

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)

4 HOUSE BILL 2646

 By: Baker

7 AS INTRODUCED

8 An Act relating to schools; creating the School
9 Turnaround Act; defining terms; directing the State
10 Department of Education to designate schools in need
11 of intervention; determining the criteria necessary
12 to exit the program; establishing school turnaround
13 committee; selecting independent school turnaround
14 expert; developing and implementing a school
15 turnaround plan with certain criteria; prioritizing
16 funding; streamlining certain authority; submitting
17 school turnaround plan for approval; providing
18 appeals process; directing the State Department of
19 Education to identify independent school turnaround
20 experts; providing independent school turnaround
21 expert contracts contents; specifying professional
22 fee amounts; directing the Department to provide
23 funding for a school turnaround plan under certain
24 circumstances; balancing certain funding needs;
 providing extension to certain school improvement
 efforts; directing the Department to promulgate
 rules; defining term; creating the School Recognition
 and Reward Program; distributing rewards; providing
 for codification; declaring an emergency.

22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

1 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
2 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1210.651 of Title 70, unless
3 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

4 This act shall be known and may be cited as the "School
5 Turnaround Act".

6 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
7 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1210.652 of Title 70, unless
8 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

9 As used in the School Turnaround Act:

10 1. "Department" means the State Department of Education;

11 2. "School" means a public school under the control of a school
12 district board of education;

13 3. "Educator" means any person who is employed to serve as
14 district superintendent, principal, supervisor, a counselor,
15 librarian, school nurse or classroom teacher or in any other
16 instructional, supervisory or administrative capacity. The person
17 shall not be deemed qualified unless the person holds a valid
18 certificate issued by and in accordance with the rules of the State
19 Board of Education or the rules of the State Board of Career and
20 Technology Education, to perform the particular services for which
21 the person is employed;

22 4. "Initial remedial year" means the year in which a school is
23 designated as a school in need of intervention;

1 5. "School in need of intervention" means a school that has
2 been designated as in need of intervention by the Department of
3 Education according to an outcome-based measure; and

4 6. "Statewide assessment" means a test of student achievement,
5 including a test administered in a computer-adaptive format, that is
6 administered statewide.

7 SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
8 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1210.653 of Title 70, unless
9 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

10 A. The Department shall develop and use outcome-based measures
11 to set criteria for the designation of schools in need of
12 intervention.

13 B. No more than one (1) month after school site report cards
14 are delivered pursuant to subsection J of Section 1210.545 of Title
15 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes, the Department shall designate specific
16 schools as in need of intervention.

17 C. The Department shall determine the specific criteria a
18 school must meet to exit the program based on the same outcome-based
19 measures as were used to designate schools as in need of
20 intervention.

21 SECTION 4. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
22 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1210.654 of Title 70, unless
23 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

1 A. On or before October 1 of an initial remedial year, a school
2 district board of education governing a school in need of
3 intervention shall establish a school turnaround committee composed
4 of the following members:

5 1. One member of the school district board of education
6 governing the school in need of intervention;

7 2. The school principal;

8 3. Three parents of students enrolled in the school; and

9 4. Four teachers at the school appointed by the principal.

10 B. 1. On or before October 15 of an initial remedial year, a
11 school district board of education governing a school in need of
12 intervention shall collaborate with the school turnaround committee
13 to select an independent school turnaround expert from the experts
14 identified by the Department under Section 5 of this act.

15 2. An independent school turnaround expert shall not be:

16 a. a member of the school district board of education
17 governing the school in need of intervention, or

18 b an employee of the school district board of education
19 governing the school in need of intervention.

20 C. A school turnaround committee shall collaborate with the
21 independent school turnaround expert selected under subsection B of
22 this section to develop and implement a school turnaround plan that
23 includes:

1 1. The findings of the analysis conducted by the independent
2 school turnaround expert described in paragraph 1 of subsection A of
3 Section 5 of this act;

4 2. Recommendations regarding changes to the school's personnel,
5 culture, curriculum, assessments, instructional practices, digital
6 tools for teaching and learning, governance, leadership, finances,
7 policies, or other areas that may be necessary to implement the
8 school turnaround plan;

9 3. Measurable student achievement goals and objectives;

10 4. A professional development plan that identifies a strategy
11 to address problems of instructional practice;

12 5. A leadership development plan focused on proven strategies
13 to turn around schools in need of intervention;

14 6. A detailed budget specifying how the school turnaround plan
15 will be funded;

16 7. A plan to assess and monitor progress;

17 8. A plan to communicate and report data on progress to
18 stakeholders; and

19 9. A timeline for implementation.

20 D. A school district board of education governing a school in
21 need of intervention shall:

22 1. Prioritize funding and resources to the school in need of
23 intervention; and
24

1 2. Grant the school streamlined authority over staff, schedule,
2 policies, budget and academic programs to implement the school
3 turnaround plan.

4 E. 1. On or before March 1 of an initial remedial year, a
5 school turnaround committee shall submit the school turnaround plan
6 to a school district board of education for approval.

7 2. On or before April 1 of an initial remedial year, a school
8 district board of education governing a school in need of
9 intervention shall submit the school turnaround plan to the
10 Department for approval. The Department shall:

11 a. review a school turnaround plan submitted for approval
12 under this section within thirty (30) days of
13 submission, and

14 b. approve a school turnaround plan that:

15 (1) is timely,

16 (2) is well-developed, and

17 (3) meets the criteria described in subsection C of
18 this section.

19 3. If a school district board of education does not approve the
20 school turnaround plan submitted under this subsection, the school
21 turnaround committee may appeal the disapproval in accordance with
22 rules promulgated by the Department.

23 4. The Department shall promulgate rules to establish the
24 appeals process pursuant to paragraph 3 of this subsection and

1 ensure that appeals are resolved on or before April 1 of the initial
2 remedial year.

3 SECTION 5. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
4 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1210.655 of Title 70, unless
5 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

6 A. On or before August 30, 2019, the Department shall identify
7 two or more approved independent school turnaround experts, through
8 a request for proposals process to:

9 1. Collect and analyze data on the school's student
10 achievement, personnel, culture, curriculum, assessments,
11 instructional practices, digital tools for teaching and learning,
12 governance, leadership, finances and policies;

13 2. Recommend changes to the school's culture, curriculum,
14 assessments, instructional practices, governance, finances,
15 policies, or other areas based on data collected under paragraph 1
16 of this subsection;

17 3. Develop and implement, in partnership with the school
18 turnaround committee, a school turnaround plan that meets the
19 criteria described in subsection C of Section 4 of this act;

20 4. Monitor the effectiveness of a school turnaround plan
21 through reliable means of evaluation, including on-site visits,
22 observations, surveys, analysis of student achievement data, and
23 interviews;

1 5. Provide ongoing implementation support and project
2 management for a school turnaround plan;

3 6. Provide high-quality professional development and coaching
4 personalized for school staff that is designed to build the:

- 5 a. leadership capacity of the school principal,
- 6 b. instructional capacity of school staff, and
- 7 c. collaborative practices of teacher and leadership
- 8 teams;

9 7. Provide job-embedded professional learning and coaching for
10 all instructional staff on a weekly basis at minimum;

11 8. Provide job-embedded professional learning and coaching for
12 the school principal at least twice monthly, focused on proven
13 strategies to turn around schools in need of intervention that are
14 aligned with state leadership standards; and

15 9. Leverage support from community partners to coordinate an
16 efficient delivery of supports to students both inside and outside
17 the classroom.

18 B. In identifying independent school turnaround experts under
19 subsection A of this section, the Department shall identify experts
20 that:

21 1. Have a credible track record of improving student academic
22 achievement in public schools with various demographic
23 characteristics, as measured by statewide assessments;

1 2. Have experience designing, implementing and evaluating data-
2 driven instructional systems in public schools;

3 3. Have experience coaching public school administrators and
4 teachers on designing and implementing data-driven school
5 improvement plans;

6 4. Have experience collaborating with the various education
7 entities that govern public schools;

8 5. Have experience delivering high-quality professional
9 development and coaching in instructional effectiveness to public
10 school administrators and teachers;

11 6. Are willing to be compensated for professional services
12 based on performance; and

13 7. Are willing to collaborate with any school in need of
14 intervention in the state, regardless of location.

15 C. 1. When awarding a contract to an independent school
16 turnaround expert selected by a school district board of education
17 under subsection B of Section 4 of this act, the Department shall
18 ensure that a contract between a school district board of education
19 and the independent school turnaround expert specifies that the
20 Department shall:

21 a. pay an independent school turnaround expert no more
22 than fifty percent (50%) of the expert's professional
23 fees at the beginning of the independent school
24

1 turnaround expert's work for the school in need of
2 intervention, and

- 3 b. pay the remainder of the independent school turnaround
4 expert's professional fees upon the independent school
5 turnaround expert successfully helping a school in
6 need of intervention meet exit criteria as determined
7 by the Department under Section 3 of this act within
8 three (3) school years after a school is designated as
9 needing intervention.

10 2. In negotiating a contract with an independent school
11 turnaround expert, the Department shall offer:

- 12 a. an average of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars
13 (\$500,000.00) per school for the entirety of the
14 project,
15 b. differentiated amounts of funding based on student
16 enrollment, and
17 c. a higher amount of funding for schools that are in the
18 lowest-performing one-percent (1%) of schools
19 statewide according to an outcomes-based measure
20 determined by the Department.

21 D. The Department shall, subject to legislative appropriations,
22 provide funding to a school in need of intervention for
23 interventions identified in an approved school turnaround plan if
24 the school district board of education provides matching funds or an

1 in-kind contribution of goods or services in an amount equal to the
2 funding the school in need of intervention would receive from the
3 Department.

4 E. The Department shall balance the need to prioritize funding
5 appropriated by the Legislature to contract with highly qualified
6 independent school turnaround experts with the need to set aside
7 funding for:

8 1. Interventions to facilitate the implementation of a school
9 turnaround plan; and

10 2. The School Recognition and Reward Program created under
11 Section 7 of this act.

12 SECTION 6. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
13 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1210.656 of Title 70, unless
14 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

15 A. 1. A school in need of intervention that does not meet the
16 exit criteria determined by the Department under subsection C of
17 Section 3 of this act within three (3) school years after the day on
18 which the school is designated a school in need of intervention may
19 petition the Department for an extension to continue school
20 improvement efforts for up to three (3) years.

21 2. The Department may only grant an extension under this
22 subsection if the school in need of intervention has demonstrated at
23 least fifty percent (50%) of the improvement necessary to exit the
24 turnaround process, or submits an appeal to the Department.

1 3. The Department may extend the contract of an independent
2 school turnaround expert of a school in need of intervention that is
3 granted an extension under this subsection.

4 B. The Department shall promulgate rules establishing
5 consequences for a school in need of intervention that:

6 1. Does not meet the predetermined exit criteria within three
7 (3) school years after the day on which the school is designated in
8 need of intervention and is not granted an extension under
9 subsection A of this section; or

10 2. Is granted an extension under subsection A of this section
11 and does not meet the predetermined exit criteria within three (3)
12 school years after the day on which the school in need of
13 intervention is granted an extension.

14 SECTION 7. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
15 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1210.657 of Title 70, unless
16 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:
17 School Recognition and Reward Program.

18 A. As used in this section, "eligible school" means a school in
19 need of intervention that:

20 1. Meets predetermined exit criteria within three (3) school
21 years after the day on which the school is designated a school in
22 need of intervention; or
23
24

1 2. Has been granted an extension under subsection A of Section
2 6 of this act and meets predetermined exit criteria within the
3 extension period.

4 B. The School Recognition and Reward Program is hereby created
5 to provide incentives to schools and educators to improve the school
6 in need of intervention. The Program shall be administered by the
7 State Department of Education.

8 C. Subject to appropriations by the Legislature, the Department
9 may determine and distribute rewards, financial or otherwise, for
10 eligible schools and the educators therein.

11 SECTION 8. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
12 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
13 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
14 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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16 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON COMMON EDUCATION, dated 02/26/2019
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