

Legislative Wrap Up 2024

HB 1006 – Rick West & Casey Murdock – Absences for scheduled 4-H activities will be excused, except in the case of state mandated tests or during a period when the student has been disciplined, suspended, or expelled. Students will have opportunities to make-up missed work. Effective 8/28/2024.

HB 1425 – Clay Staires & Dave Rader – Compels districts to create a policy allowing for an independent entity to provide religious instruction off-campus during the school day. Districts must give elective credit for the course. Effective 08/28/24.

HB 1544 – Anthony Moore & Dave Rader – Adds board certified athletic trainers to the definition of a teacher and adds the qualifications to be considered such. Effective 11/1/2024

HB 1955 – Drops the state-imposed excise tax on groceries to 0%, defines what products are tax exempt. Effective 08/28/2024.

HB 2158 – Dick Lowe & Brenda Stanley – Personal Financial Literacy can only be taken during 10th, 11th, or 12th grade. Adds content to the course related to retirement, credit scores, and online banking. Allows more certifications to teach the class. Effective 07/01/2025.

HB 2190 – Dick Lowe & Dewayne Pemberton – Permits the board of education to establish fund to purchase high deductible property insurance policy. Effective 07/01/2024.

HB 2260 – Danny Sterling & Kay Floyd – Directs superintendents dismissing or refusing to reemploy teachers for civil settlements related to sexual abuse or sexual exploitation to give notice to the State Board of Education about the teacher. Effective 08/28/2024.

HB 2528 – Mark Lepak & Jessica Garvin – Strikes language that says all annuities and pensions "shall be payable in equal monthly installments. After paying death benefits to any beneficiary the system is discharged and released from all liability, obligation and costs. Removes language concerning Teachers' deposit fund. For 36 months following a member's effective retirement date, the member shall be subject to earnings limitations. Effective 07/01/2024.

HB 2672 – Rhonda Baker & Adam Pugh – Cleanup bill for the graduation requirements bill that allows students currently enrolled in high school to get math credit for courses they may be taking. Effective 06/14/2024.

HB 2989 – Josh West & Brenda Stanley – Colleges shall not require a higher score on a CLEP exam for granting course credit than recommended by CLEP. Effective 07/01/24

HB 3234 – Mark Lawson & Grant Green – Authorizes the State Board of Career and Technology Education to outline the eligibility criteria, and requirements for individuals 21 years of age and older, seeking to obtain a high school equivalency credential based on their work experience and previous education. Effective 11/01/24

HB 3276 – Rhonda Baker & Bill Coleman – The state Board of Career and Technology Education may grant an exception to the requirement of an OSAT in a field which does not

require and advanced degree if the candidate has industry-recognized credentials in a substantially similar field. Effective 11/01/24

HB 3278 – Rhonda Baker & Adam Pugh – Adds a 4th math credit to graduation requirements for students entering 8th grade in 25-26. Allows for math taken during 8th grade to count towards requirements, as well as computer science, dual credit college courses, Career Tech math courses, and locally approved math-based application courses. Effective 05/15/2024.

HB 3327 – Cynthia Roe & Greg McCortney – A school nurse, diabetes care assistant, or other school staff may download necessary glucose monitoring apps to a school device or their own with written permission from the student's parent or guardian, but they will not be held liable for any lack of monitoring of those apps outside of school hours. Effective 04/26/24.

HB 3369 – Marcus McEntire & Jessica Garvin – Amends current grievance procedure for medical decisions for education and state employees to an appeals procedure. Sets guidelines for what can be appealed and how it will operate. Effective 11/01/2024.

HB 3386 – Charles McCall & Greg Treat – Intra district transfers must be approved any time during the school year unless that grade level is at capacity. Effective 07/01/2024.

HB 3388 – Charles McCall & Greg Treat – Education Tax credit applications shall align with the school year. Payments shall be made in two payments, August and January. Effective 05/06/2024.

HB 3456 – Anthony Moore & Brent Howard – Gives a much more exhaustive, and graphic, definition of prohibited sexual conduct and sexual material. Other than removing the exception for married persons under 18 years of age, it is largely redundant to current law. Effective 11/01/2024.

HB 3459 – Anthony Moore & Dave Rader – Authorizes using the student loan fund to students even if the student does not qualify for a federally guaranteed loan. Effective 11/01/2024.

HB 3523 – Mark Vancuren & Brenda Stanley – Directs SDE to publish an annual report on adjunct teachers. Effective 11/01/2024.

HB 3586 – Judd Strom & Jessica Garvin – Amends various statutes relating to health insurance and flexible benefit allowances, liability insurance, and disability insurance to update the title of the Oklahoma Employees Insurance and Benefits Act, formerly known as the State and Education Employees Group Insurance Act, and the Oklahoma Employees Insurance and Benefits Board (OEIBB), formerly known as the State and Education Employee Group Insurance Board (OSEEGIB) and several statutory cross-references including a citation to the federal Medicare Prescription Drug Improvement and Modernization Act. Effective 11/01/2024.

HB 3727 – Jason Lowe & Kevin Matthews – Directs districts to provide instruction in cursive handwriting for students in the third through fifth grades. Effective 07/01/24.

HB 3737 – Eddy Dempsey & Jessica Garvin – SDE shall develop informational diabetes materials for parents and make available to schools on their website. Starting August 1, 2024, the school districts shall make copies of the type 1 diabetes informational materials accessible to a student's parent or guardian when the student is enrolled in the school and enters sixth grade. Effective 07/01/24.

HB 3792 – Ellyn Hefner & Ally Seifried – Creates the Oklahoma Access and Achievement Act. Provides economic assistance to students with intellectual disabilities to pursue career, technical, independent living, and work training. Sets guidelines. Effective 07/01/24.

HB 3958 – Sherrie Conley & Adam Pugh – Prohibits school personnel from engaging in one on one electronic or digital communication with a student without including the guardian of that student. Does not apply to group communications or school approved platforms like Canvas. Effective 07/01/24.

HB 4073 – Kevin Wallace & Darrell Weaver – All schools must install a security alert and response system. Effective 07/01/2024.

SB 175 – Kay Floyd & Marcus McEntire – Requires school boards to provide suicide prevention training to staff no less than once every fifth academic year, allowing more frequent training. Effective 07/01/2024.

SB 358 – Julie Daniels & John Echols – Removes requirement that recipients of the Lindsey Nicole Henry Scholarships for Students with Disabilities Program spend the year prior enrolled in a public school if the receiving school serves exclusively homeless students. Effective 08/28/2024.

SB 362 – Adam Pugh & Rhonda Baker – Changes the name of the Reading Sufficiency Act to the Strong Readers Act. Eliminates default third grade retention. Prohibits the use of the “three-cueing system” of teaching reading. Directs SDE and OEQA to create reading screening tools. Puts new requirements on schools for communicating with parents and publishing plans to address reading deficiencies. Effective 07/01/2024.

SB 519 – Adam Pugh & Mark McBride – Sets standards and restrictions on the Commissioners of the Land Office, requiring certain procedures to be followed prior to rule changes or interpretations. Effective 07/01/2024.

SB 526 – Adam Pugh & Jon Echols – Creates guidelines for public schools to follow if they choose to map their campuses for security purposes. Effective 11/01/2024.

SB 991 – Grant Green & Kyle Hilbert – The Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education shall determine the grade levels that may be offered agricultural education programs. Effective 07/01/2024.

SB 1122 – Chuck Hall & Kevin Wallace – SDE budget limits bill. Provisions to require SDE to apply for all federal grants applied for during 2023 and forbidding SDE funds from being used for the purpose of securing media interviews, public relations, or other public promotional purposes were line item vetoed by the Governor. Effective 07/01/2024.

SB 1256 – Adam Pugh & Rhonda Baker – Sets fixed pay increases from \$3-10k for teachers identified as advanced, lead, and master teachers paid from the Teacher Empowerment Revolving Fund and removes requirement that school districts match those pay increases. Effective 07/01/2024.

SB 1302 – Dave Rader & Anthony Moore – Removes foreign language from qualifications for students to receive funds from the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program. It opens availability to children involved in DHS custody and sets income limits for those students. Effective 07/01/2024.

SB 1307 – Brenda Stanley & Anthony Moore – Removes state assessment and testing requirements upon adult students pursuing a high school diploma or similar completion program. Effective 07/01/2024.

SB 1319 – Ally Seifried & Carl Newton – Creates a Public-School Vision Screening Modernization Fund for the Dept. of Health to provide grants and collect data to improve vision screening equipment and processes in public schools. Effective 07/01/2024.

SB 1324 – Roger Thompson & Mark Lawson – Directs the Dept. of Education to make an optional electronic universal application for free or reduced-price lunches available online under the National School Lunch Act. Effective 07/01/2024.

SB 1328 – Todd Gollihare & Mark Vancuren – Allows high school students who have completed the core curriculum to be admitted to Career Tech Schools and use Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program. Effective 07/01/2024.

SB 1521 – Dewayne Pemberton & Dick Lowe – Allows school districts participating in the School Resource Officer Program to employ retired police and qualified security guards where active-duty law enforcement and crisis response personnel are not available. Effective 07/01/2024.

SB 1522 – Dewayne Pemberton & Mark Tedford – Allows school districts to pay property insurance premiums out of the Common School Building Equalization Fund and repeals the Redbud School Grants Program funding to be used for energy and utility costs and certain property insurance premiums. Effective 07/01/2024.

SB 1527 – Darrell Weaver & Danny Sterling – Requires schools to excuse absences of students taken for certain therapies such as speech therapy, occupational therapy or other services related to the child's individualized education program. Effective 07/01/2024.

SB 1651 – Roland Pederson & Kenton Patzkowsky – School districts that enroll nonresident students from a contiguous, out of state school district will not receive state aid for that student. No local funding associated with the nonresident students' out-of-state resident district shall be allocated or transferred to the receiving school district. Effective 07/01/2024.

SB 1713 – Darcy Jech & Rhonda Baker – Directs interlocal cooperative agreements for the purpose of providing insurance for OK educational institutions to have each an individual who is a member of the American Academy of Actuaries and an individual with more than 10 years of professional experience in property and casualty insurance on the board of directors. Effective 07/01/2024.

SB 1904 – Adam Pugh & Preston Stinson – Allows for statewide virtual charter schools and school districts operating a full-time virtual education program to administer state assessments in a virtual setting. Effective 08/28/2024.

SB 1921 – Paul Rosino & Bob Ed Culver – Requires coaches have yearly training in first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and use of an automated external defibrillator. Directs districts to develop a sudden cardiac emergency response plan. Effective 07/01/2024.

SB 1985 – Shane Jett & Kevin West – Allows school districts to enter into an agreement w/ a church to utilize church building or property for political, literary, community, cultural, scientific, mechanical, agricultural, or parental involvement purposes. Effective 07/01/2024.