan will affect other schools, programs or sites in the district.

We will have more parental involvement.

I. Period of public review on the proposed plan.

This is an ongoing review from 2004 to present.
J. Notification and comments from the district bargaining agent, or if no bargaining agent exists, the teachers directly affected.

The item will be posted in the student handbooks, on the school district web page, through the School Reach automated telephone service, and printed on the school calendar.

K. All comments, recommendations and objections made by the bargaining agent and others to the local board of education shall be forwarded to the State Board of Education for consideration prior to review of the plan.

As needed.

L. Timeline for implementing the Statutory Waiver, specifying the period requested.

July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013
June 12, 2012

Superintendent Janet Baressi
Oklahoma State Department of Education
2500 N. Lincoln Blvd.
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Superintendent Barressi and State Board of Education:

Please consider this a formal request to allow Hugo Public Schools to hold evening Parent-Teacher Conferences on the Thursday evenings of September 20, 2012 and February 7, 2013 from 3:30 to 9:30, to be followed by Friday as a release day for students and staff.

We have been permitted to do this for several years and it has helped to make our Parent-Teacher Conferences very successful. Our parents and teachers appreciate the opportunities this allotted conference time offers them.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Respectfully,

Karen S. Lyles
Superintendent

KL:sw
Enclosures
SCHOOL SITE STATUTORY WAIVER/EXEMPTION APPLICATION
FOR 2012 - 2013 SCHOOL YEAR

Name of Site(s): Lane Public School

Name of School District: Lane Public School

Signature of Principal(s): Date 5/14/12

Signature of Superintendent: Date

County Name: Atoka

SDE USE ONLY

PROJECT YEARS
3 of 3

ENROLLMENT

High School 0
Jr./Middle High 0
Elementary 225
District Total 225

Date Received

70 O.S. 1-111

1. Statement of the Statute to be Waived: (specify statutory citation)

Notary: Leomie Josephine Roberts
Date: 5/14/2012 My Commission Expires: 9/29/15

*Original signatures are required.
1. Statement of the Statute To Be Waived: (include statutory cite)

Exempt for schools operating under an extended day schedule as provided for in Section 1-111 of this title, not more than one (1) school day shall be counted for attendance purposes in any twenty-four-hour period. (70-1-111)

Not more than one (1) school day shall be counted for attendance purposes in any twenty-four-hour period.

2. A description of the educational benefits to be derived;
   There will be more parent participation in this time frame. It will allow parents more time to check on their child/children’s educational progress.

   B. A definition of the standards of the plan;
   This applies only to the parent-teacher conference time and will not change the educational program of the school.

   C. Development of definitive work products, such as site improvement plans and progress reports;
   Positive relations with the parent and community will be enhanced.

   D. Demonstration of collaboration by teachers, administrators, higher education representatives, students, parents/families, and the community.
   Past experience at the school has generated positive comments from teachers, parents, and students that they prefer this arrangement for parent-teacher conferences.

   E. Development and the use of an assessment to determine progress in meeting the goals and objectives of the plan;
   This will be done with parental, teacher, administration, student, and community feedback.

   F. Development of an in-service training plan to be provided to personnel at the site who will participate in the project;
   Not Applicable.

   G. 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;
   As needed at the request of the Board.
H. Explanation of how the plan will affect other schools, programs or Sites in the district;
Increased parental involvement is directly proportional to educational success of the students.

I. Period of public review on the proposed plan.
August 2012 through May 2013.

J. Notification and comments from the district bargaining agent, or if no bargaining agent exists, the teachers directly affected.
Being part of the school calendar it will be before teachers at all times and they are always encouraged to comment on any program.

K. All comments, recommendations and objections made by the bargaining agent and others to the local board of education shall be forwarded to the State Board of Education for consideration prior to review of the plan.

L. Timeline for implementing the Statutory Waiver.
School Year: 2012-2013
All parent-teacher conferences listed on the school calendar would be included. (Lane School 2012-2013 School Calendar enclosed)
May 10, 2012

State Board of Education  
Oklahoma State Department of Education  
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-4599

Re: Statutory Waiver

Dear State Board:

Lane School is requesting a statutory waiver in order to have Parent-Teacher Conferences in the evening after a regular school day. We find that because of our parents work schedules they are more likely to participate in the conference when it does not interfere with their workday. When we have had these conferences in the evening our participation runs near 80%, while if held during the school day hours we see less than 50% participation. An added benefit for the teachers is that the following Friday or Monday is a day off.

This is a win-win situation for schools and their communities. Your kind consideration will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Roland Smith
LANE PUBLIC SCHOOL

CALENDAR

2012-2013

August  6, 7 & 8 – Teacher In-Service (3) Professional Day’s
August  9 – First Day of School
September 3 – Labor Day/ No School
September 21 – County Teachers Meeting/No School
September 27 – Parent/Teacher Conference (From 3-8 after Regular School Day)
September 28 – No School
October 18 & 19 – Fall Break/No School
November 16-23 – Thanksgiving Holiday/No School
December 18-January 2 – Christmas Holiday/No School
January  3- School Resumes
January 21 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day/ No School
February 14 – Parent/Teacher Conference (From 3-8 after Regular School Day)
February 15 – No School
February 18 – Presidents Day/No School
March 18-22 – Spring Break
March 29 – Teachers Meeting/No School
April 5 – Snow Day
April 26 – Snow Day
May 10 – Last Day of School (165 Days Taught – 5 Professional Days)
Name of Site(s): Wewoka Public Schools including Elementary School, Learning Center, Middle School and High School

Name of School District: Wewoka Public Schools 67-1002

Signature of Principal(s):* 
D. Brown
Date 5-1-12

J. Roberts
Date 5-1-12

Signature of Superintendent:* 

County Name: Seminole

I hereby certify that this deregulation application was approved by our local board of education at the meeting on May 14, 2012.

Pace Sheffield
Signature of Board President*

Notary: Patty Arnold
Date: 5/14/2012 My Commission Expires: July 6 2012

1. Statement of the Statute to be Waived: (specify statutory citation)

70 O.S. 1-111 (Section 12 in School Law Book) unless excepted as noted, not more than one (1) school day shall be counted for attendance purposes in any twenty-four (24) hour period.

*Original signatures are required.
A. A description of the educational benefits to be derived (i.e., describe specific benefits to learning/achievement).

Scheduling a Parent/Teacher Conference during a six (6) hour block of time after normal school hours will result in an increased amount of participation from parents in our community. It will span a period of time that will provide parents with the flexibility that they will be able to attend. Increased parent participation will result in improved achievement.

B. A definition of the standards of the plan (i.e., alternate strategies proposed).

Parent/Teacher conferences will be scheduled on October 25, 2012 and February 14, 2013. They will be scheduled after school beginning at 3:00 p.m. and run until 9:00 p.m. The dates are suggested by the Calendar Committee within each school and approved by the Board of Education.

C. Development of definitive work products, such as site improvement plans and progress reports (i.e., describe the expected student performance levels to be demonstrated or results of the Statutory Waiver).

Progress will be measured by parent participation as comparable to previous years. Teachers will keep an accurate count of the number of parents who attend for comparison with previous years. Each site will then report findings to the Superintendent.
D. Demonstration of collaboration of teachers, administrators, higher education representatives, students, parents/families, and the community.

Teachers in each school discuss the calendar and its components individually. A representative from each building then meets with representatives from other buildings to work on a final version. Administration then verifies the legal components of the calendar and makes suggestions and remands the calendar back to the committee. If more than one emerges, the choices are presented to the Board of Education with arguments for each. In this case, this was the only option requested by teachers and presented to the Board.

E. Development and the use of an assessment mechanism to determine progress in meeting the goals and objectives of the plan (i.e., method of evaluation).

Any baseline data will be gathered from the current school year. This data will be used to assess increase in parental participation in the subsequent school years. Data will be accumulated and reported after each conference date.

F. Development of an in-service training plan to be provided to personnel at the site who will participate in the projects.

Principals will work to guide teachers on the importance of keeping record of attendance, and conferencing techniques. Also, teachers will be instructed on the flexibility to be available to parents during this time. Flexibility will be key to insuring increased participation.
G. 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 (i.e., describe how you will report to the State Board of Education annually).

Program results will be given to the teachers to determine future effectiveness, and the Board of Education. Any report requested by the State Board of Education or the State Department of Education will be promptly and accurately submitted.

H. Explanation of how the plan will affect other schools, programs or sites in the district.

The district-wide plan for having PT conferences over a large span of time in one evening will enable the most parents the flexibility to attend.

I. Period of public review on the proposed plan.

At the February Board Meeting. Parent viewpoints are encouraged continually and parent comments will be taken into consideration for time and placement of these days.
J. Notification and comments from the district bargaining agent, or if no bargaining agent exists, the teachers directly affected.

Teachers were the root which initiated this proposal through the school calendar committee as described above. This proposal is due to teacher request, and all teachers had input.

K. All comments, recommendations and objections made by the bargaining agent and others to the local board of education shall be forwarded to the State Board of Education for consideration prior to review of the plan.

There were no comments including objections to this proposed calendar to the Board of Education other than the request submitted is that of the wishes of the teaching staff.

L. Timeline for implementing the Statutory Waiver, specifying the period requested.

Implementation will begin with the Board approved calendar for the 2012-2013 school year.
May 21, 2012

State Department of Education
Accreditation Division
2500 N. Lincoln Blvd., Suite 210
Oklahoma City, OK  73105-4599

Dear Sir or Madam:

In the past, Wewoka Public Schools has received a statutory waiver to allow an extended Parent/Teacher conference time to begin early afternoon and run to late evening. This has worked out well allowing for more parents to attend these sessions than ever before. Due to its success, we are applying to continue this practice.

On May 14, 2012, the School Board of Wewoka approved the 2012-2013 waiver application requesting that the Parent/Teacher conferences remain scheduled as they have over the past few years. I am now requesting that the waiver be approved so we can continue this successful program.

I am including a copy of the approved 2012-2013 school calendar and the Waiver Application.

Sincerely,

Sam McElvany, Superintendent
Wewoka Public Schools
WEWOKA PUBLIC SCHOOLS CALENDAR FOR 2012 - 2013
Hourly Calendar

*All Fridays August – March are on PLC Schedule – See handbook for student attendance and schedule times.

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**AUGUST**

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Aug. 1st Professional Day
Aug. 2nd Students Report

**SEPTEMBER**

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Sept. 3rd Labor Day
Sept. 4th Professional Day

**OCTOBER**

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Oct. 5th Professional Day/End of 9 weeks
Oct. 15th – 19th Fall Break
Oct. 25th P/T Conf. Eve. (Counts as 2 days**)
Oct. 26th Activity Day/Arranged Day/Voluntary Professional Day

**NOVEMBER**

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Nov. 19th – Nov. 23rd Thanksgiving Break
Nov. 26th Professional Day

**DECEMBER**

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Dec. 19th End of 9 weeks/Semester/Flex Day
Dec. 20th – Dec. 31st Winter Break

**JANUARY**

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Jan. 1st Holiday
Jan. 2nd Professional Day
Jan. 3rd Students Report
Jan. 21st MLK Day No School

**FEBRUARY**

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Feb. 14th P/T Conf. Eve. (Counts as 2 days**)
Feb. 15th Activity Day
Feb. 18th Presidents Day – No School

**MARCH**

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Mar. 8th End of 9 Weeks
Mar. 18th – Mar. 22nd Spring Break
Mar. 25th Professional Day

**APRIL**

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Apr. 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th Activity Days

**MAY**

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May 10th Last Day of School/Flex Day
May 13th Professional Day

**JUNE**

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**Second day counts as a 6 hr. day instead of a 6.5 hr. day**