



**JANET BARRESI**  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION  
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** The Honorable Members of the State Board of Education  
**FROM:** Janet Barresi  
**DATE:** March 29, 2012  
**SUBJECT:** Deregulation for an Abbreviated School Day

The following schools are requesting deregulation from OAC 210:35-29-2 and OAC 210:35-3-46 for the 2011-2012 school year in order to have an Abbreviated School Day for Alternative Education. Approval is recommended.

<b>District</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Alternative Means</b>	<b>Request Years</b>
Strother Public Schools	Seminole (5)*	4 hours and 12 minutes, 4 days per week	1

\* The number in the County category represents the Congressional District.  
See the attached map.

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Attachments

## ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION ACADEMIES AND PROGRAMS

### 210:35-29-2. Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this Subchapter, shall have the following meaning, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

"Alternative Education" means an educational process incorporating appropriate structure, curriculum, interaction, and reinforcement strategies to stimulate learning with students who have not utilized their capacity to do so within traditional educational settings.

"Abbreviated school day" means, for purposes of an alternative education program approved by the State Board of Education, a school day which consists of not less than four (4) hours and 12 minutes per day devoted to school activities for the locally approved 180-day school calendar.

STANDARD III

ADMINISTRATION AND ORGANIZATION

**210:35-3-41. Statement of the standard**

The school is organized to ensure the achievement of its goals. The working relationships among the local board, superintendent, principal, and staff are such as to facilitate the successful functioning of all phases of the school's program. The principal of the school has the autonomy and authority to provide the leadership needed to accomplish the goals of the school. The school is provided with sufficient professional and service personnel to ensure effective operation of all phases of the school's program. The school is organized in a manner that encourages new and innovative ideas designed to improve the program and to help the school adapt to changing conditions. (92)

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**210:35-3-46. Administrative and supervisory services**

- (a) The school site shall be part of a system employing a full-time superintendent. *No board of a school district having average daily membership (ADM) of fewer than 500 students shall be prohibited from allowing a superintendent with the appropriate certificate to serve simultaneously as a principal. [70 O.S. § 5-106]* If a vacancy occurs in the superintendency during the course of the school year, a certified replacement must be employed within 45 school days.
- (b) It shall further be the responsibility of the local board, upon the recommendation of the superintendent, to employ an administrative head to be known as a principal for each of the schools within the district. Private schools shall employ a full-time principal/headmaster. An elementary district shall employ a full-time elementary superintendent. With the exception of requirements for certification, the term superintendent as used in these standards shall mean an elementary school superintendent, headmaster, or superintendent. Full-time is defined as employed full time, and therefore allows these administrators to teach.
- (c) Instructional leadership shall be the chief function of the school's principal. The principal shall be responsible for the improvement of instruction and be given the authority and resources needed to accomplish this goal. The principal shall help clarify the goals of the school, help obtain resources for it, coordinate its various activities, and promote its continuous evaluation to determine improvements needed.
- (d) Lines of administrative and supervisory authority between the central office staff and the principal shall be defined clearly and shall give the principal responsibility for initiating appropriate changes to meet the needs of the students.
- (e) The principal shall be involved in the selection, assessment, evaluation, retention, and promotion of all personnel assigned to the school.
  - (1) *All certified administrative personnel designated by a local board to conduct evaluations shall be required to participate in training conducted by the State Department of Education prior to evaluating. [70 O.S. § 6-101.10]*
  - (2) *No teacher shall be dismissed during the term of a contract or refused reemployment except at an official meeting of the board of education. The reemployment or*

## 2010-2011 Standards for Accreditation of Oklahoma Schools

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*dismissal of teachers shall be in accordance with the school laws of Oklahoma. [70 O.S. § 6-101.20 through 101.30]*

- (f) While working with faculty, staff, or students in the school, central office and other supplementary personnel shall coordinate their activities through the principal.
- (g) The principal shall have the responsibility and the authority for the administration of the non-instructional programs in the school.
- (h) The local board shall adopt a school calendar and school day consistent with statutory requirements in Oklahoma.
  - (1) *The standard school year shall consist of not less than 180 days; or,*
  - (2) *For not less than one thousand eighty (1080) hours each school year, if a district board of education adopts a school-hours policy and notifies the State Board of Education prior to September 15 of the applicable school year.*
  - (3) *Not more than thirty (30) hours each school year may be used for attendance of professional meetings and teachers may be paid for a length of term in excess thereof, under conditions hereinafter outlined. Subject to district board of education policy or collective bargaining agreement, additional professional leave days may be granted for individual teachers to attend or participate in professional meetings, staff development training, or National Board certification portfolio development as provided for in Section 6-204.2 of this title. [70 O.S. § 1-109]*
  - (4) *The standard school day shall consist of not less than 6 hours devoted to school activities, exclusive of lunch, with the exception of nursery, early childhood education kindergarten, and alternative education. [70 O.S. § 1-111]*
  - (5) *The early childhood school day shall consist of not less than two and one-half hours per session.*
  - (6) *The kindergarten school day shall consist of not less than two and one-half hours per day. The requirement to attend kindergarten may be satisfied by attendance in either a half-day or full-day program. Membership in a kindergarten for either two and one-half (2 1/2) hours or six (6) hours per school day shall be counted as one (1) day for average daily membership purposes. Beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, it shall be the duty of every school district in this state to provide and offer a full six-hour day of kindergarten free of tuition for every child residing in the district who attains the age of five (5) years on or before the first day of September during the school year kindergarten is offered, provided that this duty may be satisfied by intra-district transfer to a school offering full-day kindergarten, by transferring kindergarten children to other school districts which will accept them and can provide kindergarten for such children, or by contracting for classroom space with a licensed public or licensed private child care provider based on the selection criteria established by the district. [70 O.S. § 18-108]*
  - (7) A school district board of education may adopt and implement an extended day schedule for grades nine through twelve. All of the following conditions must be met:
    - (A) The annual number of hours of instruction must equal or exceed 1,080 hours which is equivalent to 180 days of instruction.
    - (B) Only one day per week shall consist of not less than five hours of academic instruction in a regular classroom setting.

## 2010-2011 Standards for Accreditation of Oklahoma Schools

- (C) The district must hold a public hearing prior to the adoption of an extended day schedule.
  - (D) The district must document the impact on student achievement as determined by the academic performance index score and any other relevant factors that are a result of the implementation of an extended day schedule.
  - (E) The district must provide an annual report to the State Board of Education on the result of the extended day schedule and the impact on student achievement.  
[70 O.S. § 1-109]
- (i) If, because of emergency situations, school has been missed more than fifteen (15) days, the State Board of Education will consider forgiving a portion of those days or in rare instances all days missed, on a case-by-case basis. Exceptions to the fifteen (15) day minimum will be made at the recommendation of the State Superintendent and forgiveness will be considered by the State Board of Education on a case-by-case basis.
  - (j) If a school district determines that it is necessary to deviate from the required 6-hour school day because of severe weather conditions or fire, the superintendent should report this, in writing, to the State Department of Education, Accreditation Section, within 72 hours. Any loss of school time shall require the superintendent to report the amount of time lost and the procedures to be used to make up the lost time.
  - (k) *Schools shall obtain permission from the State Board of Education before conducting Saturday classes to complete a standard school term including professional days. [70 O.S. § 1-112]*
- (09)

### 210:10-1-4. Length of term

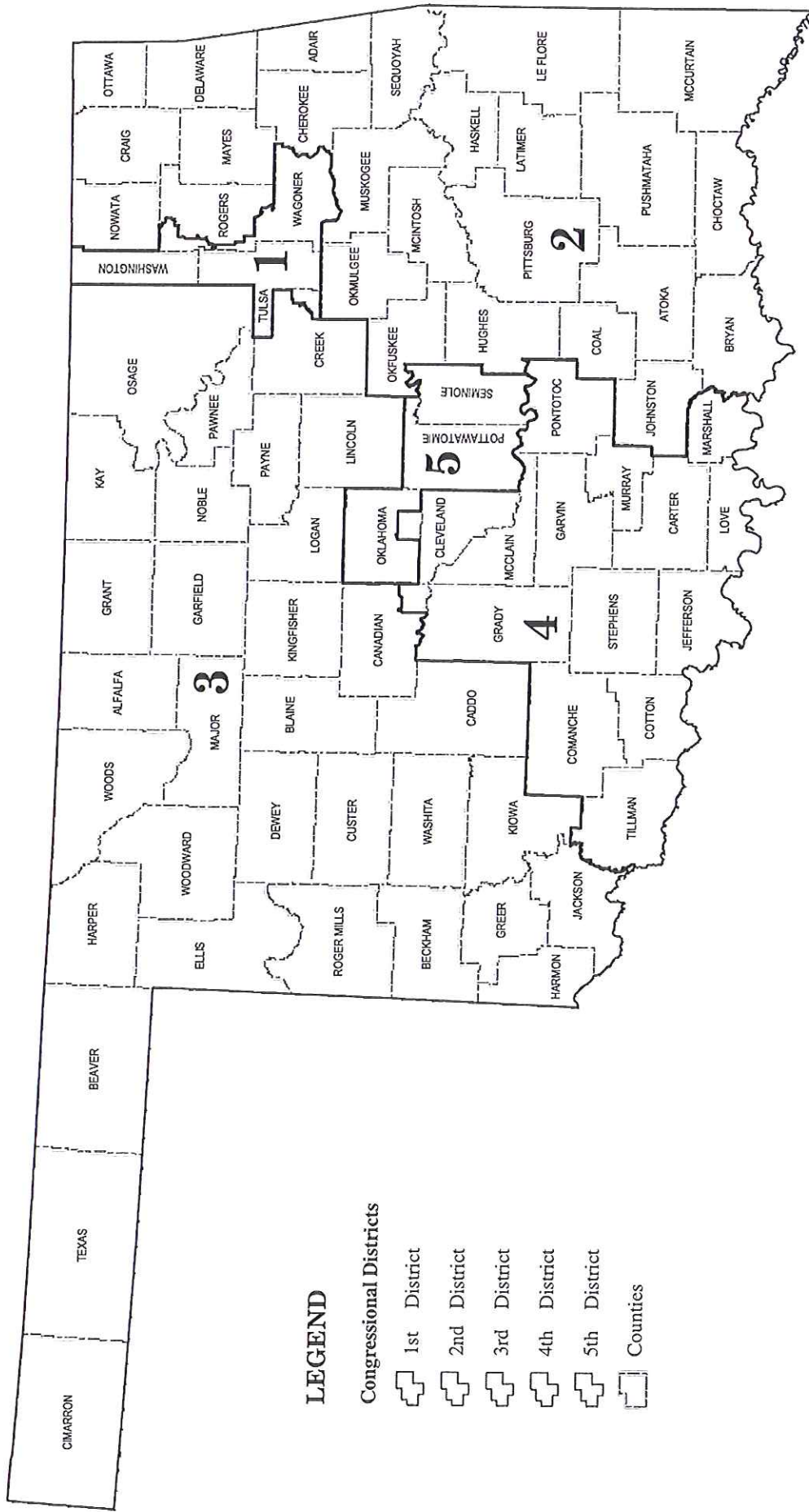
- (a) The minimum length of term will be ten (10) months (180 days actually taught). Provided not to exceed five (5) days of 180 days required may be used for attendance of professional meetings. Where professional days are taken, they shall be so recorded in the register of attendance in a like manner as holidays are recorded. The legal aggregate days attendance will be divided by days actually taught to obtain the legal average daily attendance. Any school district holding less than a full term will have its state aid reduced proportionately. No district may have less than a full term of school unless conditions over which it has no control exist that would prevent the district holding a full term. In cases where sites within a district have different length terms the average daily membership (ADM) and average daily attendance (ADA) shall be calculated for each site separately.

### 210:35-3-47. School reports and records

Well delineated policies and procedures for records and reports shall be developed and kept current.

- (1) Records and reports needed for effective planning, operation, evaluation, and reporting shall be kept relative to the following components of the educational program:
  - (A) Administrative operations
  - (B) Curriculum
  - (C) Guidance
  - (D) Health services

# OKLAHOMA CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS 2002 - 2010 ELECTIONS



## LEGEND

### Congressional Districts

- 1st District
- 2nd District
- 3rd District
- 4th District
- 5th District
- Counties



50 25 0 50 Miles

ADMINISTRATION

Bob Gragg  
Superintendent  
(405) 382-4014  
Michael James  
Principal PK-12  
(405) 382-0982

**STROTHER PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Independent District No. 14  
36085 EW 1140

Seminole, Oklahoma 74868  
Fax: (405) 382-3339

BOARD MEMBERS

Rhonda Coates, President  
Laura Kincade, Vice-President

Steve Shepherd, Clerk  
Tami Shelton, Member  
Justin Grego, Member

February 10, 2012

**RECEIVED**

**FEB 14 2012**

ACCREDITATION  
STATE DEPT OF EDUCATION

Superintendent Janet Barresi  
Oklahoma State Department of Education  
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105-4599

Dear Superintendent Barresi,

Strother Public Schools is requesting a deregulation for our Alternative Education and Abbreviated School Day.

It is my understanding that for the past several years the district participated in a local cooperative alternative school. That cooperative program ended due to funding reductions during the 2010-2011 school year. It is difficult to predict and serve non-traditional students in a rural school setting. There are periods of time when several students are in need of non-traditional course delivery, and there are other times when only a few students may be considered at risk/ non-traditional students. The focus of the program is to serve each of those students as necessary at the local level. In order to do so the local district must be flexible and have access to multiple methods and types of instructional delivery.

The Strother Schools Alternative program is developed with our local needs in mind. It is a program that combines the traditional with the non-traditional, and also offers options for Virtual course work, self-paced instruction, and home-bound instruction. The Virtual program is provided through a local consortium with Gordon Cooper Technology Center serving as the LEA. The local virtual program is served by Odyssey Ware, a proven leader in online course work. The content matches very well with the standards and curriculum design of the traditional course work in Oklahoma.

The Strother School Counselor, Ms. Susan Taff coordinates the Alternative Program, with assistance from an instructional assistant, Ms. Kristi McVeigh, who works in the schools' Library Media program.

We look forward to hearing from you regarding this request for deregulation for Strother Public Schools Alternative Education program.

If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to call me at Strother School and/or by mobile @ 405.401-4902.

Sincerely,



Bob Gragg, Ph.D.  
Interim Superintendent  
Strother Public Schools

OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

ACCREDITATION DIVISION  
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard, Suite 210  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105-4599  
(405) 521-3333

SCHOOL SITE DEREGULATION APPLICATION  
FOR 20<sup>11</sup> - 20<sup>12</sup> SCHOOL YEAR

Name of Site(s): Strother Public Schools (705 & 105)

Name of School District: Strother Public Schools (1014)

Signature of Principal(s):\* Mick Jamn Date 12/13/2011  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Superintendent:\* Bob Stagg  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

County Name: Seminole (67)

**SDE USE ONLY**

PROJECT YEARS

1 of 1

ENROLLMENT

High School 100

Jr./Middle High 0

Elementary 270

District Total 370

Date Received \_\_\_\_\_

70 O.S. \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this deregulation application was approved by our  
local board of education at the meeting on December 12, 2011.

Rhonda Coates

Signature of Board President\*

Notary: Mary E. French

Date: 12/12/2011 My Commission Expires: 9/22/2015

1. Statement of the Statute to be Waived: (specify statutory citation)

210:35-29-2 § 210:35-3-46

Exemption: "Alternative Education and Abbreviated School Day."

\*Original signatures are required.



**2. Alternate Strategy:** (Clearly state alternative strategy (ies) which the district proposes and what results are to occur.)

Students who need "alternative" education are not always able to attend classes on a time-frame that is commonly available from a public school. They may not be able to attend full-time during the day, daily on a regular Monday-Friday basis, and sometimes they need individual assistance that is not available in the regular educational offerings. The primary benefits for students are that they gain the knowledge, skill and confidence that today's society and workforce demands for successful careers.

The Alternative/ Virtual Coordinator will serve as a counselor, mentor, instructor and a sponsoring teacher for the alternative students. Progress and test scores will be measured and reflected upon as each student moves toward their career and educational goals. An Instructional Assistant is on staff as a support employee in the Library-Media, and will be available to assist alternative students as necessary. (Note: the Instructional Assistant is also an Oklahoma Certified Teacher in the area of Early Childhood education.)

**3. Resources Needed:** (Outline materials, supplies, staff, etc. that will be needed for this new approach.)

Strother School plans to utilize a combination of strategies to meet the needs of flexible and alternative educational offerings. These will include participation in a local consortium of schools purchasing and providing virtual course work through Odyssey Ware. The curriculum is a proven resource for alternative education, adult education and basic literacy remediation. Home-bound / individual instruction will be available along with the virtual course offerings, and alternative students will also have the availability to combine both virtual courses and home-bound instruction along with traditional instructor-led course-work.

The alternative coordinator, Mrs. Susan Taff has thirty-one years of previous experience as a professional educator. She has a Masters' Degree and is certified as a School Counselor, Elementary Teacher, Home Economics Teacher, and as a Middle School Science Teacher. The Library-Media instructional assistant, Mrs. Kristi McVeigh also has experience as a teacher and a teacher's assistant. She is certified as an Early Childhood teacher. (Copies of teacher certificates will be attached)

Mrs. Taff and Mrs. McVeigh will be encouraged to attend programs offered outside the district, which are related to alternative education, virtual education, non-traditional education and home-bound education, such as those offered by the Oklahoma State Department of Education.

**4. Student and/or School Site Performance Levels to be Demonstrated:**

The district's Alternative Education program will be an extension of the district's traditional course offerings. Students will not be prohibited from taking courses as appropriate and will be encouraged to interact with content specialists on campus as they navigate their courses through non-traditional delivery sources (i.e., virtual classes, self-paced instruction such as home-bound, etc.). The local Virtual School Consortium also pools resources and content specialists to be available as course tutors to any and all students within the consortium who are enrolled in virtual Odyssey Ware courses. The tutors are available two evenings per week during the fall and spring semesters, for three-hour blocks at the Gordon Cooper Technology Center's Seminole and Shawnee campus.

5. **Evaluation Procedures and/or Process:** (Outline procedures/process to be followed and submit follow-up report to SDE at the end of the school year.)

Reports on the results of the plan will be submitted to the State Department of Education and/or the State Board of Education as required/ requested. A summary report will be submitted to the local Strother Board of Education annually.

The annual summary report report and description of the Strother School Alternative Education program will be posted on the district's website. A survey will be conducted periodically requesting input for improvement of the program.

Mrs. Taff and Mrs. McVeigh will be evaluated by the administrators in the district, primarily by the school principal, Mr. Michael James. Students served through the program will have individual goals and course attainment targets including but not limited to completion of all courses leading to completion of high school.

6. **Financial Impact to the District of the Proposed Deregulation:**

A copy of the Strother School Alternative Education program budget is attached.

7. **Timeline(s):** (Please submit class schedule, calendars, assessment forms, and other attachments as necessary.)

The program operates on a student-by-student need basis, and has already started for the current year. We were not aware that we needed to complete an application and/or the deregulation form until recent notification by the Oklahoma State Department of Education. The Strother School Alternative Education program is available from the opening of school in August through the end of the spring semester in May. This request is for the deregulation to remain in place on a continuation basis for the 2011-12 school year, and subsequent years to follow without further requests, unless there are significant changes to the design, delivery and financial budget (resources and expenditures) of the program.

District Name: STROTHER #1014  
 County Name: SEMINOLE #67  
 FY12 Total Allocation Amount (Project 388): \$ 8,484.00

**FY12 ESTIMATED BUDGET - STATEWIDE ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION**

Please select the choice below that reflects your program structure:

- Single-District Program  Cooperative Program  Interlocal Cooperative (ILC) Program  
 (Single-District and ILC Programs should reflect all expenditures in Fund 11. Cooperative Programs should reflect all expenditures in Fund 12.)

**PLEASE NOTE:** Alternative Education Academy Program expenditures should be coded to Program Code 430, Project Code 388, and the Local District's Assigned Project Code for Alternative Education expenses that exceed the Allocation Amount.

Please list your Local District's Alternative Education Project Code: 389

OBJECT CODES	FUNCTION CODES										TOTAL OF ALL DISTRICT EXPENSES FOR ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION	
	Instruction 1000	Testing/ Guidance 2120	Curriculum Training 2210	Secretary 2300	Special Area Administ. 2330	Operation of Maint. 2620	Equipment/ Maint. 2640	Security 2660	Transp. 2720	Special Area Adm. Train. 2573		Other
100 Salaries	6,160.00											\$6,160.00
200 Benefits												
300 Contract Prof. Serv.			8,000									8,000.00
400 Property Services												
500 Travel												
560-Transp. Student Tuition												
600-Supp. & Mater. < \$2,500												
650 Furniture												
700 Property > \$2,500												
800 Other/ Registration												
<b>TOTAL</b>	6,160		8,000									\$14,160.00