

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 55th Legislature (2015)

3 HOUSE BILL 1502

By: Walker

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5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2011,  
8 Section 1210.229-6, as amended by Section 1, Chapter  
9 163, O.S.L. 2013 (70 O.S. Supp. 2014, Section  
10 1210.229-6), which relates to character education  
11 programs; clarifying statutory language; and  
12 providing an effective date.

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

14 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 1210.229-6,  
15 as amended by Section 1, Chapter 163, O.S.L. 2013 (70 O.S. Supp.  
16 2014, Section 1210.229-6), is amended to read as follows:

17 Section 1210.229-6 A. The board of education of every school  
18 district in ~~this~~ the state may develop and implement a comprehensive  
19 program for character education in any single grade or combination  
20 of grades, prekindergarten through twelfth. The character education  
21 program shall focus on development of character traits in students.  
22 The program of character education may include, but shall not be  
23 limited to, the voluntary reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance to  
24 the flag of the United States of America.

1 B. The State Department of Education shall develop and make  
2 available to ~~all every~~ school ~~districts~~ district in the state  
3 through an Internet website, the following:

4 1. Technical assistance upon request of a school district;

5 2. A list of approved research-based character education  
6 programs, curricula, and materials which may be used by school  
7 districts;

8 3. A character education honor roll that will recognize school  
9 districts that have successfully implemented a comprehensive school-  
10 district-wide program of character education and will highlight the  
11 positive impacts the program has had on each school or school  
12 district; and

13 4. A character education reading list of books that may  
14 include, but is not limited to, books that illustrate models of good  
15 character and books that relate to the development of good character  
16 traits that may be used by schools in a character education program.

17 C. Subject to the availability of funding, the State Board of  
18 Education may award grants to ten school districts for the  
19 establishment of pilot projects which align character education with  
20 the state curriculum in reading, mathematics, science or social  
21 studies and demonstrate how character education teaches life skills  
22 that lead to career readiness. The amount of each grant shall be  
23 One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00). The projects shall be innovative  
24 programs that will serve as models for other school districts.

1 Funding may cover the cost of purchasing curriculum, materials, or  
2 training teachers. The Board shall determine pilot project criteria  
3 and establish a process for the consideration of proposals. The  
4 proposals for pilot projects shall be considered on a statewide  
5 competitive basis. The Board shall promulgate rules for the  
6 operation of the projects.

7 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2015.

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