

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OLIVER HODGE BUILDING
2500 NORTH LINCOLN BOULEVARD, SUITE 1-20
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73105**

OCTOBER 2025 REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2025

1. Call to order and roll call—9:30 a.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance, Salute to the Oklahoma State Flag, and Moment of Silence
(I salute the flag of the State of Oklahoma. Its symbols of peace unite all people.)
3. **State Board of Education—Administrative**
(Action) Discussion and possible action on the minutes of the September 25, 2025, Regular Meeting of the State Board of Education.
(Action) Discussion and possible action on the minutes of the October 9, 2025, Special Meeting of the State Board of Education.

ACTION ITEMS:

Discussion and possible action on the following deregulation applications, statutory waivers, and exemptions for the 2025-2026 school year pursuant to **70 O.S. § 3-104; Oklahoma Administrative Code (“OAC”) 210:35-1-4:**

4. **Financial Services**
Discussion and possible action on the proposed fiscal year budget for the State Department of Education.**70 O.S. § 3-104(A)(3).**

Under 70 O.S. § 3-104(A)(3), the Department of Education must submit its proposed fiscal year budget to the State Board of Education for approval. Upon being approved by the State Board, the budget is sent to the Office of Management and Enterprise Services (“OMES”), which the submits the budget to the Legislature. Normally, the budget must be submitted to OMES no later than October 1. However, the Department and the Board received an extension of time this year given the extenuating circumstances.

(Budget documents are submitted to Board members prior to the meeting and are available on the Department’s website under State Board of Education >Handouts.)

5. **Emergency (Provisional) Teacher Certification**
Discussion and possible action on requests for exceptions to the State Board of Education teacher certification regulations to permit emergency (provisional) certificates. **70 O.S. § 6-187(G):**

Under 70 O.S. § 6-187(G), “nothing in the Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act shall restrict the right of the State Board of Education to issue an emergency or provisional certificate.” However, prior to requesting an emergency or provisional certificate, the schools district is required to “document substantial efforts to employ a teacher who holds a provisional or standard certificate.” *Id.* If the district is unable to do so, the district must then “document efforts to employ an individual with a provisional or standard certificate in another area” that

also has “academic preparation in the field of need.” *Id.* In other words, only after exhausting both of these options is a district permitted to request an emergency or provisional certification.

(List of school districts requesting emergency certification is provided to the Board members and is available on the OSDE website under State Board of Education>Handouts)

6. Library-Media Specialist Certification Exemption

Discussion and possible action on requests for approval for exemption from library-media certification requirements pursuant to **70 O.S. § 3-126**, for the 2025-2026 school year:

Districts seeking a waiver under this section want to hire a Library-Media Specialist who has not yet completed their certification requirements. These schools will use a certified teacher as their Library-Media Specialist while that person is pursuing full Library-Media certification. Each school sends a form that must be completed detailing their reason for the request, plan for an alternative should the request be denied, timeline, and financial impact to the school.

- (1) Ardmore Public Schools, Carter County
- (2) Enid Public Schools, Garfield County
- (3) Norman Public Schools, Cleveland County
- (4) Oklahoma City Public Schools, Oklahoma County
- (5) Oologah-Talala Public Schools, Rogers County
- (6) Thackerville Public Schools, Love County
- (7) Banner Public Schools, Canadian County

7. Library-Media Services Waiver

Discussion and possible action on requests for library-media services exemptions pursuant to **OAC 210:35-5-71; OAC 210:35-7-61; OAC 210-35-9-71** for the 2025-2026 school year:

Districts seeking this waiver are asking to reduce their library-media center hours. Under the Administrative Code, each school is required to offer a specific number of hours that the library/media center is open to students. However, some schools do not have sufficient enrollment numbers to justify a full-time librarian at every site. When this happens, the school district requests an exemption to the number of hours the library/media center must remain open. Much like with the Library-Media Services waiver (number 4, above), the district fills out a form detailing the reason for the request, alternative strategies in the event the request is not approved, impact to student learning, etc. **NOTE:** Under OAC 210:35-3(b)(5)(B), districts may request a waiver for up to three years. However, the Board has the authority to approve the waiver for only one year.

One Year:

- (1) Bowring Public Schools, Osage County
- (2) Buffalo Valley Public Schools, Latimer County
- (3) Canadian Public Schools, Pittsburg County
- (4) Chelsea Public Schools, Rogers County
- (5) Duncan Public Schools, Stephens County
- (6) Liberty Public Schools, Tulsa County

- (7) Midwest City-Del City Public Schools, Oklahoma County
- (8) Mill Creek Public Schools, Johnston County
- (9) Moore Public Schools (Westmoore High School), Cleveland County*
- (10) Norman Public Schools (Eisenhower Elementary; Multiple Middle Schools; Norman Dimensions Academy), Cleveland County*
- (11) Oilton Public Schools, Creek County
- (12) Paoli Public Schools, Garvin County
- (13) Porter Public Schools, Wagoner County
- (14) Silo Public School, Bryan County
- (15) Weatherford Public Schools, Custer County

Three Years:

- (16) Blanchard Public Schools, McClain County
- (17) Calera Public Schools, Bryan County
- (18) Enid Public Schools, Garfield County
- (19) Fanshawe Public Schools, LeFlore County
- (20) Gypsy Public Schools, Creek County
- (21) Riverside Public Schools, Canadian County
- (22) Muskogee Public Schools, Muskogee County
- (23) Union City Public Schools, Canadian County
- (24) Wewoka Public Schools, Seminole County

*Districts typically request the waiver for the entire district. In the cases of Moore and Norman Public Schools, the waivers are site-specific as stated in Items 7-9 and 7-10.

8. Petition for a Four-Day School Week

Discussion and possible action on requests a waiver from 70 O.S. § 1-105 regarding instructional days and to implement a day-to-hour calendar for the 2025-2026 school year, pursuant to **OAC 210:10-1-4(b)**.

Under 70 O.S. § 1-105, school districts are required to provide 1086 hours for instructional time with a minimum of 166 days. However, under OAC 210:10-1-4(b), school districts may request a waiver from the State Board of Education for a waiver of the number of days. Districts must submit a plan detailing how the proposed calendar will benefit their student population, as well as submit evidence that the district will meet specific requirements for each grade level as outlined in the Code.

- (1) Wyandotte Public Schools, Ottawa County

- **Motion to Approve:** I move to approve the request for a waiver and to allow Wyandotte Public Schools to implement a four-day calendar for the 2025-2026 school year.
- **Motion to Disapprove:** I move to disapprove the request for a waiver to allow Wyandotte Public Schools to implement a four-day calendar.

9. Cooperative Agreement for Alternative Education Waiver

Discussion and possible action on requests for a statutory waiver concerning Cooperative Agreements for Alternative Education pursuant to **Title 70 § 1210.568** for the 2025-2026 school year:

Districts that have fewer than ten (10) students in an alternative education program are required to enter into a cooperative agreement with another school to provide alternative

education. However, some districts request a waiver of that requirement from the SBE. Reasons for requesting the waiver typically include that they do not have enough students requiring alternative education to necessitate a cooperative agreement, they are capable of serving their alternative education students on their own. Districts are required to fill out a form detailing the request, reason for the request, alternatives should the request be denied, and other student and school impact.

- (1) Buffalo Valley Public Schools, Latimer County
- (2) Paoli Public Schools, Garvin County
- (3) Porter Public Schools, Wagoner County
- (4) Nowata Public Schools, Nowata County
- (5) Ringling Public Schools, Jefferson County
- (6) Wewoka Public Schools, Seminole County
- (7) Wynona Public Schools, Osage County

10. Accreditation Warnings

Discussion and possible action on issuing accreditation warnings to the following schools pursuant to **OAC 210:35-3-201**:

Accreditation warnings are issued to schools that have had the same accreditation deficiency reported for two years in a row. It could also be that they have had multiple deficiencies that are major issues for school functioning. If a school remains on the list “Accredited with Warning” list for multiple years, then the school can be moved to probation. After two years on probation, a school can lose its accreditation. Districts are required to submit corrective action plans, and the OSDE Regional Accreditation Officers (“RAOs”) work with schools to correct accreditation deficiencies.

- (1) Bokoshe Public Schools
- (2) Chelsea Public Schools
- (3) Cherokee Immersion Public Charter Schools (Corrective Action Plan Submitted)
- (4) Fletcher Public Schools
- (5) Grandview Public Schools
- (6) Gypsy Public Schools
- (7) KIPP Tulsa Public Charter School (Corrective Action Plan Received)
- (8) LeMonde International Public Charter Schools
- (9) McAlester Public Schools
- (10) Optima Public Schools (Corrective Action Plan Submitted)
- (11) Peavine Public Schools
- (12) Straight Public Schools
- (13) Vinita Public Schools
- (14) Wagoner Public Schools

STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PRESENTATIONS (NO ACTION)

11. Oklahoma Advisory Council on Indian Education (OACIE)

Presentation from Jackie White, Program Director for American Indian Education, regarding activities, accomplishments, and goals of OACIE and request for Superintendent to call the first meeting the OACIE Board.

OACIE was created by Senate Bill 299 in 2010, codified in 70 O.S. § 3-173. OACIE makes recommendations to the State Board of Education and the State Superintendent regarding educational matters relating to Native American Students. Under 70 O.S. § 3-173(I), the Council is required to make an annual report to the State Board of Education on the effectiveness of public education and meeting the needs of Oklahoma's Native American students. Under 70 O.S. § 3-173(D), the Superintendent of Public Instruction is required to call for the first meeting of the Council each fiscal year.

12. Special Education Services

Presentation from Sherri Coats, Program Director for Special Education Services, regarding the 50th Anniversary of the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA), and asking the Board to approve a resolution recognizing and commemorating the 50th Anniversary of IDEA.

The Individuals with Disabilities Act was a landmark moment for education. On November 29, 1975, the United States Congress enacted Public Law 94-142, which was then named the Education for All Handicapped Children Act. This Act is now known as the Individuals with Disabilities Act. The IDEA seeks to ensure that *all* children receive a free and appropriate education in the least restrictive environment. In doing so, the IDEA has transformed the educational landscape for millions of children and their families.

LEGAL SERVICES—STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

13. Discussion and possible action to convene into Executive Session pursuant to **25 O.S. §§ 307(b)(4), (7), and (8)** for the purpose of discussing possible action on the following issues:

- **Motion to Approve:** I move to convene into Executive Session pursuant to 25 O.S. §§ 307(b)(4), (7), and (8) for the purposes stated in the agenda.
- **Motion to Disapprove:** I move to not convene into Executive Session as stated under item 10 of the agenda.

Note: The Board will vote separately to return to Open Session taken (See Agenda Item 17).

14. Voluntary Surrenders

Consent Order to Accept Voluntary Surrender of the teacher certificates and certificate numbers pursuant to **OAC 210:1-5-6(d)(2)** of:

A voluntary surrender of a teaching license occurs when the teacher or administrator does not contest the matter and does not wish to go through revocation proceedings. There can be a number of reasons for why a teacher/administrator would voluntarily surrender their license, but these matters usually involve ongoing criminal proceedings. Voluntary surrenders can be for anywhere from five (5) years up to a lifetime surrender.

(1) **Tabitha Brooks**

15. Dismissals by OSDE (Formal Reprimands Issued)

Motions to dismiss the Application for an emergency order summarily suspending the teacher certificates and certificate numbers and applications to revoke and issue formal reprimands pursuant to **OAC 210:1-5-6(g)(2)** of:

Similar to number 15, these dismissals involve previously approved Applications to Revoke that, after receiving more evidence throughout the case, the Department has determined that the license cannot be revoked under our statutes and under the Administrative Code governing

revocations. However, the facts and circumstances in these cases are sufficiently problematic as to warrant a formal reprimand from the Department (a so-called “do better letter”).

- (1) **Richard Akin**
- (2) **Robert Park**
- (3) **John King**

16. Litigation

Discussion and possible action regarding the pending litigation in *Walke, et. al. v. Superintendent, et. al.*, No. MA-122592; *Randall, et. al., v. Superintendent, et. al.*, No. MA-123237; and *Ford, et. al. v. Superintendent, et. al.*

17. Vote to Acknowledge Return to Open Session

18. Discussion and action on matters discussed during Executive Session

19. New Business (Any business not known about which could not have been reasonably foreseen prior to the time of posting of the Agenda pursuant to **Title 25 O.S. § 311.**)

20. ADJOURNMENT

- **Motion to Approve: I move to adjourn the meeting.**

Unless necessary for healthcare, childcare, or ADA purposes, backpacks, purses, and similar items **are not permitted** in the State Department of Education building for Board meetings.

For questions, please contact info@sde.ok.gov.