

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)

HOUSE BILL 1920

By: Fincher

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2011, Section 1-111, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 135, O.S.L. 2016 (70 O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 1-111), which relates to the school day and student attendance; modifying term; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 1-111, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 135, O.S.L. 2016 (70 O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 1-111), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1-111. 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.

1 B. A school day for nursery, early childhood education,
2 kindergarten, and alternative education programs shall be as
3 otherwise defined by law or as defined by the State Board of
4 Education. Except as otherwise provided for in this subsection, not
5 more than one (1) school day shall be counted for attendance
6 purposes in any twenty-four-hour period. Two (2) school days, each
7 consisting of not less than six (6) hours, may be counted for
8 attendance purposes in any twenty-four-hour period only if one of
9 the school days is for the purpose of parent-teacher conferences
10 held as provided for in Section 1-109 of this title.

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

- 20 1. Criteria for student admissions eligibility;
- 21 2. A student admission process administered through the
22 district of residence, which provides the ability for the student to
23 enroll in individual courses;

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1 3. A process by which students are not denied the opportunity
2 to enroll in educationally appropriate courses by school districts.
3 For the purposes of this section, "educationally appropriate" means
4 any instruction that is not ~~substantially~~ a repeat of a course ~~or~~
5 ~~portion of a course~~ that the student has successfully completed,
6 regardless of the grade of the student, and regardless of whether a
7 course is similar to or identical to the instruction that is
8 currently offered in the school district;

9 4. Creation of a system which provides ongoing enrollment
10 access for students throughout the school year;

11 5. A grace period of fifteen (15) calendar days from the first
12 day of an online course for student withdrawal from an online course
13 without academic penalty;

14 6. Mastery of competencies for course completion rather than
15 Carnegie units;

16 7. Student participation in extracurricular activities in
17 accordance with school district eligibility rules and policies and
18 any rules and policies of a private organization or association
19 which provides the coordination, supervision, and regulation of the
20 interscholastic activities and contests of schools;

21 8. Parent authorization for release of state test results to
22 online course providers, on a form developed by the State Department
23 of Education; and

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1 9. A review process to identify and certify online course
2 providers and a uniform payment processing system.

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

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

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

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SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019.

57-1-6999 EK 12/11/18