

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 58th Legislature (2022)

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

4 FOR

HOUSE BILL NO. 2768

By: Randleman

7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

8 An Act relating to education; creating the Dysgraphia  
9 and Education Task Force; providing termination date;  
10 stating purpose of task force; providing for  
11 membership; providing deadline for appointments;  
12 providing for filling of vacancies; providing  
13 deadline for organizational meeting; directing  
14 election of a chair and vice-chair; providing for  
15 meetings; prohibiting travel reimbursement for task  
16 force members; providing duties of task force;  
17 providing for staff assistance; requiring task force  
18 to issue report to the Legislature and Governor by a  
19 specified date; amending 70 O.S. 2021, Section 6-194,  
20 which relates to professional development programs;  
21 including dysgraphia in annual dyslexia professional  
22 development program; amending 70 O.S. 2021, Section  
23 1210.517, which relates to the dyslexia handbook;  
24 including information about dysgraphia in the  
handbook; renaming handbook to dyslexia and  
dysgraphia handbook upon date certain; requiring  
inclusion of certain task force stakeholders in  
handbook review process; directing handbook revisions  
to include certain information about dysgraphia;  
providing for noncodification; and declaring an  
emergency.

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

23 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be  
24 codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

1 A. There is hereby created, to continue until December 31,  
2 2023, the "Dysgraphia and Education Task Force". The purpose of the  
3 task force shall be to add information about dysgraphia to the  
4 dyslexia handbook that will provide guidance for schools, students,  
5 and parents in identification, intervention, and support of students  
6 with dysgraphia through accommodations and assistive technology.

7 B. The task force shall be comprised of ten (10) members as  
8 follows:

9 1. The Superintendent of Public Instruction or designee;

10 2. A student with dysgraphia, appointed by the Speaker of the  
11 Oklahoma House of Representatives;

12 3. A classroom teacher, appointed by the President Pro Tempore  
13 of the Oklahoma State Senate;

14 4. A special education teacher, appointed by the Governor;

15 5. A school district director of special services, appointed by  
16 the Governor;

17 6. Two members who are certified school psychologists, one  
18 appointed by the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives  
19 and one appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Oklahoma State  
20 Senate;

21 7. A professor or instructor employed by an Oklahoma  
22 institution of higher education who studies or provides instruction  
23 in dysgraphia, appointed by the Governor;

1 8. A member of the Oklahoma House of Representatives, appointed  
2 by the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives; and

3 9. A member of the Oklahoma State Senate, appointed by the  
4 President Pro Tempore of the Oklahoma State Senate.

5 C. Appointments to the task force shall be made by September 1,  
6 2022. Members of the task force shall serve at the pleasure of the  
7 appointing authority. A vacancy on the task force shall be filled  
8 by the appointing authority.

9 D. The task force shall conduct an organizational meeting no  
10 later than October 1, 2022. The task force shall elect a chair and  
11 vice-chair at the organizational meeting. A majority of the members  
12 present at a meeting shall constitute a quorum to conduct business.

13 E. The task force shall be authorized to meet at such times as  
14 may be required in order to fulfill the duties imposed upon the task  
15 force by law. Members of the task force shall not be reimbursed for  
16 travel expenses.

17 F. Due to dysgraphia being poorly understood and often  
18 undiagnosed, the task force shall:

19 1. Study how to effectively identify students who have  
20 dysgraphia identified through possible reading and broad written  
21 language scores;

22 2. Study the response-to-intervention process (RTI), as well as  
23 other effective research-based approaches in writing, reading, and  
24

1 literacy to identify the appropriate measures for assisting students  
2 with dysgraphia;

3 3. Make recommendations for appropriate resources and  
4 interventions for students with reading or writing difficulties,  
5 including dysgraphia and broad written language disorder; and

6 4. Include this information in the handbook as provided in  
7 Section 1210.517 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes for schools,  
8 teachers, and families to use as a resource.

9 G. Staff assistance for the task force shall be provided by  
10 staff of the Oklahoma House of Representatives and the Oklahoma  
11 State Senate.

12 H. The task force shall issue a report of its findings to the  
13 Legislature and Governor no later than December 1, 2023.

14 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 6-194, is  
15 amended to read as follows:

16 Section 6-194. A. The district boards of education of this  
17 state shall establish professional development programs for the  
18 certified teachers and administrators of the district. Programs  
19 shall be adopted by each board based upon recommendations of a  
20 professional development committee appointed by the board of  
21 education for the district. For the fiscal years ending June 30,  
22 2011, and June 30, 2012, a school district board of education may  
23 elect not to adopt and offer a professional development program for  
24 certified teachers and administrators of the district. If a school

1 district elects not to adopt and offer a professional development  
2 program, the district may expend any monies allocated for  
3 professional development for any purpose related to the support and  
4 maintenance of the school district as determined by the board of  
5 education of the school district.

6 B. Each professional development committee shall include  
7 classroom teachers, administrators, school counselors or licensed  
8 mental health providers, and parents, guardians or custodians of  
9 children in the school district and shall consult with a higher  
10 education faculty. A majority of the members of the professional  
11 development committee shall be composed of classroom teachers. The  
12 teacher members shall be selected by a designated administrator of  
13 the school district from a list of names submitted by the teachers  
14 in the school district. The members selected shall be subject to  
15 the approval of a majority vote of the teachers in the district.

16 C. In developing program recommendations, each professional  
17 development committee shall annually utilize a data-driven approach  
18 to analyze student data and determine district and school  
19 professional development needs. The professional development  
20 programs adopted shall be directed toward development of  
21 competencies and instructional strategies in the core curriculum  
22 areas for the following goals:

23 1. Increasing the academic performance data scores for the  
24 district and each school site;

1        2. Closing achievement gaps among student subgroups;

2        3. Increasing student achievement as demonstrated on state-  
3 mandated tests and the ACT;

4        4. Increasing high school graduation rates; and

5        5. Decreasing college remediation rates.

6        Each program may also include components on classroom management  
7 and student discipline strategies, outreach to parents, guardians or  
8 custodians of students, special education, and racial and ethnic  
9 education, which all personnel defined as teachers in Section 1-116  
10 of this title shall be required to complete on a periodic basis.

11        The State Board of Education shall provide guidelines to assist  
12 school districts in developing and implementing racial and ethnic  
13 education components into professional development programs.

14        D. At a minimum of once an academic year a program shall be  
15 offered which includes the following:

16        1. Training on recognition of child abuse and neglect;

17        2. Recognition of child sexual abuse;

18        3. Proper reporting of suspected abuse; and

19        4. Available resources.

20        E. One time per year, beginning in the 2009-2010 school year,  
21 training in the area of autism shall be offered and all resident  
22 teachers of students in early childhood programs through grade three  
23 shall be required to complete the autism training during the  
24 resident year and at least one time every three (3) years

1 thereafter. All other teachers and education support professionals  
2 of students in early childhood programs through grade three shall be  
3 required to complete the autism training at least one time every  
4 three (3) years. The autism training shall include a minimum  
5 awareness of the characteristics of autistic children, resources  
6 available and an introduction to positive behavior supports to  
7 challenging behavior. Each adopted program shall allow school  
8 counselors to receive at least one-third (1/3) of the hours or  
9 credit required each year through programs or courses specifically  
10 designed for school counselors.

11 Districts are authorized to utilize any means for professional  
12 development that is not prohibited by law including, but not limited  
13 to, professional development provided by the district, any state  
14 agency, institution of higher education, or any private entity.

15 F. One time per year, beginning in the ~~2020-2021~~ 2022-2023  
16 school year, a dyslexia and dysgraphia awareness program shall be  
17 offered. At a minimum, the program shall include:

- 18 1. Training in awareness of dyslexia and dysgraphia  
19 characteristics in students;
- 20 2. Training in effective classroom instruction to meet the  
21 needs of students with dyslexia or dysgraphia, or both; and
- 22 3. Available dyslexia and dysgraphia resources for teachers,  
23 students and parents.

24

1 G. Except as otherwise provided for in this subsection, each  
2 certified teacher in this state shall be required by the district  
3 board of education to meet the professional development requirements  
4 established by the board, or established through the negotiation  
5 process. Except as otherwise provided for in this subsection, the  
6 professional development requirements established by each board of  
7 education shall require every teacher to annually complete a minimum  
8 number of the total number of points required to maintain  
9 employment. Failure of any teacher to meet district board of  
10 education professional development requirements may be grounds for  
11 nonrenewal of such teacher's contract by the board. Such failure  
12 may also be grounds for nonconsideration of salary increments  
13 affecting the teacher. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2011,  
14 and June 30, 2012, a certified teacher shall not be required to  
15 complete any points of the total number of professional development  
16 points required. Provided, a teacher may elect to complete some or  
17 all of the minimum number of points required for the two (2) fiscal  
18 years and any points completed shall be counted toward the total  
19 number of points required to maintain employment. If a teacher does  
20 not complete some or all of the minimum number of points required  
21 for one (1) or both fiscal years, the total number of points  
22 required to maintain employment shall be adjusted and reduced by the  
23 number of points not completed.

24



1 H. Each district shall annually submit a report to the State  
2 Department of Education on the district level professional  
3 development needs, activities completed, expenditures, and results  
4 achieved for each school year by each goal as provided in subsection  
5 C of this section. If a school district elects not to adopt and  
6 offer a professional development program as provided for in  
7 subsection A of this section, the district shall not be required to  
8 submit an annual report as required pursuant to this subsection but  
9 shall report to the State Department of Education its election not  
10 to offer a program and all professional development activities  
11 completed by teachers and administrators of the school district.

12 I. Subject to the availability of funds, the Department shall  
13 develop an online system for reporting as required in subsection H  
14 of this section. The Department shall also make such information  
15 available on its website.

16 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 1210.517, is  
17 amended to read as follows:

18 Section 1210.517 A. The State Department of Education shall  
19 maintain the dyslexia handbook created by the Dyslexia and Education  
20 Task Force pursuant to Section 1, Chapter 261, O.S.L. 2017 and  
21 provide information about dysgraphia reported by the Dysgraphia and  
22 Education Task Force pursuant to Section 1 of this act that includes  
23 guidance, technical assistance and training to assist all local  
24 school systems, students and families in the implementation of

1 evidence-based practices for instructing students with  
2 characteristics of dyslexia and dysgraphia. Beginning January 1,  
3 2024, the dyslexia handbook shall be known as the dyslexia and  
4 dysgraphia handbook.

5 B. The Department shall review the handbook and make revisions,  
6 as necessary, but at a minimum of every three (3) years, with  
7 stakeholders, including, but not limited to, previous members of the  
8 Dyslexia and Education Task Force, the Dysgraphia and Education Task  
9 Force, and the State Advisory Panel created pursuant to Part B of  
10 the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Previous members  
11 of the ~~Task Force~~ task forces shall be consulted when making  
12 revisions to the handbook. Each member of the ~~Task Force~~ task  
13 forces not available for the review shall be replaced by an  
14 individual meeting the criteria of the original appointment in order  
15 to maintain the original composition of the ~~Task Force~~ task forces.

16 C. Any revisions to the handbook shall include, but not be  
17 limited to, the following information for school districts screening  
18 students in kindergarten and grades one through three who have been  
19 identified through the response-to-intervention process as having  
20 characteristics of dyslexia or dysgraphia:

- 21 1. Evidence-based practices designed specifically for students  
22 with characteristics of dyslexia or dysgraphia;
- 23 2. Characteristics of targeted instruction for dyslexia and  
24 dysgraphia;

1 3. Guidance on developing instructional plans for students with  
2 characteristics of dyslexia or dysgraphia;

3 4. Best practices for reading and writing instruction aligned  
4 with the science of reading;

5 5. Guidance for selecting instructional materials that address  
6 dyslexia, dysgraphia and other reading or writing difficulties;

7 6. Suggested training programs; and

8 7. Guidance on ~~dysgraphia~~ and dyscalculia.

9 SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
10 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby  
11 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
12 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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