

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 SENATE BILL 1238

By: Dugger

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5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2021,  
8 Section 1-111, which relates to the school day;  
9 clarifying that nothing shall prohibit certain  
10 student who transfers from enrolling in certain full-  
11 time virtual education program; subjecting certain  
12 transfer student to certain provisions; requiring  
13 certain board of education to adopt certain policy;  
14 amending 70 O.S. 2021, Section 3-145.5, which relates  
15 to full-time virtual education; removing language  
16 prohibiting a school district from offering certain  
17 program to students who are not residents of the  
18 district; providing an effective date; and declaring  
19 an emergency.

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

21 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 1-111, is  
22 amended to read as follows:

23 Section 1-111. A. Except as otherwise provided for by law, a  
24 school day shall consist of not less than six (6) hours devoted to  
25 school activities. A district board of education may elect to  
26 extend the length of one (1) or more school days to more than six  
27 (6) hours and reduce the number of school days as long as the total  
28 amount of classroom instruction time is not less than one thousand

1 eighty (1,080) hours per year as required pursuant to Section 1-109  
2 of this title.

3 B. A school day for nursery, early childhood education,  
4 kindergarten, and alternative education programs shall be as  
5 otherwise defined by law or as defined by the State Board of  
6 Education. Except as otherwise provided for in this subsection, not  
7 more than one (1) school day shall be counted for attendance  
8 purposes in any twenty-four-hour period. Two (2) school days, each  
9 consisting of not less than six (6) hours, may be counted for  
10 attendance purposes in any twenty-four-hour period only if one of  
11 the school days is for the purpose of parent-teacher conferences  
12 held as provided for in Section 1-109 of this title.

13 C. Students absent from school in which they are regularly  
14 enrolled may be considered as being in attendance if the reason for  
15 such absence is to participate in scheduled school activities under  
16 the direction and supervision of a regular member of the faculty or  
17 to participate in an online course approved by the district board of  
18 education. The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to  
19 provide for the implementation of supplemental online courses which  
20 shall include, but not be limited to, provisions addressing the  
21 following:

- 22 1. Criteria for student admissions eligibility;
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1           2. A student admission process administered through the  
2 district of residence, which provides the ability for the student to  
3 enroll in individual courses;

4           3. A process by which students are not denied the opportunity  
5 to enroll in educationally appropriate courses by school districts.  
6 For the purposes of this section, "educationally appropriate" means  
7 any instruction that is not substantially a repeat of a course or  
8 portion of a course that the student has successfully completed,  
9 regardless of the grade of the student, and regardless of whether a  
10 course is similar to or identical to the instruction that is  
11 currently offered in the school district;

12           4. Creation of a system which provides ongoing enrollment  
13 access for students throughout the school year;

14           5. A grace period of fifteen (15) calendar days from the first  
15 day of an online course for student withdrawal from an online course  
16 without academic penalty;

17           6. Mastery of competencies for course completion rather than  
18 Carnegie units;

19           7. Student participation in extracurricular activities in  
20 accordance with school district eligibility rules and policies and  
21 any rules and policies of a private organization or association  
22 which provides the coordination, supervision, and regulation of the  
23 interscholastic activities and contests of schools;

1 8. Parent authorization for release of state test results to  
2 online course providers, on a form developed by the State Department  
3 of Education; and

4 9. A review process to identify and certify online course  
5 providers and a uniform payment processing system.

6 D. Each district board of education shall adopt policies and  
7 procedures that conform to rules for online courses as adopted by  
8 the State Board. Such policies shall include criteria for approval  
9 of the course, the appropriateness of the course for a particular  
10 student, authorization for full-time students to enroll in online  
11 courses, and establishing fees or charges. No district shall be  
12 liable for payment of any fees or charges for any online course for  
13 a student who has not complied with the district's policies and  
14 procedures. School districts shall not deny students the  
15 opportunity to enroll in educationally appropriate courses and shall  
16 provide an admissions process which includes input from the student,  
17 the parent or legal guardian of the student, and school faculty.

18 E. Districts shall require students enrolled in online courses  
19 to participate in the Oklahoma School Testing Program Act. Students  
20 participating in online courses from a remote site will be  
21 responsible for providing their own equipment and Internet access,  
22 unless the district chooses to provide the equipment. Credit may  
23 not be granted for such courses except upon approval of the State  
24 Board of Education and the district board of education.

1 F. Nothing in this section shall prohibit a student who  
2 transfers from the district in which the student resides to another  
3 school district pursuant to the Education Open Transfer Act from  
4 enrolling in a full-time virtual education program offered by the  
5 receiving school district. A student who enrolls pursuant to this  
6 subsection shall be subject to the provisions of Section 8-103.2 of  
7 this title. The board of education of a school district with a  
8 full-time virtual education program shall adopt a policy to  
9 determine the number of transfer students the program has the  
10 capacity to accept in each grade level, as provided for in Section  
11 8-101.2 of this title.

12 G. Districts may provide students with opportunities for  
13 blended instruction. "Blended instruction" shall mean a combination  
14 of brick-and-mortar learning and virtual learning environments that  
15 includes elements of a student's control over place, pace, and path  
16 of learning. A student in blended instruction may work on virtual  
17 courses at home or at school in a blended flex lab but shall  
18 participate in at least one unit or set of competencies as defined  
19 by Section 11-103.6 of this title at a physical school building in a  
20 traditional classroom setting which is the academic equivalent of  
21 one (1) hour per day for each instructional day in the school year  
22 as defined by Section 1-109 of this title.

23 ~~G.~~ H. The school day for kindergarten may consist of six (6)  
24 hours devoted to school activities.

1 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 3-145.5, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 Section 3-145.5. A. Notwithstanding any other provision of  
4 law, beginning July 1, 2014, no school district shall ~~offer full-~~  
5 ~~time virtual education to students who are not residents of the~~  
6 ~~school district or~~ enter into a virtual charter school contract with  
7 a provider to provide full-time virtual education to students who do  
8 not reside within the school district boundaries.

9 B. Effective July 1, 2014, the Statewide Virtual Charter School  
10 Board shall succeed to any contractual rights and responsibilities  
11 incurred by a school district in a virtual charter school contract  
12 executed prior to January 1, 2014, with a provider to provide full-  
13 time virtual education to students who do not reside within the  
14 school district boundaries. All property, equipment, supplies,  
15 records, assets, current and future liability, encumbrances,  
16 obligations, and indebtedness associated with the contract shall be  
17 transferred to the Statewide Virtual Charter School Board.  
18 Appropriate conveyances and other documents shall be executed to  
19 effectuate the transfer of any property associated with the  
20 contract. Upon succession of the contract, the Board shall assume  
21 sponsorship of the virtual charter school for the remainder of the  
22 term of the contract. Prior to the end of the current term of the  
23 contract, the Board shall allow the provider of the virtual charter  
24 school to apply for renewal of the contract with the Board in

1 accordance with the renewal procedures established pursuant to  
2 Section 3-145.3 of this title.

3 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2022.

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

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