

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

HOUSE BILL 1446

By: Provenzano

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2021, Section 11-103.6, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 122, O.S.L. 2022 (70 O.S. Supp. 2022, Section 11-103.6), which relates to subject matter standards; directing mathematics courses completed in certain grades to count toward graduation requirements; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 11-103.6, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 122, O.S.L. 2022 (70 O.S. Supp. 2022, Section 11-103.6), is amended to read as follows:

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

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  
6 of 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 shall learn about cultures and environments -  
9 their own and those of others with whom they share the earth. All  
10 students shall receive the instruction needed to lead healthy and  
11 physically active lifestyles. Students, therefore, shall study  
12 social studies, literature, languages, the arts, health,  
13 mathematics, and science. Such curricula shall provide for the  
14 teaching of a hands-on career exploration program in cooperation  
15 with technology center schools.

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

22 5. The subject matter standards shall be designed with rigor as  
23 defined in paragraph 3 of subsection G of this section.

1       6. The subject matter standards for English Language Arts shall  
2 give Classic Literature and nonfiction literature equal  
3 consideration to other literature. In addition, emphasis shall be  
4 given to the study of complete works of literature.

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

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

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

22       10. The subject matter standards for health and physical  
23 education shall include but not be limited to the domains of  
24 physical, emotional, social, and intellectual health. Health

1 literacy shall include the ability to obtain, process, and  
2 understand basic health information and services needed to make  
3 appropriate health decisions. Health shall also include the  
4 importance of proper nutrition and exercise, mental health and  
5 wellness, substance abuse, coping skills for understanding and  
6 managing trauma, establishing and maintaining positive  
7 relationships, and responsible decision making. Physical literacy  
8 shall include the ability to move with competence and confidence in  
9 a wide variety of physical activities in multiple environments that  
10 benefit the healthy development of the whole person.

11 B. Subject to the provisions of subsection C of this section,  
12 in order to graduate from a public high school accredited by the  
13 State Board of Education with a standard diploma, students shall  
14 complete the following college preparatory/work ready curriculum  
15 units or sets of competencies at the secondary level:

16 1. Four units or sets of competencies of English to include  
17 Grammar, Composition, Literature, or any English course approved for  
18 college admission requirements;

19 2. Three units or sets of competencies of mathematics, limited  
20 to Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Trigonometry, Math Analysis,  
21 Calculus, Advanced Placement Statistics, or any mathematics course  
22 with content and/or rigor above Algebra I and approved for college  
23 admission requirements;

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1           3. Three units or sets of competencies of laboratory science  
2 approved for college admission requirements including one unit or  
3 set of competencies of life science meeting the standards for  
4 Biology I; one unit or set of competencies of physical science  
5 meeting the standards for Physical Science, Chemistry, or Physics;  
6 and one unit or set of competencies from the domains of physical  
7 science, life science, or earth and space science such that the  
8 content and rigor is above Biology I or Physical Science;

9           4. Three units or sets of competencies of history and  
10 citizenship skills including one unit of American History, ~~1/2~~ one-  
11 half unit of Oklahoma History, ~~1/2~~ one-half unit of United States  
12 Government, and one unit from the subjects of History, Government,  
13 Geography, Economics, Civics, or non-Western culture and approved  
14 for college admission requirements;

15           5. Two units or sets of competencies of the same world or non-  
16 English language or two units of computer technology approved for  
17 college admission requirements, whether taught at a high school or a  
18 technology center school including computer programming, hardware,  
19 and business computer applications, such as word processing,  
20 databases, spreadsheets, and graphics, excluding keyboarding or  
21 typing courses;

22           6. One additional unit or set of competencies selected from  
23 paragraphs 1 through 5 of this subsection or career and technology  
24 education courses, concurrently enrolled courses, advanced placement

1 courses, or International Baccalaureate courses approved for college  
2 admission requirements; and

3 7. One unit or set of competencies of fine arts, such as music,  
4 art, or drama, or one unit or set of competencies of speech.

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

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

22 1. Language Arts - ~~4~~ Four units or sets of competencies to  
23 consist of ~~1~~ one unit or set of competencies of grammar and  
24

1 composition, and 3 three units or sets of competencies which may  
2 include, but are not limited to, the following courses:

- 3 a. American Literature,
- 4 b. English Literature,
- 5 c. World Literature,
- 6 d. Advanced English Courses, or
- 7 e. other English courses with content and/or rigor equal  
8 to or above grammar and composition;

9 2. Mathematics - 3 Three units or sets of competencies to  
10 consist of 1 one unit or set of competencies of Algebra I or Algebra  
11 I taught in a contextual methodology, and 2 two units or sets of  
12 competencies which may include, but are not limited to, the  
13 following courses:

- 14 a. Algebra II,
- 15 b. Geometry or Geometry taught in a contextual  
16 methodology,
- 17 c. Trigonometry,
- 18 d. Math Analysis or Precalculus,
- 19 e. Calculus,
- 20 f. Statistics and/or Probability,
- 21 g. Computer Science or acceptance and successful  
22 completion of one (1) year of a full-time, three-hour  
23 career and technology program leading to an industry  
24 credential/certificate or college credit. The State

1 Board of Career and Technology Education shall  
2 promulgate rules to define the provisions of this  
3 section related to the accepted industry-valued  
4 credentials which are industry-endorsed or industry-  
5 aligned. The list of accepted industry-valued  
6 credentials shall be reviewed annually and updated at  
7 least every three (3) years by the Board,

8 h. (1) contextual mathematics 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 2 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 i. mathematics courses taught at a technology center  
22 school by a teacher certified in the secondary subject  
23 area when taken in the tenth, eleventh, or twelfth  
24



1 grade upon approval of the State Board of Education  
2 and the independent district board of education, or  
3 j. any other mathematics course with content and/or rigor  
4 equal to or above Algebra I;

5 3. Science - ~~3~~ Three units or sets of competencies to consist  
6 of ~~1~~ one unit or set of competencies of Biology I or Biology I  
7 taught in a contextual methodology, and ~~2~~ two units or sets of  
8 competencies in the areas of life, physical, or earth science or  
9 technology which may include, but are not limited to, the following  
10 courses:

- 11 a. Chemistry I,
- 12 b. Physics,
- 13 c. Biology II,
- 14 d. Chemistry II,
- 15 e. Physical Science,
- 16 f. Earth Science,
- 17 g. Botany,
- 18 h. Zoology,
- 19 i. Physiology,
- 20 j. Astronomy,
- 21 k. Applied Biology/Chemistry,
- 22 l. Applied Physics,
- 23 m. Principles of Technology,
- 24 n. qualified agricultural education courses,

- 1           o.    (1) contextual science courses which enhance  
2                    technology preparation, or  
3                    (2) a science, technology, engineering, and math  
4                    (STEM) block course meeting the requirements for  
5                    course competencies listed in paragraph 3 of  
6                    subsection B of this section, whether taught at  
7                    a:  
8                    (a) comprehensive high school, or  
9                    (b) technology center school when taken in the  
10                    tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade, taught by  
11                    a certified teacher, and approved by the  
12                    State Board of Education and the independent  
13                    district board of education,  
14            p.    science courses taught at a technology center school  
15                    by a teacher certified in the secondary subject area  
16                    when taken in the tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade  
17                    upon approval of the State Board of Education and the  
18                    independent district board of education, or  
19            q.    other science courses with content and/or rigor equal  
20                    to or above Biology I;

21           4. Social Studies - ~~3~~ Three units or sets of competencies to  
22 consist of ~~1~~ one unit or set of competencies of United States  
23 History, ~~1/2~~ one-half to ~~1~~ one unit or set of competencies of United  
24 States Government, ~~1/2~~ one-half unit or set of competencies of

1 Oklahoma History, and ~~1/2~~ one-half to ~~±~~ one unit or set of  
2 competencies which may include, but are not limited to, the  
3 following courses:

- 4 a. World History,
- 5 b. Geography,
- 6 c. Economics,
- 7 d. Anthropology, or
- 8 e. other social studies courses with content and/or rigor  
9 equal to or above United States History, United States  
10 Government, and Oklahoma History;

11 5. Arts - ~~±~~ One unit or set of competencies which may include,  
12 but is not limited to, courses in Visual Arts and General Music; and

13 6. Computer Education or World Language - ~~±~~ One unit or set of  
14 competencies of computer technology, whether taught at a high school  
15 or a technology center school including computer programming,  
16 hardware, and business computer applications, such as word  
17 processing, databases, spreadsheets, and graphics, excluding  
18 keyboarding or typing courses, or ~~±~~ one unit or set of competencies  
19 of world or non-English language.

20 E. The State Board of Education may develop rules to determine  
21 if courses on aviation are eligible for non-elective academic credit  
22 toward meeting the graduation requirements set forth in subsections  
23 B and D of this section.

24

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

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

15 3. A school district shall not be required to offer every  
16 course listed in subsections B and D of this section but shall offer  
17 sufficient courses to allow a student to meet the graduation  
18 requirements during the secondary grade years of the student.

19 G. For purposes of this section:

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

23 2. "Qualified agricultural education courses" means courses  
24 that have been determined by the State Board of Education to offer

1 the sets of competencies for one or more science content areas and  
2 which correspond to academic science courses. Qualified  
3 agricultural education courses shall include, but are not limited  
4 to, horticulture, plant and soil science, natural resources and  
5 environmental science, and animal science. The courses shall be  
6 taught by teachers certified in agricultural education and comply  
7 with all rules of the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology  
8 Education;

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

11 4. "Sets of competencies" means instruction in those skills and  
12 competencies that are specified in the subject matter standards  
13 adopted by the State Board of Education and other skills and  
14 competencies adopted by the Board, without regard to specified  
15 instructional time; and

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

18 H. 1. The State Board of Education shall adopt a plan to  
19 ensure that rigor is maintained in the content, teaching  
20 methodology, level of expectations for student achievement, and  
21 application of learning in all the courses taught to meet the  
22 graduation requirements as specified in this section.

23 2. The State Board of Education shall allow as much flexibility  
24 at the district level as is possible without diminishing the rigor

1 or undermining the intent of providing these courses. To accomplish  
2 this purpose, the State Department of Education shall work with  
3 school districts in reviewing and approving courses taught by  
4 districts that are not specifically listed in subsections B and D of  
5 this section. Options may include, but shall not be limited to,  
6 courses taken by concurrent enrollment, advanced placement, or  
7 correspondence, or courses bearing different titles.

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

13 4. Technology center school districts may offer programs  
14 designed in cooperation with institutions of higher education which  
15 have an emphasis on a focused field of career study upon approval of  
16 the State Board of Education and the independent district board of  
17 education. Students in the tenth grade may be allowed to attend  
18 these programs for up to one-half (1/2) of a school day and credit  
19 for the units or sets of competencies required in paragraphs 2, 3,  
20 and 6 of subsection B or D of this section shall be given if the  
21 courses are taught by a teacher certified in the secondary subject  
22 area; provided, credit for units or sets of competencies pursuant to  
23 subsection B of this section shall be approved for college admission  
24 requirements.

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

12           It is the intent of the Legislature that for students enrolled  
13 in a concurrent enrollment course which is paid for by the school  
14 district pursuant to this paragraph, the institution charge only the  
15 supplementary and special service fees that are directly related to  
16 the concurrent enrollment course and enrollment procedures for that  
17 student. It is further the intent of the Legislature that fees for  
18 student activities and student service facilities including the  
19 student health care and cultural and recreational service fees not  
20 be charged to such students.

21           6. Credit for the units or sets of competencies required in  
22 subsection B or D of this section shall be given when such units or  
23 sets of competencies are taken prior to ninth grade if the teachers  
24

1 are certified or authorized to teach the subjects for high school  
2 credit and the required rigor is maintained.

3 7. ~~The~~ Except as provided in this paragraph, three units or  
4 sets of competencies in mathematics required in subsection B or D of  
5 this section shall be completed in the ninth through twelfth grades.  
6 If a student completes any required courses or sets of competencies  
7 in mathematics prior to ninth grade, ~~the student may take any other~~  
8 ~~mathematics~~ those courses or sets of competencies shall count toward  
9 the units necessary to fulfill the requirement to complete three  
10 units or sets of competencies in ~~grades nine through twelve after~~  
11 ~~the student has satisfied the requirements of~~ mathematics as  
12 required in subsection B or D of this section.

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

15 I. As a condition of receiving accreditation from the State  
16 Board of Education, all students in grades nine through twelve shall  
17 enroll in a minimum of six periods, or the equivalent in block  
18 scheduling or other scheduling structure that allows for instruction  
19 in sets of competencies, of rigorous academic and/or rigorous  
20 vocational courses each day, which may include arts, vocal and  
21 instrumental music, speech classes, and physical education classes.

22 J. 1. Academic and vocational-technical courses designed to  
23 offer sets of competencies integrated or embedded within the course  
24 that provide for the teaching and learning of the appropriate skills



1 and knowledge in the subject matter standards, as adopted by the  
2 State Board of Education, may upon approval of the Board, in  
3 consultation with the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology  
4 Education if the courses are offered at a technology center school  
5 district, be counted for academic credit and toward meeting the  
6 graduation requirements of this section.

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

14       3. Internet-based courses or vocational-technical courses  
15 utilizing integrated or embedded skills for which no subject matter  
16 standards have been adopted by the State Board of Education may be  
17 approved by the Board, in consultation with the Oklahoma Department  
18 of Career and Technology Education if the courses are offered at a  
19 technology center school district, if such courses incorporate  
20 standards of nationally recognized professional organizations and  
21 are taught by certified teachers.

22       4. Courses offered by a supplemental education organization  
23 that is accredited by a national accrediting body and that are  
24 taught by a certified teacher and provide for the teaching and

1 learning of the appropriate skills and knowledge in the subject  
2 matter standards may, upon approval of the State Board of Education  
3 and the school district board of education, be counted for academic  
4 credit and toward meeting the graduation requirements of this  
5 section.

6 K. The State Board of Education shall provide an option for  
7 high school graduation based upon attainment of the desired levels  
8 of competencies as required in tests pursuant to the provisions of  
9 Section 1210.508 of this title. Such option shall be in lieu of the  
10 amount of course credits earned.

11 L. The State Board of Education shall prescribe, adopt and  
12 approve a promotion system based on the attainment by students of  
13 specified levels of competencies in each area of the core  
14 curriculum.

15 M. ~~Children~~ Students who have individualized education programs  
16 pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) ~~7~~  
17 and who satisfy the graduation requirements through the  
18 individualized education program for that student shall be awarded a  
19 standard diploma.

20 N. Students who enter the ninth grade in or prior to the 2007-  
21 08 school year who are enrolled in an alternative education program  
22 and meet the requirements of their plans leading to high school  
23 graduation developed pursuant to Section 1210.568 of this title  
24 shall be awarded a standard diploma.

1 O. Any student who completes the curriculum requirements of the  
2 International Baccalaureate Diploma Program shall be awarded a  
3 standard diploma.

4 P. Any student who successfully completes an advanced  
5 mathematics or science course offered pursuant to Section 1210.404  
6 of this title shall be granted academic credit toward meeting the  
7 graduation requirements pursuant to paragraph 2 or 3, as  
8 appropriate, of subsection B or D of this section.

9 Q. For purposes of this section, the courses approved for  
10 college admission requirements shall be courses which are approved  
11 by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education for admission to  
12 an institution within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education.

13 R. Students who have been denied a standard diploma by the  
14 school district in which the student is or was enrolled for failing  
15 to meet the requirements of this section may re-enroll in the school  
16 district that denied the student a standard diploma following the  
17 denial of a standard diploma. The student shall be provided  
18 remediation or intervention and the opportunity to complete the  
19 curriculum units or sets of competencies required by this section to  
20 obtain a standard diploma. Students who re-enroll in the school  
21 district to meet the graduation requirements of this section shall  
22 be exempt from the hourly instructional requirements of Section 1-  
23 111 of this title and the six-period enrollment requirements of this  
24 section.

1 S. The State Department of Education shall collect and report  
2 data by school site and district on the number of students who  
3 enroll in the core curriculum as provided in subsection D of this  
4 section.

5 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2023.

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