MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Members of the State Board of Education

FROM: Janet Barresi

DATE: May 24, 2012

SUBJECT: Statutory Waiver to Allow Two School Days in a 24-Hour Period

The following school is 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
ADDITIONAL STANDARDS FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

210:35-5-42. Elementary School Class Size
(f) Minimum scheduled time for planning and/or preparation and consultation. A minimum of 200 minutes of scheduled time shall be provided each week for each classroom teacher for individual planning and/or preparation and consultation.

ADDITIONAL STANDARDS FOR MIDDLE LEVEL SCHOOLS

210:35-7-41. Staffing: pupil/professional staff ratio
(e) A minimum of 200 minutes of scheduled time shall be provided each week for each classroom teacher for individual planning and/or preparation and consultation.

ADDITIONAL STANDARDS FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS

210:35-9-41. Staffing: pupil/professional staff ratio
(d) A minimum of 225 minutes of scheduled time shall be provided each week for each classroom teacher for individual planning and/or preparation and consultation during the instructional day.
Oklahoma Congressional Districts
2012 - 2020 Elections

LEGEND
Congressional Districts

1
2
3
4
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Counties
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 20\textsuperscript{12} - 20\textsuperscript{13} SCHOOL YEAR

Name of Site(s):  Atoka Elementary
McCall Highschool
Atoka Highschool

Name of School District:  Atoka Public Schools

Signature of Principal(s):  
\signature{Principal}
\signature{Principal}
\signature{Principal}
Date:  4-2-12  Date:  4-2-12  Date:  4-2-12

Signature of Superintendent:  
\signature{Superintendent}

County Name:  Atoka

I hereby certify that this deregulation application was approved by our
local board of education at the meeting on March 26, 2012.

\signature{Board President}

Notary:  
\signature{Notary}
Date:  3-26-12  My Commission Expires:  6-16-14

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

O.S. 70-1-111
Not more than (1) school day shall be counted for attendance purposes in any twenty-four hour period.

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

The largest percentage of our parents work from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. having the parent/teachers conference from 3:30p.m. until 9:00p.m. will give them a better opportunity to visit with the teachers and become more involved with their childs educational process.

B. A definition of the standards of the plan (i.e., alternate strategies proposed).
This applies only to our parent/teacher conference times and will not change our educational program.

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).

Parent/Teacher relationships will improve. Parents will become more involved in their childrens education if they feel they are a part of the education process.
D. Demonstration of collaboration of teachers, administrators, higher education representatives, students, parents/families, and the community.

The parents of our students have stated to our school representatives that they appreciate the opportunity to be able to visit the classroom at a time that is convenient for them.

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).

Visiting with the parents has shown that meeting with the teachers at a time that is more favorable and convenient helps them become more involved in their child's education.

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

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

as needed at the request of the Board.

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

More involvement of our parents with the education process of their children will be shown in the success of our students.

I. Period of public review on the proposed plan.

We have used this plan in previous years and it has shown to be very successful.
J. Notification and comments from the district bargaining agent, or if no bargaining agent exists, the teachers directly affected.
Teachers and principals at each site have stated to the Superintendent of how having the conferences at a time that is accessible for parents has made participation in this program much more successful for all involved.

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 have been no objections from parents, teachers or the community on this plan we have only received favorable feedback.

L. Timeline for implementing the Statutory Waiver, specifying the period requested.
2012-2013
March 29, 2012

State Department of Education
2500 N. Lincoln
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73015
Accreditation Section

Please accept this cover letter to acknowledge our request for having our Parent-Teacher Conferences during the evening hours after the regular school day. We have found that this setting best meets the needs of our parents in furthering and completing the education of our children.

Respectfully,

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

Name of Site(s): Please see attached listing

Name of School District: Durant ISD #72

Signature of Principal(s): *See Attached Date 

Signature of Superintendent: * 

County Name: Bryan 07

I hereby certify that this de-regulation application was approved by our local board of education at the meeting on April 2, 2012.

Signature of Board President* 

Notary: 

Date: 4/2/12 My Commission Expires: 1/29/2016

1. **Statement of the Statute to be Waived:** (specify statutory citation)
   Section 12 School Laws of Oklahoma - 70-1-111

*Original signatures are required.*
DURANT PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT 1072
EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN As required by 70 O.S. § 3-126, 3-127 School Laws of Oldahoma 1997, § 42.8, 42.9

A. Since the Statutory Waiver obtained for prior school years were highly successful, the Durant Public School District is seeking to continue this program, which encourages parental involvement in their children's educations. The district is cognizant of the fact that without parental support, the task of educating their children would be difficult. The purpose for the continuation of this plan is to allow more parents to attend parent-teacher conferences. Most parents of children enrolled in the Durant Public Schools, mother and father as well as grandparents, work outside of the home. It is extremely difficult for one, much less both, parents to attend these important conferences scheduled during the school day as many employers are not willing to allow their employees the time away from their job duties for this purpose.

B. The Durant Public School District is proposing to hold two parent-teacher conferences during the 2012-2013 school year following a regular school day on a Thursday between the hours of 3:30 PM and 9:30 PM. Neither teachers nor students would attend classes on the Fridays following these conferences.

C. The District feels that the increased involvement of parents allowed by these evening conferences will continue to garner better understanding of their children's schoolwork and the school's curriculum, thus creating more parent involvement in their children's educational plan. This, in turn, results in better progress reports as well as end-of-quarter grades as reflected on report cards. It certainly allows everyone involved to be better equipped to guide students through their school year as well as their entire school careers. It has shown that once parents become involved in this segment of their children's educational experience, they begin to become involved in other aspects of school life. School site improvement plans greatly benefit from the added parental involvement and support.

D. The District expects that with the continuance of this plan better communication with parents, as well as others in the community, result. This increased communication is needed to provide future interaction among teachers, administrators and other educators as well as the business and private sector of the community, in all programs and activities of the District.

E. At the close of each conference period teachers and administrators discuss in faculty and administrative staff meetings the results of their parental involvement in conferences and compare these results with conferences held in previous years at more "conventional times."

F. In-service opportunities focusing on parental involvements are and will continue to be staple programs each year in the Durant Public School District. At present, there are four days during each school year devoted to district-wide in-service programs, with "parental involvement" provided during most of these in-service days. Additionally, parental involvement videos are available for teachers' use from the "professional development library" located in the Central Administration Office. All site media centers provide to teachers a listing of programs available in this library.

G. Durant school representatives are available to share any insights about and or results of this endeavor with the State Department of Education or any other entity or person requesting such information.

H. The Durant Public School District expects a continuation of the positive results to occur through scheduling parent teacher conferences during the evening hours. It is the desire of the District that the continuation of this endeavor is a positive experience for teachers, parents and students alike and that it continues to result in increased parental involvement in all areas and programs within this District.

I. All members of the public will be provided information concerning the result of this plan through the local newspaper, various district publications, the district website and the school television channel.

J - K. When asked for input in this application, the president of the teacher bargaining unit, the Durant Education Association" made the following comments: "The Durant Education Association completely supports the District's application for this statutory waiver that would allow for the continuation of parent-teacher conferences to be held at the end of a regular school day from 3:30 PM to 9:30 PM. The continuation of this concept, which has proven very successful, allows far more parents to participate in their children's educational plan. The DEA is willing to assist the District in any way possible in the continued execution of this plan."

L. Dates for the proposed Parent / Teacher Conferences:
   September 27, 2012, 3:30 – 9:30 PM
   March 7, 2013, 3:30 – 9:30 PM
Name of Sites:

Durant High School
Durant Middle School
Durant Intermediate School
Northwest Heights Elementary
Robert E. Lee Elementary
Washington Irving Elementary

Signatures of Principals:

Cheryl Conditt, Principal Durant High School
Date
MARCH 29, 2012

Kenny Chaffin, Principal Durant Middle School
Date
MARCH 29, 2012

Tod Harrison, Principal Durant Intermediate School
Date
MARCH 29, 2012

Carrie Gosnell, Principal Northwest Heights Elementary School
Date
MARCH 29, 2012

Janice Chaffin, Principal Robert E. Lee Elementary School
Date
MARCH 29, 2012

Katy Pruitt, Principal Washington Irving Elementary School
Date
MARCH 29, 2012
Bob Neel  
Accreditation/Standards Section  
2500 No. Lincoln Blvd. – Room 210  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-4599

Dear Mr. Neel:

Enclosed is a Statutory Waiver Application from the Durant Public School District. I very much appreciate your assistance in arranging for this application to be on the agenda of the next State Board Meeting. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. Again, thank you.

Sincerely,

William J. Simeroth, Ph.D.  
Superintendent of Schools
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): Greenville Elementary

Name of School District: Greenville

Signature of Principal(s):* Date 3/12/12

Date

Signature of Superintendent:*

County Name: Love

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

Signature of Board President*

Notary: Bobbi Lee Clover

Date: 03/12/12 My Commission Expires: 06/16/12

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

The Greenville School is proposing a change from the normal day to an extended day for Parent Teacher Conference. The proposed date/time will be as follows:

September 20 (3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.) September 21 Classes Dismissed

February 7 (3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.) February 8 Classes Dismissed

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

This waiver will provide the opportunity for working parents to attend parent teacher conferences after work hours. Greenville has a population of parents that must travel out of the county for work. We feel that this schedule will accommodate our parents and teachers.

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

The Greenville School District is currently using a traditional school day time frame for the purpose of Parent Teacher Conferences. We are requesting a statutory waiver/exemption to allow the FY 2012-2013 Parent Teacher Conferences to accommodate the extended day.

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).

N/A
D. Demonstration of collaboration of teachers, administrators, higher education representatives, students, parents/families, and the community.

The calendar committee consists of teachers, parents, 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).

Parent Teacher Conference data from the school year 2011-2012 will be compared to determine in parental participation increases.

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).

The Greenville School District, upon request, will provide the State Department of Education and the State Board of Education results from the comparison of FY 2011-2012 to the FY 2012-2013.

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

The Greenville School District has only one site.

I. Period of public review on the proposed plan.

Attendance records for the Parent Teacher Conferences will be reported by the administration to the local Board of Education. Sign in sheets and parental comments will be kept in individual student records for documentation.
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.

The proposed date/time will be as follows:

September 20 (3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.)   September 21 Classes Dismissed

February 7  (3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.)    February 8     Classes Dismissed
TO: State Department of Education

RE: Waiver

On behalf of Greenville Public School District we would like to submit our waiver request to have two (2) six hour days within a twenty-four hour period for our parent-teacher conferences.

Thank you,

Terry D. Shaw
Superintendent
Name of Site(s): Haskell Public Schools

Name of School District: Haskell Public Schools

Signature of Principal(s):* Date

Date

Signature of Superintendent:* Date

County Name: Muskogee

I hereby certify that this deregulation application was approved by our local board of education at the meeting on _____________, 20____. 

Signature of Board President*

Notary: ____________________________

Date: ____________________________ My Commission Expires: ____________________________

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

70 O.S. 1-111

*SOriginal signatures are required.
Haskell Public Schools
Dr. Landon Berry, Superintendent
Muskogee County 51 (918) 482-5221 District 1002

Statutory Waiver/Exemption Application
Educational Improvement Plan
Two School Days Counted in a Twenty-Four Hour Period

A. Description of the Educational Benefits to be derived.
   - Allows more parents the opportunity to attend parent/teacher conference from 3:00-9:00 p.m. and
     will result in a higher parent participation rate.
   - Better and more efficient communication between the school and parents.

B. A Definition of the Standards of the Plan.
   - 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.
   - Higher percentage of parental participation at parent/teacher conference.
   - Decrease in the number of discipline referrals to the office.

D. Demonstration of Collaboration of Teachers, Administrators, Higher Education Representatives,
   Students, Parents/Families, and the Community.
   - The faculty, staff, and administration collaborated a plan for the 2012-2013 school calendar to
     obtain more parental involvement and communication between parents, teachers, and
     administration.

E. Development and the Use of an Assessment Mechanism.
   - Higher percentage of parents attending parent/teacher conference.

F. Development of an In-service Training Plan to be provided.
   - A training session for personnel will be provided to enhance better communication skills.

G. Report on the results to the State Board and provisions of appropriate technical assistance to other
   school districts and SDE as required.
   - Parental participation results will be published for dissemination to the community and the State
     Board of Education.

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 site to discuss the
     progress of their children with their teachers.

I. Period of Public Review on the proposed plan.
   - Board Meeting.

J. Notification and comments from the districts teachers affected.

Danny Harris, Principal
Mary White Elementary School
Telephone: (918) 482-1402

Erin Jones, Principal
Middle School/High School
Telephone: (918) 482-5223
• Teachers were on the committee developing the calendar.
• Teachers voted on their selection of this calendar.
K. All comments, recommendations, and objections made by the teacher and others will be forwarded to the State Board for consideration.
• There were no objections made to the plan.
L. Timeline for implementing the statutory waiver, specifying the period requested.
• Requesting approval for one school calendar year.

Danny Harris, Principal
Mary White Elementary School
Telephone: (918) 482-1402

Erin Jones, Principal
Middle School/High School
Telephone: (918) 482-5223
May 9, 2012

Dear Dr. Bob Neel:

Haskell Public Schools is asking for a statutory waiver for the 2012-2013 school year. We are requesting two (2) parent/teacher conference days, one each semester. The request specifically is to count two (2) school days in a twenty-four (24) hour period. We were granted this statutory waiver last year and we feel it was a tremendous success. The attendance at our parent/teacher conferences increased significantly.

If you have any questions please contact me at (918) 482-5221.

Sincerely,

Dr. Landon Berry
Superintendent of Schools

Danny Harris, Principal
Mary White Elementary School
Telephone: (918) 482-1432

Erin Jones, Principal
Middle School/High School
Telephone: (918) 482-5223
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): Katherine Daily Elementary, John Hubbard Elementary,
Pioneer Intermediate School, Curtis Inge Middle School,
and Noble High School

Name of School District: Noble Public Schools

Signature of Principal(s):* __________________________ Date __________
See Below
Date __________

Signature of Superintendent:* Ronda Bass

County Name: Cleveland

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

Tony D. Nelson
Signature of Board President*

Notary: Meloni Sauer

Date: 3-12-12 My Commission Expires: 11-18-13

1. Statement of the Statute to be Waived: (specify statutory citation)
70 O.S. 10.105.2, Section 230, Outreach to Parents

Signature of Principals
Katherine Daily Elementary __________________________ Date 3-12-12
John Hubbard Elementary __________________________ Date 3-12-12
Pioneer Intermediate __________________________ Date 3-12-12
Curtis Inge M. S. - __________________________ Date 3-12-12
Noble High School - __________________________ Date 3-12-12

*Original signatures are required.
1. Statement of the Statute to Be Waived:

The Noble Public School District respectfully requests a statutory waiver which will allow for two school days within a 24 hour period for the purpose of parent-teacher conferences. (Reference 70 O.S.§ 10.105.2, Section 230, Outreach to Parents)

2. Educational Improvement Plan – Noble Public Schools (2008-09), Parent-Teacher Conferences

A. Description of the educational benefits to be derived (i.e., benefits to learning/achievement) – Including two school days in a twenty-four hour period will allow a greater percentage of working-class parents to attend parent-teacher conferences during evening hours.

B. A definition of the standards of the plan (i.e., alternate strategies proposed) – The time period of parent-teacher conferences will be the equivalent of one regular school day (6 hours).

C. Development of definitive work products, such as site improvements plans and progress reports (i.e., describe the expected student performance levels to be demonstrated or results of the deregulation/statutory waiver) – With the increase in state-wide student testing, Common Core standards, and AYP benchmarks, a more flexible conference schedule will allow for the discussion of modifications and/or interventions regarding each student’s performance levels.

D. Demonstration of collaboration of teachers, administrators, higher education representatives, students, parents/families, and the community – The exemption request is partially based on parent requests for flexibility in the scheduling of conferences.

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) – Each site will track and record attendance of parents and teachers at the conferences.

F. Development of an in-service training plan to be provided to personnel at the site who will participate in the project – Each site will review procedures for conducting a successful parent-teacher conference.

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-teacher conferences will be documented in each site’s attendance registrars.

H. Explanation of how the plan will affect other school, programs, or sites in the district – Some teachers will be unable to attend the conferences due to coaching responsibilities and other extenuating circumstances. They will be required to set-up alternate conferences times with interested parents.

I. Period of public review on the proposed plan
   NA

J. Notification and comments from the district bargaining agent, or if no bargaining agent exists, the teachers directly affected – The local district bargaining agent has had the opportunity for input regarding the development of the 2012-2013 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 – There are none at this time.

3. Timeline for implementing the Statutory Waiver, specifying the period requested (one to three years):

This request is for the 2012-2013 school year.
March 13, 2012

Oklahoma State Department of Education
c/o Oklahoma State Board of Education
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear State Board Members:

The Noble Public School District respectfully requests a statutory waiver which will allow for two school days within a 24 hour period for the purpose of parent-teacher conferences. This request is for the 2012-2013 school year.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Ronda L. Bass
Superintendent

Enclosures: School Site Waiver/Exemption Application for 2012-13 School Year
Educational Improvement Plan
Name of Site(s): Olustee Elementary School

Olustee High School

Name of School District: Olustee Public Schools

Signature of Principal(s):*

Date: 4-10-12

Melvin Hegg

Date: 4-10-12

Signature of Superintendent:* Gaylene Trimper

County Name: Jackson

I hereby certify that this deregulation application was approved by our local board of education at the meeting on April 10, 2012.

Signature of Board President*

Notary: Janice Reynolds

Date: 4-10-12 My Commission Expires:

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

70 O.S. 1-111 A. A school day for any group of pupils shall consist of not less than six (6) hours devoted to school activities, except that a school day for nursery, early childhood education, kindergarten, first grade, extended day program, and alternative education programs shall be as otherwise defined by law or as defined by the State Board of Education. 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. Pupils 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.

b. Beginning with the 1993-94 school year, the school day for kindergarten may consist of six (6) hours devoted to school activities.

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

This waiver will allow more parents to attend our parent-teacher conferences by creating a 3 pm to 9 pm opportunity. In the past our conferences have been from 3-6 pm on a Thursday and then 9-12 noon on Friday. By combining the two sessions into a 3-9 pm session, we hope more parents will be off work and able to attend. Better informed parents will have a greater impact on student achievement.

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

Historically, we have always split our parent-teacher conference in two sessions i.e. 3 pm - 6 pm on a Thursday evening and 9 am - 12 noon on Friday. We do this twice per year - once in September and then again in February. Most parents are not able to leave work during the day to come to the conference. Also, most parents work until 5 pm or later, thus leaving a very small window of opportunity to visit their children's teachers. We hope by combining the two sessions into one and having the conference from 3 pm until 9 pm will allow more parents to attend.

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).

As a result of this waiver, more parents will attend the parent-teacher conference and will be better informed of their children's academic progress. This in turn should have a positive impact on the student achievement.
D. Demonstration of collaboration of teachers, administrators, higher education representatives, students, parents/families, and the community.
By allowing more parents an extended opportunity to attend parent-teacher conferences, beneficial coalitions will emerge due to increased parent-teacher collaboration.

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).
Currently, parent attendance averages around 55 percent. By allowing a 6 hour conference after a school day (3:00 pm to 9:00 pm), we hope to increase that percentage by at least 75%. Our assessment tool will be the roster used for parent attendance/sign-in sheet.

F. Development of an in-service training plan to be provided to personnel at the site who will participate in the projects.
District will promote parent-teacher conference and new time frame. In addition each teacher will need to communicate with individual parents in regards to conference attendance.
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).
Follow up memorandum will be sent to SDE regarding success of conference time frame.

H. Explanation of how the plan will affect other schools, programs or sites in the district.
Already we have other schools in the county who have applied for the waiver regarding 2 school days in a 24 hour period in order to lengthen parent-teacher conference time to the convenience of the parents. We hope, if successful, this will become the norm for area rural schools.

I. Period of public review on the proposed plan.
Last month, parents were surveyed on the possible change. Seventy-six percent indicated a time change was warranted. We will do a post-survey after the lengthened conference.
J. Notification and comments from the district bargaining agent, or if no bargaining agent exists, the teachers directly affected.

As with the parents, faculty will be allowed the opportunity to share input on the outcome of the new conference time frame. Hopefully, this will increase the number of parents attending the conference. As a result, student achievement should be positively affected.

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 stated earlier, a letter of review will be sent to the SDE. However, any comments directed to the local board shall be sent to the SDE prior to the review.

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

We would like to implement this waiver for our parent-teacher conferences during the 2012-2013 school year.
Dear Accreditation Division:

As superintendent of Clustee Public School, I would like to request a waiver of Oklahoma Statute 70: 1-111. In order to increase our parent attendance at our conferences, we would like to hold our conferences from 3 pm until 9 pm after a regular school day. We feel this time frame would increase the opportunity for parents to attend. With more informed parents, student achievement should increase as well. We would appreciate your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

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

Name of Site(s): Elementary PK-8
High School 9-12

Name of School District: Sterling
Signature of Principal(s): *Mary Harris Date 4-11-12
*Signature of Superintendent:
County Name: Comanche

I hereby certify that this deregulation application was approved by our local board of education at the meeting on April 16, 2012.

Signature of Board President:
Notary:
Date: 4-16-12 My Commission Expires

1. Statement of the Statute to be Waived:
70-1-111 The Sterling Public School District is requesting a Statutory Waiver in order to conduct two school days in a 24 hour period for the purpose of conducting Parent/Teacher Conferences.

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

In order to continue our efforts to increase parental involvement in our students' education, Sterling Public Schools is requesting permission to conduct Parent/Teacher Conferences in the evening hours. Parents and guardians in our community have indicated that they are more apt to attend conferences scheduled in the after school and evening hours. Communication between parents and teachers directly affects student achievement. It is the desire of the District to do whatever possible to increase parental involvement and increase student support.

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

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held beginning at 3:30 p.m. and ending at 9:30 p.m. immediately following a regular school day. There will be no school the following day, which will be a Friday. All certified personnel are required to be present for the Parent/Teacher Conferences including administrators. We will conduct one Parent/Teacher Conference a semester.

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).

Attendance register for parents in attendance
API Scores
EOI and CRT Scores
Grade Reports
CLEP Plan
Student attendance records
D. Demonstration of collaboration of teachers, administrators, higher education representatives, students, parents/families, and the community.

Parents, faculty, and administration were surveyed to review the best possible means to facilitate and increase parental involvement. All parties agreed that the greatest possible success for Parent/Teacher Conferences would be to continue the offering in the evening hours. The district continues to use the Parent Notification system, Monday folders, and posting to the school's website to encourage attendance at the conferences.

The District has implemented Student Led Parent/Teacher Conferences in grades 5 and 6 in an attempt to increase attendance and parental involvement.

Parents were consulted about the most convenient time for the conferences.

Students were also consulted on ideas to increase parental involvement.

Higher Education was not involved in the decision making.

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 participation will be monitored and a record of each meeting between a parent and a teacher will be recorded. The parents will be informed of his or her child's attendance, discipline report, achievement test scores, and current academic standing.

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

The effectiveness of the parent/teacher conferences will be evaluated at the beginning and end of the year during in-service. Teachers will collaborate on techniques to increase the effectiveness of the conferences as well as the school's parental involvement overall. If the administration deems it appropriate, teachers will be offered in-service training that emphasizes parent/teacher relations.
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).

A record of parent participation will be maintained and made available to the SDE or any of our community groups upon request.

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

The certified staff, administrators, and parents will be effected by the approval of this proposal. The plan will not have a negative effect on any other programs offered. Our expectation is that the plan will have a positive influence on parental involvement and on student success and achievement.

I. Period of public review on the proposed plan.

October 2012 School Board Meeting.
September 2012 Title I Meeting.
J. Notification and comments from the district bargaining agent, or if no bargaining agent exists, the teachers directly affected.

The plan was requested by the district's teachers and administration.

Teachers are annually asked for their input during in-service.

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.

Letters from parents and teachers are attached.

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

The District proposes to implement the plan on September 13, 2012 and February 7, 2013.
April 11, 2012

SDE: Accreditation,

On behalf of Sterling Public Schools, I am requesting a Statutory Waiver that would allow us to conduct 2 school days in a 24 hour period, in order to conduct our Parent/Teacher Conferences beginning at 3:30pm and ending at 9:30pm. This has been the procedure for Sterling Public Schools in previous years and has proven to be productive in our school/community relations. Most of our students have parents who work outside the home, making it very difficult to attend conferences unless afforded the opportunity in the late evening hours. The administration at Sterling Public Schools is passionate about parental involvement and is continually looking for avenues to increase those relationships. I have consulted with the faculty and numerous community members to support the need for this accommodation. Please let me know if there is anything further that I can do concerning this request.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Julie Poteete, Superintendent