

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 57th Legislature (2020)

3 HOUSE BILL 3908

By: Fetgatter

4
5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2011,
8 Section 11-103.6, as last amended by Section 44,
9 Chapter 25, O.S.L. 2019 (70 O.S. Supp. 2019, Section
10 11-103.6), which relates to subject matter standards
11 for instruction; modifying curriculum required for
12 graduation with a standard diploma; providing an
13 effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

15 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 11-103.6, as
16 last amended by Section 44, Chapter 25, O.S.L. 2019 (70 O.S. Supp.
17 2019, Section 11-103.6), is amended to read as follows:

18 Section 11-103.6 A. 1. The State Board of Education shall
19 adopt subject matter standards for instruction of students in the
20 public schools of this state that are necessary to ensure there is
21 attainment of desired levels of competencies in a variety of areas
22 to include language, mathematics, science, social studies and
23 communication.

24 2. School districts shall develop and implement curriculum,
courses and instruction in order to ensure that students meet the

1 skills and competencies as set forth in this section and in the
2 subject matter standards adopted by the State Board of Education.

3 3. All students shall gain literacy at the elementary and
4 secondary levels. Students shall develop skills in reading,
5 writing, speaking, computing and critical thinking. For purposes of
6 this section, critical thinking means a manner of analytical
7 thinking which is logical and uses linear factual analysis to reach
8 a conclusion. They also shall learn about cultures and environments
9 - their own and those of others with whom they share the earth.
10 Students, therefore, shall study social studies, literature,
11 languages, the arts, mathematics and science. Such curricula shall
12 provide for the teaching of a hands-on career exploration program in
13 cooperation with technology center schools.

14 4. The subject matter standards shall be designed to teach the
15 competencies for which students shall be tested as provided in
16 Section 1210.508 of this title, and shall be designed to prepare all
17 students for active citizenship, employment and/or successful
18 completion of postsecondary education without the need for remedial
19 coursework at the postsecondary level.

20 5. The subject matter standards shall be designed with rigor as
21 defined in paragraph 3 of subsection F D of this section.

22 6. The subject matter standards for English Language Arts shall
23 give Classic Literature and nonfiction literature equal
24

1 consideration to other literature. In addition, emphasis shall be
2 given to the study of complete works of literature.

3 7. At a minimum, the subject matter standards for mathematics
4 shall require mastery of the standard algorithms in mathematics,
5 which is the most logical, efficient way of solving a problem that
6 consistently works, and for students to attain fluency in Euclidian
7 geometry.

8 8. The subject matter standards for history, social studies and
9 United States Government shall include the content of the United
10 States naturalization test, with an emphasis on the specific content
11 of the test and the ideas and concepts it references. The United
12 States naturalization test shall be made available in physical and
13 electronic online formats as an optional assessment tool for
14 teachers.

15 9. The subject matter standards for United States Government
16 shall include an emphasis on civics. For the purposes of this
17 section, "civics" means the study of the rights and duties of
18 Oklahoma and United States citizens and of how those governments
19 work.

20 B. ~~Subject to the provisions of subsection C of this section,~~
21 ~~in~~ In order to graduate from a public high school accredited by the
22 State Board of Education with a standard diploma, students shall
23 complete the following ~~college preparatory/work ready~~ curriculum
24 units or sets of competencies at the secondary level:

1 ~~1. Four units or sets of competencies of English to include~~
2 ~~Grammar, Composition, Literature, or any English course approved for~~
3 ~~college admission requirements;~~

4 ~~2. Three units or sets of competencies of mathematics, limited~~
5 ~~to Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Trigonometry, Math Analysis,~~
6 ~~Calculus, Advanced Placement Statistics, or any mathematics course~~
7 ~~with content and/or rigor above Algebra I and approved for college~~
8 ~~admission requirements;~~

9 ~~3. Three units or sets of competencies of laboratory science~~
10 ~~approved for college admission requirements, including one unit or~~
11 ~~set of competencies of life science, meeting the standards for~~
12 ~~Biology I; one unit or set of competencies of physical science,~~
13 ~~meeting the standards for Physical Science, Chemistry or Physics;~~
14 ~~and one unit or set of competencies from the domains of physical~~
15 ~~science, life science or earth and space science such that the~~
16 ~~content and rigor is above Biology I or Physical Science;~~

17 ~~4. Three units or sets of competencies of history and~~
18 ~~citizenship skills, including one unit of American History, 1/2 unit~~
19 ~~of Oklahoma History, 1/2 unit of United States Government and one~~
20 ~~unit from the subjects of History, Government, Geography, Economics,~~
21 ~~Civics, or non-Western culture and approved for college admission~~
22 ~~requirements;~~

23 ~~5. Two units or sets of competencies of the same foreign or~~
24 ~~non-English language or two units of computer technology approved~~

1 ~~for college admission requirements, whether taught at a high school~~
2 ~~or a technology center school, including computer programming,~~
3 ~~hardware, and business computer applications, such as word~~
4 ~~processing, databases, spreadsheets, and graphics, excluding~~
5 ~~keyboarding or typing courses;~~

6 ~~6. One additional unit or set of competencies selected from~~
7 ~~paragraphs 1 through 5 of this subsection or career and technology~~
8 ~~education courses, concurrently enrolled courses, Advanced Placement~~
9 ~~courses or International Baccalaureate courses approved for college~~
10 ~~admission requirements; and~~

11 ~~7. One unit or set of competencies of fine arts, such as music,~~
12 ~~art, or drama, or one unit or set of competencies of speech.~~

13 ~~C. In lieu of the requirements of subsection B of this section~~
14 ~~which requires a college preparatory/work ready curriculum, a~~
15 ~~student may enroll in the core curriculum as provided in subsection~~
16 ~~D of this section upon written approval of the parent or legal~~
17 ~~guardian of the student. For students under the age of eighteen~~
18 ~~(18) school districts shall require a parent or legal guardian of~~
19 ~~the student to meet with a designee of the school prior to~~
20 ~~enrollment in the core curriculum. The State Department of~~
21 ~~Education shall develop and distribute to school districts a form~~
22 ~~suitable for this purpose, which shall include information on the~~
23 ~~benefits to students of completing the college preparatory/work~~
24 ~~ready curriculum as provided for in subsection B of this section.~~

1 ~~D. For those students subject to the requirements of subsection~~
2 ~~C of this section, in order to graduate from a public high school~~
3 ~~accredited by the State Board of Education with a standard diploma,~~
4 ~~students shall complete the following core curriculum units or sets~~
5 ~~of competencies at the secondary level:~~

6 1. Language Arts - 4 units or sets of competencies, to consist
7 of 1 unit or set of competencies of grammar and composition, and 3
8 units or sets of competencies which may include, but are not limited
9 to, the following courses:

- 10 a. American Literature,
- 11 b. English Literature,
- 12 c. World Literature,
- 13 d. Advanced English Courses, or
- 14 e. other English courses with content and/or rigor equal
15 to or above grammar and composition;

16 2. Mathematics - 3 units or sets of competencies, to consist of
17 1 unit or set of competencies of Algebra I or Algebra I taught in a
18 contextual methodology, and 2 units or sets of competencies which
19 may include, but are not limited to, the following courses:

- 20 a. Algebra II,
- 21 b. Geometry or Geometry taught in a contextual
22 methodology,
- 23 c. Trigonometry,
- 24 d. Math Analysis or Precalculus,

- 1 e. Calculus,
- 2 f. Statistics and/or Probability,
- 3 g. Computer Science or acceptance and successful
4 completion of one (1) year of a full-time, three-hour
5 career and technology program leading to an industry
6 credential/certificate or college credit. The State
7 Board of Career and Technology Education shall
8 promulgate rules to define the provisions of this act
9 related to the accepted industry-valued credentials
10 which are industry-endorsed or industry-aligned. The
11 list of accepted industry-valued credentials shall be
12 reviewed annually and updated at least every three (3)
13 years by the Board,
- 14 h. (1) contextual mathematics courses which enhance
15 technology preparation, or
- 16 (2) a science, technology, engineering and math
17 (STEM) block course ~~meeting the requirements for~~
18 ~~course competencies listed in paragraph 2 of~~
19 ~~subsection B of this section,~~ whether taught at
20 a:
- 21 (a) comprehensive high school, or
- 22 (b) technology center school when taken in the
23 tenth, eleventh or twelfth grade, taught by
24 a certified teacher, and approved by the

1 State Board of Education and the independent
2 district board of education,

- 3 i. mathematics courses taught at a technology center
4 school by a teacher certified in the secondary subject
5 area when taken in the tenth, eleventh or twelfth
6 grade upon approval of the State Board of Education
7 and the independent district board of education, ~~or~~
- 8 j. any other mathematics course with content and/or rigor
9 equal to or above Algebra I, or
- 10 k. successful completion of one (1) year of a full-time
11 career and technology program as identified by the
12 student's ICAP;

13 3. Science - 3 units or sets of competencies, to consist of 1
14 unit or set of competencies of Biology I or Biology I taught in a
15 contextual methodology, and 2 units or sets of competencies in the
16 areas of life, physical, or earth science or technology which may
17 include, but are not limited to, the following courses:

- 18 a. Chemistry I,
- 19 b. Physics,
- 20 c. Biology II,
- 21 d. Chemistry II,
- 22 e. Physical Science,
- 23 f. Earth Science,
- 24 g. Botany,

- 1 h. Zoology,
- 2 i. Physiology,
- 3 j. Astronomy,
- 4 k. Applied Biology/Chemistry,
- 5 l. Applied Physics,
- 6 m. Principles of Technology,
- 7 n. qualified agricultural education courses,
- 8 o. (1) contextual science courses which enhance
- 9 technology preparation, or
- 10 (2) a science, technology, engineering and math
- 11 (STEM) block course ~~meeting the requirements for~~
- 12 ~~course competencies listed in paragraph 3 of~~
- 13 ~~subsection B of this section,~~ whether taught at
- 14 a:
- 15 (a) comprehensive high school, or
- 16 (b) technology center school when taken in the
- 17 tenth, eleventh or twelfth grade, taught by
- 18 a certified teacher, and approved by the
- 19 State Board of Education and the independent
- 20 district board of education,
- 21 p. science courses taught at a technology center school
- 22 by a teacher certified in the secondary subject area
- 23 when taken in the tenth, eleventh or twelfth grade
- 24

1 upon approval of the State Board of Education and the
2 independent district board of education, ~~or~~

3 q. successful completion of one (1) year of a full-time
4 career and technology program as identified by the
5 student's ICAP, or

6 r. other science courses with content and/or rigor equal
7 to or above Biology I;

8 4. Social Studies - 3 units or sets of competencies, to consist
9 of 1 unit or set of competencies of United States History, 1/2 to 1
10 unit or set of competencies of United States Government, 1/2 unit or
11 set of competencies of Oklahoma History, and 1/2 to 1 unit or set of
12 competencies which may include, but are not limited to, the
13 following courses:

14 a. World History,

15 b. Geography,

16 c. Economics,

17 d. Anthropology, or

18 e. other social studies courses with content and/or rigor
19 equal to or above United States History, United States
20 Government, and Oklahoma History;

21 5. Arts - 1 unit or set of competencies which may include, but
22 is not limited to, courses in Visual Arts and General Music; and

23 6. Computer Education or World Language - 1 unit or set of
24 competencies of computer technology, whether taught at a high school

1 or a technology center school, including computer programming,
2 hardware and business computer applications, such as word
3 processing, databases, spreadsheets and graphics, excluding
4 keyboarding or typing courses, or 1 unit or set of competencies of
5 foreign or non-English language.

6 ~~E.~~ C. 1. In addition to the curriculum requirements of either
7 subsection B ~~or D~~ of this section, in order to graduate from a
8 public high school accredited by the State Board of Education
9 students shall complete the requirements for a personal financial
10 literacy passport as set forth in the Passport to Financial Literacy
11 Act and any additional course requirements or recommended elective
12 courses as may be established by the State Board of Education and
13 the district school board. School districts shall strongly
14 encourage students to complete two units or sets of competencies of
15 foreign languages and two units or sets of competencies of physical
16 and health education.

17 2. No student shall receive credit for high school graduation
18 more than once for completion of the same unit or set of
19 competencies to satisfy the curriculum requirements of this section.

20 3. A school district shall not be required to offer every
21 course listed in ~~subsections~~ subsection B ~~and D~~ of this section, but
22 shall offer sufficient courses to allow a student to meet the
23 graduation requirements during the secondary grade years of the
24 student.

1 ~~F.~~ D. For purposes of this section:

2 1. "Contextual methodology" means academic content and skills
3 taught by utilizing real-world problems and projects in a way that
4 helps students understand the application of that knowledge;

5 2. "Qualified agricultural education courses" means courses
6 that have been determined by the State Board of Education to offer
7 the sets of competencies for one or more science content areas and
8 which correspond to academic science courses. Qualified

9 agricultural education courses shall include, but are not limited
10 to, Horticulture, Plant and Soil Science, Natural Resources and
11 Environmental Science, and Animal Science. The courses shall be
12 taught by teachers certified in agricultural education and comply
13 with all rules of the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology
14 Education;

15 3. "Rigor" means a level of difficulty that is thorough,
16 exhaustive and accurate and is appropriate for the grade level;

17 4. "Sets of competencies" means instruction in those skills and
18 competencies that are specified in the subject matter standards
19 adopted by the State Board of Education and other skills and
20 competencies adopted by the Board, without regard to specified
21 instructional time; and

22 5. "Unit" means a Carnegie Unit as defined by the North Central
23 Association's Commission on Schools.

1 ~~G.~~ E. 1. The State Board of Education shall adopt a plan to
2 ensure that rigor is maintained in the content, teaching
3 methodology, level of expectations for student achievement, and
4 application of learning in all the courses taught to meet the
5 graduation requirements as specified in this section.

6 2. The State Board of Education shall allow as much flexibility
7 at the district level as is possible without diminishing the rigor
8 or undermining the intent of providing these courses. To accomplish
9 this purpose, the State Department of Education shall work with
10 school districts in reviewing and approving courses taught by
11 districts that are not specifically listed in ~~subsections~~ subsection
12 ~~B and D~~ of this section. Options may include, but shall not be
13 limited to, courses taken by concurrent enrollment, advanced
14 placement, or correspondence, or courses bearing different titles.

15 3. The State Board of Education shall approve an advanced
16 placement computer science course to meet the requirements of course
17 competencies listed in paragraph 2 of subsection B of this section
18 if the course is taken in a student's senior year and the student is
19 concurrently enrolled in or has successfully completed Algebra II.

20 4. Technology center school districts may offer programs
21 designed in cooperation with institutions of higher education which
22 have an emphasis on a focused field of career study upon approval of
23 the State Board of Education and the independent district board of
24 education. Students in the tenth grade may be allowed to attend

1 these programs for up to one-half (1/2) of a school day and credit
2 for the units or sets of competencies required in paragraphs 2, 3
3 and 6 of subsection B ~~or D~~ of this section shall be given if the
4 courses are taught by a teacher certified in the secondary subject
5 area; provided, credit for units or sets of competencies pursuant to
6 subsection B of this section shall be approved for college admission
7 requirements.

8 5. If a student enrolls in a concurrent course, the school
9 district shall not be responsible for any costs incurred for that
10 course, unless the school district does not offer enough course
11 selection during the student's secondary grade years to allow the
12 student to receive the courses needed to meet the graduation
13 requirements of this section. If the school district does not offer
14 the necessary course selection during the student's secondary grade
15 years, it shall be responsible for the cost of resident tuition at
16 an institution in The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education,
17 fees, and books for the concurrent enrollment course, and providing
18 for transportation to and from the institution to the school site.

19 It is the intent of the Legislature that for students enrolled
20 in a concurrent enrollment course which is paid for by the school
21 district pursuant to this paragraph, the institution charge only the
22 supplementary and special service fees that are directly related to
23 the concurrent enrollment course and enrollment procedures for that
24 student. It is further the intent of the Legislature that fees for

1 student activities and student service facilities, including the
2 student health care and cultural and recreational service fees, not
3 be charged to such students.

4 6. Credit for the units or sets of competencies required in
5 subsection B ~~or D~~ of this section shall be given when such units or
6 sets of competencies are taken prior to ninth grade if the teachers
7 are certified or authorized to teach the subjects for high school
8 credit and the required rigor is maintained.

9 7. The three units or sets of competencies in mathematics
10 required in subsection B ~~or D~~ of this section shall be completed in
11 the ninth through twelfth grades. If a student completes any
12 required courses or sets of competencies in mathematics prior to
13 ninth grade, the student may take any other mathematics courses or
14 sets of competencies to fulfill the requirement to complete three
15 units or sets of competencies in grades nine through twelve after
16 the student has satisfied the requirements of subsection B ~~or D~~ of
17 this section.

18 8. All units or sets of competencies required for graduation
19 may be taken in any sequence recommended by the school district.

20 H. F. As a condition of receiving accreditation from the State
21 Board of Education, all students in grades nine through twelve shall
22 enroll in a minimum of six periods, or the equivalent in block
23 scheduling or other scheduling structure that allows for instruction
24 in sets of competencies, of rigorous academic and/or rigorous

1 vocational courses each day, which may include arts, vocal and
2 instrumental music, speech classes, and physical education classes.

3 ~~F.~~ G. 1. Academic and vocational-technical courses designed to
4 offer sets of competencies integrated or embedded within the course
5 that provide for the teaching and learning of the appropriate skills
6 and knowledge in the subject matter standards, as adopted by the
7 State Board of Education, may upon approval of the Board, in
8 consultation with the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology
9 Education if the courses are offered at a technology center school
10 district, be counted for academic credit and toward meeting the
11 graduation requirements of this section.

12 2. Internet-based courses offered by a technology center school
13 that are taught by a certified teacher and provide for the teaching
14 and learning of the appropriate skills and knowledge in the subject
15 matter standards may, upon approval of the State Board of Education
16 and the independent district board of education, be counted for
17 academic credit and toward meeting the graduation requirements of
18 this section.

19 3. Internet-based courses or vocational-technical courses
20 utilizing integrated or embedded skills for which no subject matter
21 standards have been adopted by the State Board of Education may be
22 approved by the Board, in consultation with the Oklahoma Department
23 of Career and Technology Education if the courses are offered at a
24 technology center school district, if such courses incorporate

1 standards of nationally recognized professional organizations and
2 are taught by certified teachers.

3 4. Courses offered by a supplemental education organization
4 that is accredited by a national accrediting body and that are
5 taught by a certified teacher and provide for the teaching and
6 learning of the appropriate skills and knowledge in the subject
7 matter standards may, upon approval of the State Board of Education
8 and the school district board of education, be counted for academic
9 credit and toward meeting the graduation requirements of this
10 section.

11 ~~J.~~ H. The State Board of Education shall provide an option for
12 high school graduation based upon attainment of the desired levels
13 of competencies as required in tests pursuant to the provisions of
14 Section 1210.508 of this title. Such option shall be in lieu of the
15 amount of course credits earned.

16 ~~K.~~ I. The State Board of Education shall prescribe, adopt and
17 approve a promotion system based on the attainment by students of
18 specified levels of competencies in each area of the core
19 curriculum.

20 ~~L.~~ J. Children who have individualized education programs
21 pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA),
22 and who satisfy the graduation requirements through the
23 individualized education program for that student shall be awarded a
24 standard diploma.

1 ~~M.~~ K. Students who enter the ninth grade in or prior to the
2 2007-08 school year who are enrolled in an alternative education
3 program and meet the requirements of their plans leading to high
4 school graduation developed pursuant to Section 1210.568 of this
5 title shall be awarded a standard diploma.

6 ~~N.~~ L. Any student who completes the curriculum requirements of
7 the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program shall be awarded a
8 standard diploma.

9 ~~O.~~ M. Any student who successfully completes an advanced
10 mathematics or science course offered pursuant to Section 1210.404
11 of this title shall be granted academic credit toward meeting the
12 graduation requirements pursuant to paragraph 2 or 3, as
13 appropriate, of subsection B ~~or D~~ of this section.

14 ~~P.~~ N. For purposes of this section, the courses approved for
15 college admission requirements shall be courses which are approved
16 by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education for admission to
17 an institution within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education.

18 ~~Q.~~ O. Students who have been denied a standard diploma by the
19 school district in which the student is or was enrolled for failing
20 to meet the requirements of this section may re-enroll in the school
21 district that denied the student a standard diploma following the
22 denial of a standard diploma. The student shall be provided
23 remediation or intervention and the opportunity to complete the
24 curriculum units or sets of competencies required by this section to

1 obtain a standard diploma. Students who re-enroll in the school
2 district to meet the graduation requirements of this section shall
3 be exempt from the hourly instructional requirements of Section 1-
4 111 of this title and the six-period enrollment requirements of this
5 section.

6 ~~R.~~ P. The State Department of Education shall collect and
7 report data by school site and district on the number of students
8 who enroll in the ~~core~~ curriculum as provided in subsection ~~D~~ B of
9 this section.

10 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2020.

11 SECTION 3. 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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