



# ***Commission for Rehabilitation Services***

Commissioners Emily Cheng, Wes Hilliard and Jace Wolfe

Regular Meeting

February 10, 2020

Department of Rehabilitation Services  
Oklahoma Library for the Blind and  
Physically Handicapped

Oklahoma City, OK 73112

Empower Oklahomans with Disabilities

State Of Oklahoma  
 Commission for Rehabilitation Services  
 Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services  
 Oklahoma Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped  
 300 N.E. 18<sup>th</sup> Street Oklahoma City, OK 73105  
 February 10, 2020 at 10:30 a.m.  
 Regular Meeting

Jace Wolfe, Commission Chair  
 Wes Hilliard, Commission Vice-chair  
 Emily Cheng, Commission Member

Sign Language Interpreters are provided for public accessibility

- |    |   |                      |
|----|---|----------------------|
| 1. | Call to Order and Roll Call                   | Jace Wolfe, Chair    |
| 2. | Statement of Compliance with Open Meeting Act | Commission Assistant |
| 3. | Introduction of Guests                        | Jace Wolfe, Chair    |
| 4. | Public Comments                               | Public Audience      |

**REPORTS**

**PAGE #**

- |     |   |   |    |
|-----|---|---|----|
| 5.  | Executive Director's report with possible Commission discussion. The report includes state committees, meetings, and training attended by the Executive Director and team; update on AWARE's American Job Link Alliance data sharing project and other projects; update on case reviews; and update on Program Standards, Statistical Research. | Melinda Fruendt,<br>Executive Director            | 4  |
| 6.  | Priority Group Updates with possible Commission discussion. Report includes current status of all Priority Groups I, II and III.  | Terri Williams, VR Field<br>Services Coordinator  |    |
| 7.  | Financial Status FY 20 report as of December 31, 2019 with possible Commission discussion.  | Kevin Statham,<br>Chief Financial Officer         | 7  |
| 8.  | Personnel Activity report with possible Commission discussion, as January 31, 2020. The activity report has current FTE status.   | Tom Patt, Human<br>Resources Programs<br>Director | 15 |
| 9.  | Legislature report with possible Commission discussion. The report has FY 2020 Legislative Session requests.  | Kevin Nelson,<br>Legislative Liaison              | 21 |
| 10. | Unified State Plan, including Rehabilitation Services portion, update with possible Commission discussion. The plan is not finalized at this time, yet it may be reviewed at: <a href="http://www.oklahomaworks.gov/2020plan">www.oklahomaworks.gov/2020plan</a> . ( Vocational Rehabilitation Services portion begins on page 209)             | Stephanie Roe, Project<br>Coordinator             |    |
| 11. | Presentation on services available through the Oklahoma Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.   | Andrew Shockley,<br>Administrative Librarian      | 26 |

12.	Presentation of video of architect's plan for the OSD pool and place of refuge.	Chris Dvorak, OSD Superintendent	
13.	Vocational Rehabilitation report with possible Commission discussion. The report includes production statistics; meetings and conferences attended by the VR Director; training for staff; and new hire.	Terri Williams VR Field Services Coordinator	28
14.	Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired report with possible Commission discussion. The report includes conferences, training; national, state and city meetings; update on Business Services Program, Transition Program, OLBPH and BEP; and Production statistics	Tracy Brigham, Director of Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired	30
15.	Oklahoma Statewide Independent Living Council report with possible Commission discussion. The report includes national and state meetings; Mayor's Committee on Disability Concerns; completion of Annual 704 Report; and new SILC logo.	Sidna Madden, Executive Director	40

**ACTION ITEMS**

16.	Review and discussion with possible vote for approval of the January 13, 2020 Commission for Rehabilitation Services regular meeting minutes.	Jace Wolfe, Chair	43
17.	Review and discussion with possible vote for approval of Legislative agenda.	Kevin Nelson, Legislative Liaison	47
18.	Review and discussion with possible vote for approval of the January, 2020 donations to the Oklahoma Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.	Kevin Treese, Programs Manager	61
19.	Review and discussion with possible vote for approval of the January, 2020 donations to the Oklahoma School for the Blind.	Rita Echelle, Superintendent	63
20.	Review and discussion with possible vote for approval of the January, 2020 donations to the Oklahoma School for the Deaf.	Chris Dvorak, Superintendent	65
21.	New Business ("Any matter not known about or which could not have been reasonably foreseen prior to the time of posting." 25 O.S. § 311).	Jace Wolfe, Chair	
22.	Announcements Date and location of next regular meeting of the Oklahoma Commission for Rehabilitation Services: Monday, March 9, 2020 at 10:30 am. 3535 NW 58 <sup>th</sup> Street Suite 200 Oklahoma City, OK 73112	Jace Wolfe, Chair	
23.	Adjournment	Jace Wolfe, Chair	

# **Executive Director's Report**

**OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION SERVICES**  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**  
**February 10, 2020**

**Executive**

Director participated in the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth meeting on January 10.

Director and staff participated in the VR/SBVI Performance Team meeting on January 14.

Director participated in the Workforce Advisory Committee meeting on January 15.

Director and staff participated in the ORC Executive Committee meeting on January 16.

Director, Kevin Nelson, and Kevin Statham participated in the Human Services and Early Childhood Initiatives Cabinet and Health Cabinet Legislative meeting on January 17.

Director and Tonya Garman participated in the Transit Plan Strategic Planning session held in Oklahoma City on January 21.

Director and staff participated in the media conference and groundbreaking ceremony for the new OSD Aquatic Center and Area of Refuge at the campus in Sulphur on January 22.

Director and staff participated in the OSD Senior Days Luncheon held on campus in Sulphur on January 27.

Director and Stephanie Roe attended the Oklahoma Works Together Regional Workshop on January 28.

Director and Stephanie Roe participated in the Unified State Plan public comment session on January 31.

Director and staff participated in the Governor's Council on Workforce and Economic Development meeting on January 31.

Director gave a welcome and organizational structure overview of DRS to new employees at the DRS Academy on February 3.

Director and staff met to begin planning for the 100<sup>th</sup> year of Vocational Rehabilitation on February 4.

Director and staff participated in the first quarterly call with the new Commissioner of RSA, Mark Schultz on February 5.

**Process Improvement**

**AWARE**

The AWARE team is currently wrapping up the American Job Link Alliance data sharing project, working with the new workforce staff at the Department of Commerce to do some last minute debugging.

This month the team has updated earnings files from the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission to round out the 2nd quarter earnings reporting to RSA. Soon the team will be able to do more advanced analysis of second quarter earnings for the cases that exited in PY 2017 as sufficient time has passed to get make up for lagging OESC wage matches.

Training continues to bring field staff up to speed with credential attainment and skill gain recording. Also working on adding counseling and guidance as a reporting element with an AWARE feature that is relatively new to staff. The new process roll-out is anticipated in the next 3-4 weeks.

### **Case Reviews**

Quality Assurance (QA) Companion Guide “links” to federal regulations and DRS policy updated to match the QA Instrument in anticipation for distribution to staff state wide.

Case Review Instrument reviewed and updated per recent Field Coordinator Directives.

### **Program Standards, Statistical Research**

The research staff worked with the VR and SBVI Administrators to select the office locations for the Open Case Milestone Survey trial, and the iPads purchased by ORC are being distributed to the offices in Lawton, Ada, Muskogee, Tulsa SBVI, and Edmond VR.

The research team is working with the AWARE team to update the closure letters for the Closed Case portion of the survey trial.

The research team provided Needs Assessment updates to the State Plan.

The research team is working with Jonathon Cook, HRD, on the upcoming VR and SBVI Training Needs Assessment.

***Respectfully submitted by  
Melinda Freundt, Executive Director***

# Financial Status Report

# Department of Rehabilitation Services Financial Status Report FY 20

As of December 31, 2019

<b>All Programs</b>						
<b>Agency Summary</b>						
	%					
Budget	% of Total					
Budget	Budget					
Expenditures	Expenditures					
Expended	Expended					
Encumbrances	Encumbrances					
% Used	% Used					
Personnel	79,928,360.00	44.1%	34,636,883.41	43.3%	44,320,843.41	98.8%
Travel	1,118,900.00	0.6%	502,046.58	44.9%	86,316.77	52.6%
General Operating	50,712,715.00	27.9%	6,753,447.55	13.3%	14,774,624.81	42.5%
Office Furniture & Equipment	2,384,217.00	1.3%	329,034.16	13.8%	1,098,871.01	59.9%
Client / General Assistance	38,448,175.00	21.2%	14,473,115.34	37.6%	22,919,658.48	97.3%
Indirect Cost	8,849,550.00	4.9%	4,030,033.27	45.5%	4,819,516.73	100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>181,441,917.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>60,724,560.31</b>	<b>33.5%</b>	<b>88,019,831.21</b>	<b>82.0%</b>

# Department of Rehabilitation Services Financial Status Report FY 20

As of December 31, 2019

All Programs						
Vocational Rehabilitation and Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired						
	% of Total			%		
	Budget	Budget	Expenditures	Expended	Encumbrances	% Used
Personnel	26,049,157.00	27.4%	10,819,050.24	41.5%	15,135,382.43	99.6%
Travel	812,000.00	0.9%	387,524.95	47.7%	1,990.00	48.0%
General Operating	34,561,940.00	36.4%	2,994,042.44	8.7%	5,621,761.31	24.9%
Office Furniture & Equipment	1,270,683.00	1.3%	153,028.39	12.0%	509,811.29	52.2%
Client / General Assistance	28,692,404.00	30.2%	10,672,731.44	37.2%	17,367,707.74	97.7%
Indirect Cost	3,691,039.00	3.9%	1,607,210.39	43.5%	2,083,828.61	100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>95,077,223.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>26,633,587.85</b>	<b>28.0%</b>	<b>40,720,481.38</b>	<b>70.8%</b>

Vocational Rehabilitation Grant						
	% of Total			%		
	Budget	Budget	Expenditures	Expended	Encumbrances	% Used
Personnel	23,333,105.00	35.8%	9,621,991.65	41.2%	13,616,389.02	99.6%
Travel	784,000.00	1.2%	369,511.05	47.1%	1,990.00	47.4%
General Operating	8,769,216.00	13.5%	2,750,180.21	31.4%	5,254,260.54	91.3%
Office Furniture & Equipment	1,015,000.00	1.6%	82,196.29	8.1%	487,308.58	56.1%
Client / General Assistance	27,836,559.00	42.7%	10,476,688.91	37.6%	16,878,419.11	98.3%
Indirect Cost	3,401,148.00	5.2%	1,477,375.10	43.4%	1,923,772.90	100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>65,139,028.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>24,777,943.21</b>	<b>38.0%</b>	<b>38,162,140.15</b>	<b>96.6%</b>

# Department of Rehabilitation Services Financial Status Report FY 20

As of December 31, 2019

All Programs		Oklahoma School for the Blind		%		
	Budget	Budget	Expenditures	Expended	Encumbrances	% Used
	% of Total					
Personnel	6,394,012.00	74.9%	2,810,407.80	44.0%	3,581,721.28	100.0%
Travel	50,000.00	0.6%	35,064.24	70.1%	0.00	70.1%
General Operating	1,138,741.00	13.3%	424,144.18	37.2%	647,847.06	94.1%
Office Furniture & Equipment	208,000.00	2.4%	63,792.88	30.7%	3,148.02	32.2%
Client / General Assistance	85,000.00	1.0%	24,850.86	29.2%	0.00	29.2%
Indirect Cost	661,431.00	7.7%	302,547.68	45.7%	358,883.32	100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,537,184.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>3,660,807.64</b>	<b>42.9%</b>	<b>4,591,599.68</b>	<b>96.7%</b>

# Department of Rehabilitation Services Financial Status Report FY 20

As of December 31, 2019

All Programs		Oklahoma School for the Deaf		%		%	
	Budget	Budget	Expenditures	Expended	Encumbrances	% Used	% Used
Personnel	7,794,643.00	53.0%	3,379,731.63	43.4%	4,405,807.22	99.9%	99.9%
Travel	64,900.00	0.4%	21,157.36	32.6%	20,490.97	64.2%	64.2%
General Operating	4,446,011.00	30.2%	600,823.37	13.5%	1,137,525.80	39.1%	39.1%
Office Furniture & Equipment	749,534.00	5.1%	93,049.50	12.4%	556,570.70	86.7%	86.7%
Client / General Assistance	856,771.00	5.8%	197,246.28	23.0%	316,237.50	59.9%	59.9%
Indirect Cost	795,137.00	5.4%	360,204.84	45.3%	434,932.16	100.0%	100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,706,996.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>4,652,212.98</b>	<b>31.6%</b>	<b>6,871,564.35</b>	<b>78.4%</b>	<b>78.4%</b>

# Department of Rehabilitation Services Financial Status Report FY 20

As of December 31, 2019

All Programs						
Disability Determination Services						
	%					
Budget	% of Total					
Budget	Budget					
Expenditures	Expenditures					
Expended	Expended					
Encumbrances	% Used					
Personnel	32,683,858.00	63.7%	14,511,565.52	44.4%	17,307,359.16	97.4%
Travel	143,000.00	0.3%	29,515.49	20.6%	59,235.80	62.1%
General Operating	5,873,142.00	11.4%	1,755,160.16	29.9%	3,891,889.39	96.2%
Office Furniture & Equipment	91,000.00	0.2%	3,330.46	3.7%	29,341.00	35.9%
Client / General Assistance	8,814,000.00	17.2%	3,578,286.76	40.6%	5,235,713.24	100.0%
Indirect Cost	3,695,000.00	7.2%	1,757,458.80	47.6%	1,937,541.20	100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>51,300,000.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>21,635,317.19</b>	<b>42.2%</b>	<b>28,461,079.79</b>	<b>97.7%</b>

# Department of Rehabilitation Services Financial Status Report FY 20

As of December 31, 2019

All Programs		DRS Support Services			
	% of Total		%		
	Budget	Budget	Expenditures	Expended	Encumbrances % Used
Personnel	7,006,690.00	59.3%	3,116,128.22	44.5%	3,890,573.32 100.0%
Travel	49,000.00	0.4%	28,784.54	58.7%	4,600.00 68.1%
General Operating	4,692,881.00	39.7%	979,277.40	20.9%	3,475,601.25 94.9%
Office Furniture & Equipment	65,000.00	0.5%	15,832.93	24.4%	0.00 24.4%
Client / General Assistance	0.00	0.0%	0.00	0.0%	0.00 0.0%
Indirect Cost	6,943.00	0.1%	2,611.57	37.6%	4,331.43 100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,820,514.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>4,142,634.66</b>	<b>35.0%</b>	<b>7,375,106.00 97.4%</b>

# Department of Rehabilitation Services Financial Status Report FY 20

As of December 31, 2019

<b>Personnel</b>
Salary Expense
Insurance Premium -Health-Life, etc
FICA-Retirement Contributions
<b>Travel</b>
Travel - Agency Direct
Travel - Reimbursements
<b>General Operating</b>
AFP Encumberances
Bond Indebtness and Expenses
Buildings-Purchase, Construction and Renovation
General Operating
Inter/Intre Agency Payment for Personal Services
Maintenance & Repair
Miscellaneous Administration Fee
Professional Services
Production, Safety, Security
Refunds, Indemnities, Restitution
Rent Expense
Scholarships, Tuition and Other Incentive-Type Payments
Shop Expense
Specialized Supplies & Materials
<b>Office Furniture &amp; Equipment</b>
Library Equipment & Resources
Office Furniture & Equipment
<b>Client / General Assistance</b>
Social Service and Assistance Payments
<b>Indirect Cost</b>

# Personnel Report

## PERSONNEL ACTIVITY REPORT AS OF JANUARY 31, 2020

### FILLED AND VACANT POSITIONS

Personnel Activity = 6 vacant positions filled / 26 positions in Announcement or Selection Process

Division	Title/PIN	Date Vacated	Location	Begin date	End date	Ann. #	Action/Incumbent	Date Filled
FSD	Accountant / 1063	11/01/2019	FSD	11/27/2019	12/12/2019	20-057	Applicant list sent	12/18/2019
OSB	Police Officer / 0487	Vacant – Never Filled	OSB	10/07/2019	10/21/2019	20-038.1	Applicant list sent	10/24/2019
OSB	Secretary / 0989	08/01/2018	OSB	12/04/2019	12/17/2019	20-061	Applicant list sent	12/20/2019
OSB	Food Services Specialist / 0234	11/30/2019	OSB	12/03/2019	12/16/2019	20-060	Applicant list sent	12/18/2019
OSD	Materiel Management Officer / 0302	02/01/2020	OSD	01/14/2020	01/20/2020	20-069	<b>Diedra Braxton</b>	<b>02/01/2020</b>
OSD	Food Services Specialist / 0879	11/01/2019	OSD	11/27/2019	12/12/2019	20-055	Applicant list sent	12/18/2019
OSD	Teaching Assistant / 0525	01/01/2020	OSD	12/02/2019	12/09/2019	20-054	<b>Desjunae Ross</b>	<b>01/13/2020</b>
OSD	Housekeeping/Custodial Worker / 1026	11/13/2019	OSD	01/24/2020	02/06/2020	20-070	Currently Open	
VR	Business Services Liaison / 0814	10/29/2019	VR47 – OKC	01/22/2020	02/04/2020	20-065.1	Currently Open	
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 1030	09/26/2018	VR78 – Tahlequah	01/27/2020	02/24/200	20-073	Currently Open	
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 1190	06/17/2019	VR08 – Enid	01/24/2020	Continuous	20-071	Currently Open	
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0644	11/14/2019	VR42 – Poteau	01/06/2020	01/27/2020	20-068	Applicant list sent	01/29/2020
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0507	11/01/2019	VR19 – OKC	11/27/2019	Continuous	20-056	<b>Miranda Brazille</b>	<b>01/14/2020</b>
VR	Rehabilitation Technician / 0614	11/11/2019	VR81 – Chickasha	02/03/2020	02/07/2020	20-066.1	Currently Open	
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0764	07/01/2019	VR81 - Chickasha	09/16/2019	Continuous	20-024.1	Currently Open	
VR	Rehabilitation Technician / 0220	11/1/2020	VR80 – Tulsa	1/3/2020	1/16/2020	20-067	Applicant list sent	01/22/2020

Division	Title/PIN	Date Vacated	Location	Begin date	End date	Ann. #	Action/Incumbent	Date Filled
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0124	10/21/2019	VR44 – Stillwater	12/09/2019	12/13/2019	20-049.1	Applicant list sent	12/18/2019
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0066	03/04/2019	VR06 – Duncan	05/23/2019	06/05/2019	19-114	Pending	
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 1077	10/01/2019	VR07 - Durant	11/06/2019	Continuous	20-050	Currently Open	
VR	Assistive Technology Specialist / 0085	04/01/2018	VR66-Tulsa VR23 – OKC	07/02/2019	Continuous	19-065.2	Currently Open	
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0255	06/24/2019	Evaluation Center VR23 – OKC	10/8/2019	Continuous	19-129.1	Currently Open	
VR	Rehabilitation Technician / 0470	08/30/2019	Evaluation Center VR05 –	12/12/2019	12/17/2019	20-036.1	Applicant list sent	12/20/2019
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0948	01/31/2020	Weatherford	12/10/2019	Continuous	20-063	Currently Open	
SBVI	Carl Albert Executive Fellow / 1132	12/16/2015	SBVI69 - Weatherford Appointment	Unclassified			<b>Ernest Swindle II</b>	<b>01/22/2020</b>
SBVI	Programs Manager / 0193	12/01/2019	SBVI 91 - Tulsa	11/27/2019	12/12/2019	20-058	<b>Julie Bailey</b>	<b>02/01/2020</b>
SBVI	BEP Operations Coordinator / 1209	12/31/2018	SBVI 33- OKC BEP	05/13/2019	Continuous	19-071.1	<b>Tannica Binder</b>	<b>02/01/2020</b>
SBVI	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0294	07/31/2019	SBVI 58-Ada	12/20/2019	Continuous	20-033.2	Currently Open	
SBVI	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0669	10/07/2019	SBVI 69 – Weatherford	10/14/2019	Continuous	20-045	Currently Open	
SBVI	Rehabilitation of the Blind Specialist / 0754	10/01/2018	SBVI 71- Idabel	05/29/2019	Continuous	19-043.3	Currently open	
SBVI	Vending Facility Business Consultant / 0134	11/23/2019	SBVI 33 – OKC BEP	12/10/2019	Continuous	20-064	Currently Open	
SBVI	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0935	09/20/2019	SBVI 65 – Stillwater	10/09/2019	Continuous	20-044	Currently Open	
SBVI	Rehabilitation of the Blind Spec / 0582	01/08/2019	SBVI 91- Tulsa	007/17/2019	Continuous	19-085.3	Currently Open	

Waiting for E-List = Waiting to receive electronic applicant log from HCM.

Pending Approval= Waiting for unclassified appointments to be approved by director and cabinet secretary to establish an effective date

**NOTE:**

**RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS/SEPARATIONS = 8**

**As of January 31, 2020**

**SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION (Executive/MSD/FSD)**

None

**DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

Resignation = 2

1 = 14 years

1 = 1 years 2 months

Probationary Discharge = 1

1 = 3 months

**SERVICES FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED DIVISION**

None

**OKLAHOMA SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND**

Retirement = 1

1 = 21 years 2 months

Discharge = 1

1 = 5 years 11 months

**OKLAHOMA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF**

Retirement = 1

1 = 14 years

Probationary Discharge = 1

1 = 1 week

**DISABILITY DETERMINATION SERVICES**

Discharge = 1

1 = 3 months

# CURRENT FTE STATUS

## FY 2020

*FTE as of January 31, 2020*

<u>DIVISION</u>	<u>BUDGETED FTE</u>	<u>FILLED</u>	<u>PENDING</u>	<u>EXEMPT FTE</u>	<u>TOTAL FILLED PLUS PENDING MINUS EXEMPT FTE</u>
Support Services (Executive/MSD/FSD)	77.5	67.00	1.00	(1.00)	67.00
Vocational Rehabilitation	242.8	220.00	14.00	(7.00)	227.00
Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired	123.5	104.00	6.00	(3.00)	107.00
VR/SBVI-DP	2.00	2.00	0.00	(0.00)	2.00
Oklahoma School for the Blind	98.5	92.00	3.00	0.00	95.00
Oklahoma School for the Deaf	127.3	118.00	2.00	0.00	120.00
<b>Total (NON-EXEMPT)</b>	<b>671.6</b>	<b>603.00</b>	<b>26.00</b>	<b>(11.00)</b>	<b>618.00</b>
Disability Determination Services (EXEMPT)	332.9	316.00	0.00	(332.9)	316.00
<b>TOTAL NON-EXEMPT &amp; EXEMPT</b>	<b>1004.5</b>	<b>919.00</b>	<b>26.00</b>	<b>(343.9)</b>	<b>934.00</b>

**FY 20 Budgetary Limit = 1255**

**\* Authorized agency FTE limit does not include Executive Fellow and SWIP appointments**

ROUTING TO: Melinda Fruendt, Director  
 Kevin Statham, Chief Financial Officer  
 Randy Weaver, Chief of Operations  
 Tom Patt, Human Resources Program Director  
 Dana Tallon, Public Information Manager II  
 Carol Brown, Executive Assistant  
 Rosemarie Chitwood, Secretary V  
 Brett Jones, Public Information Officer III

# Legislative Report

February Legislative Report  
Kevin Nelson  
DRS Legislative Liaison

BUDGET- As I write this, we are just a few days away from the legislative session, the Governor's state of the state, and his budget. The state equalization board certified \$8.339 billion, an increase of just \$9.4 million or 0.1 percent over the \$8.330 billion appropriated for FY2020. Another \$200 million is available for appropriation from reserve funds, but it will be a tight budget.

LEGISLATION – I have completed my initial review of bills and the new watch list bills are below. SB 1140 is our DDS IT security audit exemption bill and SB 1128 is our deaf education teacher testing bill. Both are works in progress that we expect to change as we get into session. As discussed in my January report, I would ask you to approve moving forward with these bills.

The most concerning is HB 3080, which exempts counties from blind vendor priority. We will also watch SB 1693 closely as it seeks to consolidate a number of our fellow workforce agencies under the Labor Commissioner. On the good side, HB 4006 and SB 1190 look to make contributions tax exempt to ABLE accounts (529 plans for persons with disabilities).

Of the remaining HB 3891 is a bill passing through DRS \$500,000 in state funds to the state Centers for Independent Living. And, SB 1474 is a Sen. Dahm bill that provides that any appointed member of a state board or commission be liable and subject to impeachment for willful neglect of duty, corruption in office, habitual drunkenness, incompetency, or any offense involving moral turpitude committed while in office.

The first day of session is February 3<sup>rd</sup>, and our first deadline is the 17<sup>th</sup> to report House bills out of subcommittees.

# Watch List

## Bill Portfolio

8 Bills On Report

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**HB3080**  **Paraphrase:** HB3080, by Rep. Kyle Hilbert, R-Depew, exempts the board of county commissioners of each county from the duty of making sure the county property under their jurisdictions or premises of property gives priority to vending facilities operated by licensed blind operators and established by the State Department of Rehabilitation Services.  
**Effective Date:** 11/01/2020 **Emergency:** No  
**Tracking List:** BEP, Watch List  
**Principal Authors:** Hilbert, Kyle (H)  
**Status:** Prefiled **Status Date:** 01/16/2020

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**HB3891**  **Paraphrase:** HB3891, by Rep. Merleyn Bell, D-Norman, establishes elements of public policy to include recognition and support of individuals with disabilities and creates a support delivery system for individuals with disabilities ensuring that persons are well informed as to the types of services available. It requires that institutional services be considered only as a last resort. The bill appropriates \$500,000 from the General Revenue Fund to the State Department of Rehabilitation Services for utilization, development and implementation of health and wellness programs. (Emergency Measure)  
**Effective Date:** 07/01/2020 **Emergency:** Yes  
**Tracking List:** DRS, Disability 2020, Watch List  
**Principal Authors:** Bell, Merleyn (H)  
**Status:** Prefiled **Status Date:** 01/17/2020

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**HB4006**  **Paraphrase:** HB4006, by Rep. Kevin Wallace, R-Wellston, allows each taxpayer a deduction for contributions to accounts established pursuant to the Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) program as established in Section 4001.1 et seq. of Title 56 of the Oklahoma Statutes for taxable years beginning after Dec. 31, 2019.  
**Effective Date:** 01/01/2021 **Emergency:** No  
**Tracking List:** Disability 2020, Watch List  
**Principal Authors:** Wallace, Kevin (H)  
**Status:** Prefiled **Status Date:** 01/17/2020

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**SB1128**  **Paraphrase:** SB1128, by Sen. Frank Simpson, R-Ardmore, allows the State Board of Education to grant an exception to the requirements for all certification examinations for teach candidates who are deaf. It defines applicable terms. It allows the board to grant an exception in specified instances. It allows the board to promulgate rules and other requirements as necessary. (Emergency Measure)

**Effective Date:** 07/01/2020 **Emergency:** Yes  
**Tracking List:** DRS, Education OSB/OSD, Watch List  
**Principal Authors:** Simpson, Frank (S)  
**Status:** Prefiled **Status Date:** 12/19/2019

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**SB1140**  **Paraphrase:** SB1140, by Sen. Frank Simpson, R-Ardmore, exempts the Developmental Disabilities Services Division of the Department of Human Services from provisions of the requirement every state agency obtain an information security risk assessment to identify vulnerabilities associated with the information system.

**Effective Date:** 11/01/2020 **Emergency:** No  
**Tracking List:** DDD, DRS, Watch List  
**Principal Authors:** Simpson, Frank (S)  
**Status:** Prefiled **Status Date:** 12/23/2019

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**SB1190**  **Paraphrase:** SB1190, by Sen. Adam Pugh, R-Edmond, permits, for taxable years beginning after Dec. 31, 2019, each taxpayer to be allowed a deduction for contributions to accounts established pursuant to the Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Program as established by statute. It sets the maximum annual deduction for each tax year at no more than \$10,000 for each individual taxpayer or \$20,000 for taxpayers filing a joint return. It permits any amount of a contribution that is not deducted by the taxpayer in the year for which the contribution is made to be carried forward up to five years. It permits deductions to be taken for contributions made during a taxable year and up to April 15 of the succeeding year, or the due date of a taxpayer's state income tax return, including extensions, whichever is later, provided, a deduction for the same contribution may not be taken for two different taxable years.

**Effective Date:** 11/01/2020 **Emergency:** No  
**Tracking List:** Disability 2020, VR, VS, Watch List  
**Principal Authors:** Pugh, Adam (S)  
**Status:** Prefiled **Status Date:** 01/03/2020

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**SB1474**  **Paraphrase:** SB1474, by Sen. Nathan Dahm, R-Broken Arrow, requires the governor, elected and nonelected state officers, including the justices of the Supreme Court, and any appointed member of a state board or commission to be liable and subject to impeachment for willful neglect of duty, corruption in office, habitual drunkenness, incompetency, or any offense involving moral turpitude committed while in office.

**Effective Date:** 11/01/2020 **Emergency:** No  
**Tracking List:** Commission, Watch List  
**Principal Authors:** Dahm, Nathan (S)  
**Status:** Prefiled **Status Date:** 01/15/2020

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**SB1693**

**Paraphrase:** SB1693, by Sen. Robert Standridge, R-Norman, creates the Oklahoma Workforce and Economic Development Act. It creates in the Department of Labor a division to be called the Oklahoma Office of Workforce Development, to continue until July 1, 2026, according to the Oklahoma Sunset Law. It outlines the purpose of the Oklahoma Office of Workforce Development to administer federal grant funding allocations from the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and other federal grants and sources of funding relating to this state's workforce development programs, employment and training services to various Oklahoma citizens and those recipients of federal assistance funds, and pursuant to the powers, duties and responsibilities prescribed in this act or authorized by state or federal law. It requires the Oklahoma Office of Workforce Development to operate without direct state appropriated funding and to be contingent upon federal funding and other sources of monies derived from federal resources and nonappropriated funds, except as otherwise specifically authorized therein for state interagency agreements, state agency personnel resource sharing agreements, monies earned from office space rental agreements between state agencies, state agency contractual agreements, memorandum of understanding agreements between state agencies, or other state agency resource sharing agreements. It allows the Department of Labor to accept and apply for gifts, grants, donations, and funds from public and private sources to support the duties of the Oklahoma Office of Workforce Development. It allows the Department of Labor to use money from job training funds and other money to implement the requirements therein. It defines terms used therein.

**Effective Date:** 11/01/2020 **Emergency:** No

**Tracking List:** Agencies, DRS, WIOA, Watch List

**Principal Authors:** Standridge, Robert (S)

**Status:** Prefiled **Status Date:** 01/16/2020

**Oklahoma Library for  
the Blind and  
Physically  
Handicapped**

Oklahoma Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped  
Presentation to the DRS Commissioners' Meeting, February 10, 2020

OLBPH Origins

- Pratt Smoot Act and connection to NLS/Library of Congress.
- OLBPH's Oklahoma evolution.

OLBPH Services

- Digital audiobooks
- BARD: Braille and Audio Reading Download
- Braille
- AIM Center: Accessible Instructional Materials
- Newslines
- OTR – Oklahoma Telephone Reader

As verbally presented by Andrew Shockley and Erin Byrne

# **Vocational Rehabilitation Director's Report**

Vocational Rehabilitation  
February 2020 Commission Report

- VR finished the 2019 production year with 4,203 applications, 3,796 plans, and 1,125 closures. All of these totals were up from 2018.
- Wages for 2019 finished 5% higher than 2018
- It appears the VR/SBVI programs are consistent so far with other states in terms of measurable skill gains, credential attainment, and employment rates.
- Work has been completed on an agreement for VR/SBVI to participate in the River Hawks program out of Northeastern Oklahoma State University. Meetings are being considered to discuss similar programs at OU and OSU.
- Our Assistive Technology Center had an open house recently. It was reported that 60 individuals attended.
- We have hired a new Program Manager for our services to the Deaf and HOH unit. David Hankinson started in October.
- Our Business Services Team kicked off a new Business Advisory Council in Enid. Work is being done to host a career fair/expo in February. Our Business Services Coordinator, Fatos Floyd also represented our program in Washington DC at NCSAB.
- The Division Administrator attended the annual Oklahoma Transition Institute, and presented on the topic of WIOA Sec. 511 part 397. Two conferences were held, one in Owasso, and one in OKC. Theresa Flannery, formally with Dale Rogers presented the topic in OKC.
- The Division Administrator attended the Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation annual conference in October.
- The VR Division held a management meeting in November. Topics on the agenda included Tableau reports, case management regarding measurable skill gains, WIOA performance measures, transition services, client survey pilot project, CSAVR updates, and updates from Director Freundt.
- The Division Administrator participated in an interim study on traumatic brain injury. The study was requested by Rep. Trish Ranson, D-Stillwater. Dr. John Sassin, of Langston University, and Kevin Nelson (DRS) assisted.
- The Okmulgee office had an open house for their new location.
- Our long time Assistive Technology Coordinator, Leslie Lennier retired. She was a great leader in the field.
- Meetings continue to be held with Individual Placement and Support partners. Terri Murphy and the Employment Support Services Team have taken the lead on new developments in this supported employment pilot.
- The Division Administrator along with Program Manager Trish Osborn met with sheltered work shop employees in the Stillwater area to discuss WIOA and use of subminimum wage.
- The Division Administrator participated in assistive technology training with staff at the Moore Norman Technology Center. The training was focused on housing modifications and accessibility.
- DRS staff worked with senior students at the Oklahoma School for the Deaf to host Senior Days. This is an annual event focused on topics regarding employment.
- The Division Administrator, Employment Support Services Staff, Field Coordinator, Terri Murphy and Assistant Rosemarie Chitwood continue to meet with our DDS partners monthly to focus on our cooperative agreements and WIOA.
- The Division Administrator held a meeting with VR leadership staff to discuss the possibility of revamping efforts to promote servant Leadership, customer service, and targeted training for staff.

I'm very proud of our staffs efforts the past performance year, and I'm honored to serve with them.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark Kinnison, M.Ed., CRC, LPC-S  
Division Administrator  
Vocational Rehabilitation Services

# **Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired Director's Report**

## **Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired Commission Report February 2020**

### **Field Services:**

Sept 13: AT Specialists, Paul Miller and Magan Rowan, set up an exhibit table at the OKHR Workforce Conference in OKC. They demonstrated magnification items such as video magnifiers and OrCam glasses to Human Resource professionals who were in attendance at this conference.

Oct 1: Transition Counselor Jennifer Hawkins attended a Go Global East Central University Study Abroad Fair. There were exhibits from various international universities, with booths manned by ECU students who had attended these universities in various programs. Students gave presentations involving forming relationships while studying abroad, short term trips to Moscow and St. Petersburg and a short term trip to Mexico. The short term trips give credits in political science to participants.

Oct 2 Staff from VR and SBVI attended the Garvin County Job Fair at Crossroads Church in Pauls Valley. Brochures and information were given to job seekers who attended and staff visited with several companies who were in attendance to enlighten them about DRS services. Some of the employers present were MAC Truck, Amcor, DJK Enterprises, WalMart Distribution Center and Davis Correctional Center.

Oct 3 Counselors Jennifer Hawkins and Wade Walters attended a job fair hosted by the Choctaw Nation. The two hosted a booth at which they handed out literature and brochures about the various services that are available to visually impaired and blind job seekers in Oklahoma. Information was taken by a representative of the Choctaw Nation Human Resources Department to share with her entire department so hopefully that will open up some opportunities for our clients who are Choctaw in this area.

Oct 10 Counselors Charity Eidson and Jennifer Hawkins attended a job Fair for the City of Coalgate which consisted of staff from VR and SBVI, Workforce, the Coal County Hospital and Nursing Home and representatives from the Choctaw Nation. Our staff were able to speak with the reps from the Choctaw Nation, as well as the hospital and nursing home about potential employment for clients who reside in that area.

Oct 10 Staff from VR and SBVI participated in the 2019 Career and College Expo which took place at the McAlester Expo Center. VR and SBVI hosted a booth and disseminated information about our programs and office locations. Also in attendance were numerous employers and agencies, as well as universities and career techs. Multiple schools from the local area were bussed in and visited each table on a rotating basis. Throughout the day many students, in addition to a few parents and random school staff or chaperones, showed interest and inquired about DRS; not only in regards to services, but also interest in career opportunities. They even had someone stop by specifically to share a success story, which is always exciting.

Oct. 10-11 – Rehabilitation Teacher, Ani Severtsen, presented for the Dibble Senior Center and about 15 seniors visited with her to ask questions and take brochures and business cards for SBVI services.

Oct 15 Various activities were held across the state to recognize White Cane Day Awareness, which is always October 15th of each year. Most notable were an organized celebration and walk through downtown OKC in which the Director, DA and FC participated along with SBVI staff and clients.

Proclamations by Governor Stitt and Mayor Holt were read by the Director and DA, respectively, and then the walk ensued. Free passes to ride the new streetcars were passed out to anyone who wanted to take advantage of that activity after the walk through downtown. SBVI O&M specialists, Liz Scheffe and Debi Trout, led the walk and streetcar activities and VS staff hosted a table with information about Visual Services and the White Cane Law. Informational cards were also handed out during the walk to let the public know about the importance of following the law for the safety of blind pedestrians.

In Tulsa on the same evening, staff from SBVI and OSB set up tables in Woodland Hills Mall to disseminate information about the White Cane Law and a walk took place there as well. There were also activities led by consumer and support groups across the state, including the Duncan Council of the Blind and the Tulsa Council of the Blind to commemorate this very important law and spread the word to the public.

Oct 16 – Rehabilitation Teacher, Ani Severtsen, presented for the Newcastle Senior Center. About 35 seniors attended to receive information about DRS services.

Oct 16 – Rehabilitation Teacher, Debra Mendez, participated in the Cheyenne-Arapaho Job Fair. There were about 100 visitors to the fair. SWOSU was in attendance and Ms. Mendez was able to talk with the Dean of Students to explain how RT, O&M and AT Specialists can work with their students who need adaptive equipment and training. Hopefully this will lead to better relationships with SWOSU and services to students who need them.

Oct 22 – Rehabilitation Teacher, Debra Mendez, attended the Branch 15 Ministry gathering. This is a faith-based organization that has four homes for women who are transitioning from prison to the community. The reason for the meeting was to let area partners know Branch 15 is looking at property in western Oklahoma and is considering opening a house in the area. The meeting was attended by law enforcement, at least one judge, potential volunteers and Ms. Mendez. Some of the women have endured difficult life situations such as chemical dependency, incarceration, human trafficking and domestic violence and this organization helps with reentry into society. DRS could be a vital piece to assisting the women in becoming self-sufficient and productive members of society.

Oct 25: SBVI staff participate annually in the 18th annual Macular Degeneration/Low Vision/ Glaucoma Seminar held at the Samis Education Center in OU Children's Hospital. Presentations by Dean McGee Eye Institute physicians, New View Oklahoma staff, DRS Staff (Deitra Woody, Debi Trout and Shyreeta Hearne, as well as the OK Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. The majority of attendees were older blind. There were approximately 45 people.

Nov 5 – Rehabilitation Teacher, Ani Severtsen, presented to Brand Senior Center which is located in Moore. Approximately 25 seniors attended this presentation to receive information about DRS services. Nov 7 - Pam Holloway and Ani Severtsen worked a table at a senior center health fair in Oklahoma City. Approximately 15 senior citizens received information about Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

1/16/20 - Tammie Jones' unit hosted a booth at an event at WTC College and Military Day at Burns Flat. Tammie Jones, Debra Mendez and LeaAnn Dozier staffed a table. The purpose of the event was to give high school juniors and seniors as well as Vo Tech students an opportunity to gather information about careers in the military and public service organizations. Approximately 150 students from various high schools and career techs attended the event. Represented at the career day were SBVI, United States Air Force, US Army, Rose State College, OSU, Western Oklahoma State College, OU and SWOSU.

## **Business Services Program**

### **October**

Business Advisory Council Meetings, Tulsa  
New Day, New Way Meeting  
Disability Courtesy, Interviewing Techniques and Accommodation Workshop for Businesses  
OG&E Roundtable Networking Luncheon  
Disability Awareness Resource Fair, Cameron University, Lawton  
Capitol Access visit  
DoubleTree Mental Health Training  
The Gathering Business Summit  
Texoma's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Disability Networking Luncheon  
OESC's Career Fair, BSP booth, OKC, Tulsa, Durant  
Mosaic Monthly Meeting, Oklahomans for Equality  
OACEP Fall Conference  
CSAVR Conference Presentation by BSP Coordinator  
BSP Team Meeting  
Business Services Network Meeting  
Cherokee Nation's Disability Employment Initiative, BSP Booth

### **November**

Visit to Muskogee on behalf of Executive Director as representative in discussion about court reporting  
Innovative Workforce Opportunity Council  
Business Advisory Council Meeting, Enid, OKC  
BSP Team Meeting  
Dress for Success Career Assessments, Tulsa  
One Stop Workforce Partners Meeting, Lawton  
NE Business Services Meeting  
OESC Career Fair, BSP booth, Shawnee  
Mosaic Monthly Meeting, Tulsa Chamber  
Oklahoma Manufacturing Alliance /DRS Curriculum Planning  
Dare to Dream College and Career Fair, BSP booth, Tulsa  
ORC Quarterly Meeting  
Social Justice Symposium: Optimism through Action  
NE Workforce Partners Meeting  
Oklahoma Works Annual Alumni Celebration

### **December**

New Day, New Way NE Workforce Partner's Meeting  
Tips for Successful Interviewing, Rose State College  
Oklahoma Business Summit for People with Disabilities Committee Meeting  
Tulsa Partner Meeting  
NE Business Service Team Meeting  
Mosaic Monthly Meeting  
BSP Team Meeting

## **Transition**

October-January

Transition Coordinator (TC), Renee Sansom, has attended multiple trainings for supervisory credits at DRS and at the Jim Thorpe Building.

TC arranged Kimray tours for transition students in the Metro. Project Search sites attended along with other vendors and agencies. Approximately 75 people attended in total.

TC and Brandi Hurley attended multiple project search meetings to represent DRS. Project Search meetings are every month at each location. Still in the process of discussion with Georgia and OU about another Project Search site to be in Muskogee VA where we will focus on the School for the Blind. We have begun discussion with Tulsa Public Schools to have a Project Search site there as well as another site at St. Anthony's in OKC.

Both Brandi and TC are involved with the Cultivate mentoring group held by DRS training unit, which ended in November. Another mentoring group, Brain Fit began in January.

Brandi, TC and Jim Kettler continue to receive School Work Study contracts at the schools. We have added approximately 12 new sites this year. We have begun the process for FY21 already, as well as, update the list of counselors. Kim Lohr has been helping us get and keep the list of counselors and schools up to date for every quarter. This spreadsheet is being sent out along with the Trendy Transition Newsletter every quarter! We are so grateful for both Jim and Kim!

TC continues to be involved with the Transition Committee through CSAVR and NCSAB.

TC attended and presented on Transition at the 14<sup>th</sup> OTI in Owasso.

TC, Brandi and Casey Williamson (IT) have spent time developing the Transition page internally for DRS employees; working on forms, best practices and Transition related topics to the page.

TC attended multiple OJA, OCCY, SOWJC and COJC meetings about the youth in custody.

TC has participated in multiple NTACTION webinars.

TC, Brandi and Lori Chesnut (OSDE) have met multiple times since the Capacity Building Institute to discuss the survey for students and parents for the Transition Institute.

TC and Brandi held a transition training for staff in transition. It was more of a self-help training where they could focus on making themselves better.

TC and Brandi attended the Division on Career Development in Transition training in Seattle along with several Pre-Ets specialists from OU.

TC attended and presented at the CSAVR and NCSAB Conference in Florida.

TC met with Epic charter schools and Oklahoma Virtual Charter Academy on how to build a working relationship and work together for students with disabilities as well as incorporate virtual job shadowing opportunities to those students.

TC has been involved with the Oklahoma Transition Council and they are in the process of developing their 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Transition Institute scheduled on September 28 and 29 at the Embassy Suites in Norman, OK.

TC has presented four presentations in Spanish to parents and advocates of students with disabilities to families who English is not their first language. This will help develop some self-advocacy skills for parents, transition aged youth during the IEP's, and IPE's so that those kids can be successful and not fall through the cracks. There are plans to continue this in OKC and Tulsa through this year.

TC and Brandi attended the SBVI cook out – social gathering and training for staff.

TC attended the FC/PM meeting that VR held

TC and Brandi attended several BAC meetings held by Fatos Floyd. All project search sites, OSD, OSB and many other schools will be present for this event. TC and Brandi to present material on transition at the career expo.

TC and Brandi attended the Autism Conference held in Midwest City

TC and Brandi attended staffing meetings for Pre-Ets with OU

TC, Lori Chesnut (OSDE) and Sharon Baker (Career Tech) attended the NTACTION/VR/SDE/CTE conference held in California to learn about collaboration amongst the state with those entities.

TC met with V. Davies (Eastern Technology Center) about SWS and other opportunities for the Choctaw, Harrah, Shawnee, Jones, Luther areas.

TC and Brandi attended the Wrights law Conference in OKC to learn more about transition law in the state.

TC met with Jamie Hooper and the City of Manitou regarding SWS/OJT possibilities for SWOJC

TC attended with Jody Harlan, Chris Dvorak and Rita Echelle the Resilience video that OKDHS presented with First Lady Sarah Stitt in showing the science of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

TC has been a part of the interview panel for Fatos Floyd with the Business Services Program in hiring for OKC.

TC and Brandi have been in conversations with Jen Randle with YLF about the FEAT talk. Discussed power point ideas and changes, as she will present nationally this year. Made updates to the VR process.

TC and Brandi have attended several Project Search open house nights for parents and students to answer questions as they arise.

TC attended the Strategy Group: Employer Support and Engagement session with Ed Long to develop strategies for employers to gain knowledge of different programs in the state and to develop a talent pipeline for all job seekers in Oklahoma.

The Deaf and Hard of Hearing Camp (Crushin' Life), is scheduled for June 14 – June 20 at OU Campus.

TC attended the Strategic Planning meeting of the ORC and assisted with development of the Transition Committee Strategic Plan and gave updates as needed. In addition, attended committee meeting for Transition with ORC and it appears that committee is meeting the goals for the year.

Pre-Ets contract is doing great. We have eight specialists that continue to work in the schools. One was hired to work in the Oklahoma City Public School System (all high schools); Another was hired to work the “west” part of the state at this time including Lawton and surround schools, up to Tuttle, Newcastle, Blanchard and other rural schools; The third will be focusing on Moore/Norman and down through Little Axe, Purcell and other surrounding schools in that area; The fourth one is the lead and is a mentor to the others at this time but still working on the east side of OKC in Luther, Jones, Chandler, etc.; The fifth is working in the Muskogee area; The sixth is working the Tulsa area; The seventh is working with our online virtual academies and online charter schools; our eighth is doing work in the Enid and surrounding areas. TC, Brandi and Judi Goldston present at any event we can get to regarding DRS and the partnership with OU and Pre-Ets by multiple meetings with public schools and other agencies. Working

with the workforce centers as well is one of our many goals. In this Pre-Ets contract, we will be including peer mentoring as part of the contract along with the five required fields of the WIOA.

Judi Goldston and TC are planning to host a Pre-Ets conference for surrounding states this summer

We are awaiting responses from OSDE regarding STEM camp for the juniors and seniors at the beginning of the school year in August/September so that we do not interfere with camps they currently have going on in the summer. Dates for all other STEM camps for the summer are as follows:

- a. Meeker - June 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> 2020
- b. Ada - June 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>, 2020
- c. Tushka -June 16<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup>, 2020
- d. OKC - June 22<sup>nd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020
- e. OSB Tentative - June 29<sup>th</sup> - July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 (Self-Advocacy camp possibly with Pre-ETS specialists too)
- f. Lawton – July 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020
- g. Owasso – July 20<sup>th</sup> – Jul 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020
- h. Tulsa Central Church – July 29<sup>th</sup> – July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020

TC, OSB staff and Teresa McDermott currently attend quarterly meetings at OSB to discuss the kids and see where everyone stands with work and their cases.

Camp WOW – May 31 – June 5, 2020 for one week. Applications and flyers have been sent to staff, school administration, Transition Council, ORC and OSDE for dissemination. We have a person from Workforce leading the camp again and will have our Pre-ets specialists as full time support as well.

STEP (Summer Transition Employment Program) flyers and applications have been sent to staff, school administration, Transition Council, ORC and OSDE for dissemination. STEP locations this year is in Norman/Moore, Edmond, OKC and Owasso/Collinsville. Celebrations will be at the end of each STEP program in July and August.

TC and Brandi continue to work on audits and new contracts for Work Adjustment Training statewide.

TC has been involved in Lead/Learn/Live post-secondary education program meetings. Contract through the NSU Riverhawks program is in force and began January 1<sup>st</sup>.

TC has been involved in multiple Statewide Education Leadership Network Meetings (SELN)

TC met with the Central Oklahoma Association for Teachers Coalition (COATC) to provide information to them regarding the new Pre-ets contract.

TC has been involved with the State Workforce Youth Council meetings and participates on the ICAP subcommittee

TC met with Delaware Nation about transition and collaborating. Also, met with Cheyenne Arapaho tribe about collaborating for summer this year. They are giving WOW students water bottles and hand sanitizer this year.

Continue to work with Brett Jones on new checklists for Transition. The new brochures are in and look great. We also have developed a WAT/SWS one pager that is currently in the bidding process. We have discussed making signs/boards with prams that Transition currently has and will be doing for events.

TC, Brandi, Carolina Colclasure (ORC) and Lori Chesnut (OSDE) are still collaborating to finish the Transition Planning folders. There have been some hiccups along the way, but we are almost to a point of printing. Some final discussions are in the works for printing.

Brandi and TC have offered to help take applications at parent nights and open houses for Project Search students so that we can have sufficient applicant numbers for the different programs. The counselors are including us (mostly) in emails about reaching out to schools and letting us know their needs.

TC met with Jeri Cooper and Stephanie Butler regarding the Deaf-Blind population and discussed being more involved with Transition.

TC attended and spoke at the Tech Now Training for new teachers regarding Tech-Now, STEM and the possibilities that DRS can offer.

TC attended the Epilepsy Foundation Conference in Altus to speak about services for the South West part of the state. There is a need for collaboration in that part of the state.

## **OLBPH**

AIM Center:

To give some perspective on the growth of the program, the data from the previous school year has been included.

### Students using BRAILLE:

18/19 school year = 17

19/20 school year = **68**

This is a huge increase due to early intervention, students moving in from other states, awareness of the AIM Center and outreach.

### Federal Quota

18/19 school year = 753

19/20 school year = **889** (we are currently waiting on 51 parent releases so this number may go down before the final phase of FQ registration but again, HUGE increase from last year. This of course, doesn't include the students who are being served in the AIM center on IEPs but don't qualify for FQ.)

To meet the growing needs of our students using Braille, the AIM Center has added additional Brailers, \*BrailleBuzz and \*\*Taptilos to the collection.

\* BrailleBuzz is an instructional toy for young braille learners age's two to five. It encourages practice with braille characters and phonics, similar to a variety of audio-based toys that teach print writing.

BrailleBuzz resembles a cartoon bumblebee, encouraging little ones with audio feedback. A friendly recorded human voice and fun sounds are paired with a Perkins-style braille keyboard, designed with little hands in mind.

### Three Modes of Play

– Phonics Mode: fun sound and letter associations are made.

– Keyboard Mode: all key combinations are announced with dot numbers.

– Letters Mode: dot number announcement reinforces the relationship between reading letters and writing on the keyboard.

**\*\*TAPTILO** all-in-one braille education solution combines a hardware device with the latest braille cell technology and an innovative application that can be used seamlessly with the device. Various pre-made lesson plans and teaching resources, easy to personalize lessons to individual student and track learning progress. Create custom teaching material, play games with students, and reinforce learning through various self-guided activities. Manage and download new content from free app. Knowledge of braille isn't required to teach braille with Taptilo. Simply select or type a word in the app, and Taptilo will do the translation. It also includes various pre-made lesson plans, teaching resources, and self-guided activities. (This is vital in Oklahoma as we have a shortage of VI teachers who know braille!)

AIM Center is in the process of building an on-line ordering system coordinated with KLAS to allow TVIs to access our catalog and submit orders securely through the KLAS OPAC system, eliminating the need for paper copies; one step closer to becoming paper-free.

**OLBPH Audiobook Circulation**

SFY 20 Totals as of January 2020                      88,131

**BEP**

The interview selection committee held interviews on December 30, 2019 for the BEP Coordinator position. Tannica Binder was selected and accepted the position. Her official start date was February 1, 2020.

With Ms. Binder's acceptance as BEP Coordinator, we will now be announcing the Business Manager position.

Ft. Sill arbitration began in San Antonio in January. The Office of the Attorney General has stepped in to assist. We will not have any information until at least April.

2 licensed managers completed the new training program. We will begin training again in March and will have 3 trainees who have already successfully passed initial assessments.

Continued focus on growth with site surveys to add facilities and assessing clients for entrance into the program.

**Production:**

Title I:	Applications to date = 114	Cases in Service Status =92
	Cases in Delayed Status = 65	Successful Closures = 33
	Avg Hourly Wage/Successful. Closure = \$15.01/hour	
Older Blind:	Applications to date = 50	Plans Written = 62
	Currently Being Served = 303	Goals Met = 17

**Division Administrator Activities:**

Highlights--- White Cane Safety Day; Policy Committee; Blindness Agency Community of Practice Meeting; VR/SBVI Performance Measures Meetings; Commission Meetings; ETeam Meetings; ORC; ORC Exec. Committee; OSD Ground Breaking; BEP facility selection committee; BEP Training; CSAVR Calls; OK Manufacturing Alliance Meetings; YTAC Conference Call; Lead/Learn/Live Planning Meetings; PMP Meetings with staff; Academy Planning Meeting; CSAVR/NCSAB; ECM Meetings; Telecommuting Planning Meeting; BEP manager meetings; PM interviews; BEP Training meetings; Governors Council on Workforce Development Meeting

Respectfully Submitted:

Tracy Brigham, MBS, LPC, SBVI Division Administrator

# **Statewide Independent Living Center Report**

# **SILC Report to DRS Commissioners**

February 10, 2020

## **Nationally**

SILC Congress will be held in February 25-27, 2020 in San Diego, CA. This is panning out to be the largest conference on record. With 160 attendees and 20 PCAs to date, and cut off for registration is still a week away. To date we have 38 States/Territories being represented.

The APRIL Executive Committee is meeting regularly, which is new, since it hasn't met in prior years. As Treasurer, the SILC Executive Director has been helping with budget and financial statements, and is also tasked with putting together a nomination committee and doing new member orientation.

## **Mayor's Committee on Disability Concerns**

The Annual meeting was in December and the SILC Executive Director was elected to serve as Chair for the next three years. The Mayor of OKC elected to retain her in her position, so there was only a vote for Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. Adam Lane of United Access is Vice Chair, Dana Tallon with DRS is Secretary and Scott Ellis with the MidAmerica Chapter of Paralyzed Veterans is the Treasurer.

The Annual Awards Luncheon and ADA Session will be held October 2, 2020 and there will be vendor tables that will be open to the public. In coordination with Metro Transit, we are working to provide transportation to people with disabilities that would like to attend.

## **United We Ride**

Vikki Walls, SILC Chair, attended the UWR meeting on behalf of SILC. Discussion was made on how to expand transportation in Oklahoma, partnering with agencies to expand transportation and funding that is available for that expansion.

## **Reliant Living Center**

The SILC Executive Director serves on the Board of Directors and attending the quarterly meeting. Architects and builders from Richardson Homes were in attendance. The Living Center is building 2 new 16-bed facilities and the plans have been submitted to Del City for permits. The living center's workshop re-evaluated their pay scale and will be updating participants' pay.

## **Misc.**

Vikki Walls and Sidna Madden have met several times for SPIL related work, office related work, and finance related work

Member handbooks were updated and distributed to SILC members in attendance at the January meeting

Completed and submitted our Annual 704 Report with help from Kevin Statham and Cynthia Knight

Found and secured a new office space

Met with Jennifer Randle in regards to FEAT (Family Employment Awareness Training) and Jenifer presented at the January SILC meeting.

Nyree Cunningham-Pullen gave a third presentation at the January SILC meeting for the SILC members who are active in a Complete Count Committee

Vikki Walls, SILC Chair, met with Senator Ron Sharp to discuss the Consumer Direct Program (CD-PASS), and the Federal Guideline for States to contract with Financial Management Services to handle finances in State Medicaid Program.

SILC Chair, Vikki Walls attends the ORC meetings and is on the Program and Planning Committee as well as the Transition Committee.

The SILC State Plan Survey is still out and being shared for consumers to participate.

The next State Plan planning meeting is February 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:00am at the office located at 6108 NW 63<sup>rd</sup> Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73132.

SILC is working to get a Planning Workshop for the State Plan that both CILs and SILC members will participate in. Workshop will be conducted by ILRU (Independent Living Research Utilization).

SILC members voted to approve a new SILC logo, rework the SILC brochure, purchase a table cloth and retractable banner with the new logo and information on Independent Living in Oklahoma, and other promotional items.

The next SILC Quarterly meeting will be April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at the new SILC office at 6108 NW 63<sup>rd</sup> Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73132.

# **Regular Commission Minutes**

**Oklahoma Commission for Rehabilitation Services  
Department of Rehabilitation Services  
3535 NW 58<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200  
Regular Commission Minutes  
January 13, 2020**

**PRESENT**

Jace Wolfe, Commission Chair  
Emily Cheng, Commission Member

**ABSENT**

Wes Hilliard, Commission Vice-Chair

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 am by Commissioner Wolfe. Two Commissioners were in attendance and a quorum was established.

**STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE**

The Commission Assistant confirmed the Commission for Rehabilitation Services is in compliance with the Open Meetings Act.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were none.

**REPORTS**

**INTRODUCTION OF ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL CLAYTON EUBANKS**

Commissioner Wolfe recognized Assistant Attorney General Clayton Eubanks, who is sitting in on our meeting due to the loss of Rick Olderbak, Assistant Attorney General. Commissioner Wolfe also said a few words about the unexpected loss of Rick Olderbak. Commissioner Wolfe recognized Melinda Freundt, who reiterated the loss we, as friends and co-workers are still trying to accept. She also mentioned recently retired Visual Services employee Danny Roberson had just passed away. Both will be missed by staff and clients.

**PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION**

Commissioner Wolfe recognized Melinda Freundt who presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Keith Tampkins. When the MC of the national conference of The Consortia of Administrators for Native American Rehabilitation (CANAR) was unable to attend at the last moment, Keith was asked and he readily stepped up and accepted the challenge. Keith did an excellent job, which reflected well on himself as well as our agency. Melinda said this is what Keith does, anytime he is needed. Congratulations Keith!

**PRESENTATION OF LONGEVITY CERTIFICATES**

Commissioner Wolfe presented a longevity certificate to Lizzy Chacko for 35 years of service. She began her career in Washington, D. C., coming to Oklahoma and working at the OU Health Science Center, DHS and our agency. In 2006 she was promoted to HR Management Specialist and is a devoted employee. Her co-workers say she has the "Eyes of an eagle", spotting an error on documents faster than anyone. Congratulations Lizzy!

## **DIRECTOR REPORT**

Commissioner Wolfe recognized Melinda Fruendt. Her report included state committees, meetings, and training attended by the Executive Director and team; Happy Holidays message to staff; updates on AWARE's projects including their Pilot Program; and Program Standards, Statistical Research update. She reminded everyone of the Persons with Disability Awareness Day at the State Capitol March 10<sup>th</sup>, and the Capitol is still under renovations.

## **PRIORITY GROUP UPDATE**

Commissioner Wolfe recognized Tracy Brigham, Director of Services to the Blind and Visually Impaired. She reported December 4<sup>th</sup> 307 cases were released. There are now 938 on the waiting list.

## **FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT**

Commissioner Wolfe recognized Kevin Statham. He gave the Financial Status Reports for FY19 and FY20 as November 30, 2019.

## **PERSONNEL ACTIVITY REPORT**

Commissioner Wolfe recognized Tom Patt. He gave the personnel activity report as of January 3, 2020. The activity report also has current FTE status.

## **LEGISLATURE REPORT**

Commissioner Wolfe recognized Kevin Nelson. He reported on the FY2020 Legislative session requests.

## **UNIFIED STATE PLAN**

Commissioner Wolfe recognized Stephanie Roe, Project Coordinator. She reported the Vocational Rehabilitation portion has been submitted for 2020-2023. The Unified State Plan is completed every four years. It is currently up for public comment. She will give the link to this report when it is completed.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

Commissioner Wolfe asked for review and discussion with possible vote to approve the December 9, 2019 Commission for Rehabilitation Services regular Meeting Minutes. There were two errors needing correction. The first showed Commissioner Wolfe's name instead of Commissioner Hilliard for New Business and the other was Announcements showed February's meeting not January's.

***Motion was made and seconded to approve the December 9, 2019 minutes, with two amendments mentioned above. Both Commissioners voted in the affirmative. Motion passed.***

### **OKLAHOMA LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED**

Commissioner Wolfe recognized Kevin Treese to present the December, 2019 donation report for review and discussion with possible vote for approval.

***Motion was made and seconded to approve the December, 2019 OLBPH donations. Both Commissioners voted in the affirmative. Motion passed.***

### **OKLAHOMA SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND**

Commissioner Wolfe recognized Rita Echelle to present the December, 2019 donation report for review and discussion with possible vote for approval.

***Motion was made and seconded to approve the December, 2019 OSB donations. Both Commissioners voted in the affirmative. Motion passed.***

## **OKLAHOMA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF**

Commissioner Wolfe recognized Chris Dvorak to present the December, 2019 donation report for review and discussion with possible vote for approval.

***Motion was made and seconded to approve the December, 2019 OSD donations. Both Commissioners voted in the affirmative. Motion passed.***

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner Wolfe asked if there was any New Business. There was none.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Date and location of next regular meeting of the Commission for Rehabilitation Services:

Monday, February 10, 2020 at 10:30 a.m.

Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services

Oklahoma Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

300 N.E. 18<sup>th</sup> Street

Oklahoma City Ok 73105

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Wolfe adjourned the meeting.

**Respectfully submitted by Carol Brown, Assistant to the Commission**

# **Legislative Action Report**

## 2020 LEGISLATIVE DRS REQUESTS

Kevin Nelson

DRS Legislative Liaison

January 13, 2020

There are two new requests for legislation we are proposing this year and one hold over from last year. They are:

### **FY 2020 Legislative Session Requests**

#### **NEW 1) OMES: IT Security Audit exemption**

Issue: Under SB 584 agencies are required to undergo IT security audits. One of our divisions, the Social Security disability determination services division, is not allowed to undergo audits by OMES contractors due to the sensitive nature of the information they have. The division has direct access to the SSA system, which is only accessible by SSA personnel that are required to undergo federal background checks. SSA provides their own security audits. We asked for an exemption, but OMES does not feel they have the authority to exempt us. We would like an exemption from this requirement.

#### **2) Exemption from liability for action of Blind vendors**

Issue: The agency licenses blind vendors who have priority to run vending facilities in state and federal buildings. Once licensed, they operate their own businesses. Last year, a contractor of a blind vendor threatened to sue the agency for lost profits from a bid for a federal facility. The agency is seeking to protect the program from suits based on the actions of the blind vendors.

SB 321 is a carry-over bill from last session. It exempts the agency for the actions and contracts of the blind vendors we license. It was stalled in House Judiciary due to deadlines, but was not controversial. Rep. Townley is willing to pick it up again this year.

#### **NEW 3) Deaf/ASL teacher candidates testing exemption**

Issue: Deaf/ASL teacher candidates have not had the same exposure to language and vocabulary that hearing persons have experienced. As such, they have a more difficult time with the three required tests for teacher certification, the Oklahoma General Education Test (OGET), the Oklahoma Professional Teaching Examination (OPTe), and the Oklahoma Subject Area Tests (OSATs). The problem is that these tests are not accessible and do not test fluency in ASL, which is the language they will be teaching.

We are asking for an exemption for ASL teachers from the testing requirements for teacher certification. Under the legislation, a person who is deaf that would teach ASL can apply to the State Department of Education for an exemption from testing if they demonstrate fluency in ASL and complete a one-year mentorship with a certified deaf education teacher.

We would ask the Commission to approve our pursuit of these legislative requests.

1 ENGROSSED SENATE  
2 BILL NO. 321

By: Simpson of the Senate

and

Townley of the House

3  
4  
5  
6 An Act relating to employment of blind persons;  
7 amending 7 O.S. 2011, Section 71, which relates to  
8 activities to promote employment; granting the  
9 Department of Rehabilitation Services immunity from  
10 liability for certain damages; and providing an  
11 effective date.

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

13 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 7 O.S. 2011, Section 71, is  
14 amended to read as follows:

15 Section 71. A. For purposes of assisting blind persons to  
16 become self-supporting, the State Department of Rehabilitation  
17 Services is hereby authorized to carry on activities to promote  
18 business opportunities for individuals who are blind, including, but  
19 not limited to, the licensing and establishment of such persons as  
20 operators of vending facilities in public and other buildings.  
21 Facilities shall maximize job opportunities for other persons who  
22 are blind.

23 B. The Department shall be the sole state licensing agency for  
24 the purpose of implementing and carrying out the provisions of the  
Act of Congress known as the Randolph-Sheppard Act (20 USCA Sections

1 107-107f), and amendments thereto, providing for the licensing of  
2 individuals who are blind to operate vending facilities in federal  
3 buildings, or any other Acts of Congress which may be hereafter  
4 enacted. Provided, that no game of chance or gambling machine shall  
5 be operated. The Department shall be immune from liability for  
6 monetary damages to licensed individuals or their subcontractors.  
7 The Division of Visual Services of the Department shall administer  
8 this program.

9 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019.

10 Passed the Senate the 11th day of March, 2019.

11  
12 \_\_\_\_\_  
13 Presiding Officer of the Senate

14 Passed the House of Representatives the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
15 2019.

16  
17 \_\_\_\_\_  
18 Presiding Officer of the House  
19 of Representatives  
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1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 57th Legislature (2020)

3 SENATE BILL 1140

By: Simpson

4  
5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to public finance; amending 62 O.S.  
8 2011, Section 34.32, as last amended by Section 1,  
9 Chapter 331, O.S.L. 2019 (62 O.S. Supp. 2019, Section  
10 34.32), which relates to security risk assessments;  
11 providing exception for certain state agency  
12 division; updating statutory reference; and providing  
13 an effective date.

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

15 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 62 O.S. 2011, Section 34.32, as  
16 last amended by Section 1, Chapter 331, O.S.L. 2019 (62 O.S. Supp.  
17 2019, Section 34.32), is amended to read as follows:

18 Section 34.32. A. The Information Services Division of the  
19 Office of Management and Enterprise Services shall create a standard  
20 security risk assessment for state agency information technology  
21 systems that complies with the International Organization for  
22 Standardization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical  
23 Commission (IEC) Information Technology - Code of Practice for  
24 Security Management (ISO/IEC 27002).

1 B. Each state agency that has an information technology system  
2 shall obtain an information security risk assessment to identify  
3 vulnerabilities associated with the information system. The  
4 Information Services Division of the Office of Management and  
5 Enterprise Services shall approve not less than two firms which  
6 state agencies may choose from to conduct the information security  
7 risk assessment.

8 C. A state agency with an information technology system that is  
9 not consolidated under the Information Technology Consolidation and  
10 Coordination Act or that is otherwise retained by the agency shall  
11 additionally be required to have an information security audit  
12 conducted by a firm approved by the Information Services Division  
13 that is based upon the most current version of the NIST Cyber-  
14 Security Framework, and shall submit a final report of the  
15 information security risk assessment and information security audit  
16 findings to the Information Services Division each year on a  
17 schedule set by the Information Services Division. Agencies shall  
18 also submit a list of remedies and a timeline for the repair of any  
19 deficiencies to the Information Services Division within ten (10)  
20 days of the completion of the audit. The final information security  
21 risk assessment report shall identify, prioritize, and document  
22 information security vulnerabilities for each of the state agencies  
23 assessed. The Information Services Division may assist agencies in  
24

1 repairing any vulnerabilities to ensure compliance in a timely  
2 manner.

3 D. Subject to the provisions of subsection C of Section 34.12  
4 of this title, the Information Services Division shall report the  
5 results of the state agency assessments and information security  
6 audit findings required pursuant to this section to the Governor,  
7 the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the President Pro  
8 Tempore of the Senate by the first day of January of each year. Any  
9 state agency with an information technology system that is not  
10 consolidated under the Information Technology Consolidation and  
11 Coordination Act that cannot comply with the provisions of this  
12 section shall consolidate under the Information Technology  
13 Consolidation and Coordination Act.

14 E. This ~~act~~ section shall not apply to state agencies subject  
15 to mandatory North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC)  
16 cybersecurity standards and institutions within The Oklahoma State  
17 System of Higher Education, the Developmental Disabilities Services  
18 Division of the Department of Human Services, and the Oklahoma State  
19 Regents for Higher Education and the telecommunications network  
20 known as OneNet that follow the International Organization for  
21 Standardization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical  
22 Commission (IEC)-Security techniques-Code of Practice for  
23 Information Security Controls or National Institute of Standards and  
24 Technology.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2020.

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3 57-2-2850 MG 12/23/2019 10:16:27 AM  
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2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 2nd Session of the 57th Legislature (2020)

4 SENATE BILL 1128

By: Simpson

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6  
7 AS INTRODUCED

8 An Act relating to teacher certification; amending 70  
9 O.S. 2011, Section 6-187, as last amended by Section  
10 1, Chapter 50, O.S.L. 2017 (70 O.S. Supp. 2019,  
11 Section 6-187), which relates to competency  
12 examinations for teacher certification; allowing the  
13 State Board of Education to grant exceptions to the  
14 certification examinations for certain teacher  
15 candidates who are deaf; providing definition;  
16 providing criteria for exceptions; providing for  
17 promulgation of rules; providing for applicable  
18 teaching environments; providing an effective date;  
19 and declaring an emergency.

20  
21  
22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

23 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 6-187, as  
24 last amended by Section 1, Chapter 50, O.S.L. 2017 (70 O.S. Supp.  
25 2019, Section 6-187), is amended to read as follows:

26 Section 6-187. A. Prior to July 1, 2014, a competency  
27 examination shall be adopted by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher  
28 Preparation and beginning July 1, 2014, a competency examination  
29 shall be adopted by the Commission for Educational Quality and  
30 Accountability for the general education, professional education and  
31 --

1 various subject areas and grade levels for purposes of ensuring  
2 academic achievement and competency of each teacher candidate or  
3 teacher in the subject area the person is seeking certification to  
4 teach which shall also include certification as an administrator, as  
5 prescribed by the State Board of Education.

6 The Commission, consistent with the purposes of this section,  
7 shall promulgate rules and procedures to guarantee the  
8 confidentiality of examinations.

9 B. No teacher candidate shall be eligible for certification  
10 until successfully completing the competency examination except  
11 those candidates who make application to the State Board and meet  
12 the criteria for the alternative placement program pursuant to  
13 Section 6-122.3 of this title. Certification shall be limited to  
14 areas of approval in which the certified teacher has successfully  
15 completed the examination. Subject to the provisions of subsection  
16 C of this section, testing for certification for subjects in which a  
17 teacher candidate or teacher is seeking a minor teaching assignment  
18 or an endorsement to teach shall be limited to the specific subject  
19 area test.

20 A teacher candidate or teacher may take the general education,  
21 professional education or subject area portions of the examination  
22 subject to any limit imposed by the Commission.

23 C. 1. Except as otherwise provided for in this subsection, a  
24 teacher may be certified in as many areas as the teacher meets the  
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1 necessary requirements provided by law and has successfully  
2 completed the subject area portion of the examination.

3 2. Except as otherwise provided for in this paragraph,  
4 certification in early childhood, elementary, or special education  
5 shall require completion of an appropriate teacher education program  
6 approved by the Commission.

7 Any teacher who is certified to teach elementary education may  
8 be certified in early childhood education upon meeting the  
9 requirements provided in law and successful completion of the  
10 appropriate subject area portion of the examination. Any teacher  
11 who is certified to teach early childhood education may be certified  
12 in elementary education upon meeting the requirements provided in  
13 law and successful completion of the appropriate subject area  
14 portion of the examination. Any special education teacher who  
15 becomes certified to teach through completion of an accredited  
16 teacher preparation program may be certified in early childhood or  
17 elementary education upon meeting the requirements provided in law  
18 and successful completion of the appropriate subject portion of the  
19 examination. Any teacher who becomes certified to teach through  
20 completion of an accredited teacher preparation program or becomes  
21 alternatively certified to teach through the Troops to Teachers  
22 program may be certified in special education upon meeting the  
23 requirements provided in law and successful completion of the  
24 appropriate subject area portion of the examination. Any special

1 education teacher who has not completed a Commission-approved  
2 teacher education program in elementary education or early childhood  
3 education but who has successfully completed the subject area  
4 portion of the examination may be certified in elementary education  
5 or early childhood education for the purpose of providing direct  
6 instruction and serving as the teacher of record for grading  
7 purposes in special education settings only.

8 D. The Commission shall offer the competency examination at  
9 least four times per calendar year on dates to be established by the  
10 Commission.

11 E. If a teacher candidate or teacher is a non-native-English  
12 speaker, the Commission shall offer the subject area competency  
13 examination in the native language of the teacher candidate or  
14 teacher only if the teacher candidate or teacher is employed or has  
15 been offered employment by a school district as a teacher in a  
16 foreign language immersion program offered by the school district.  
17 If a non-native-English speaker who has received certification in a  
18 subject area after taking the subject area competency examination in  
19 the native language of the speaker seeks to add a certification area  
20 in the future and that person is no longer employed as a teacher in  
21 a foreign language immersion program, the examination for the  
22 additional certification area shall be taken in English. The State  
23 Board of Education shall issue a restricted license or certificate  
24 to any teacher who has completed a subject area competency  
--

1 examination in the native language of the teacher as provided for in  
2 this subsection restricting the teacher to teaching only in a  
3 foreign language immersion program.

4 F. Nothing in the Oklahoma Teacher Preparation Act shall  
5 restrict the right of the State Board of Education to issue an  
6 emergency or provisional certificate, as needed. Provided, however,  
7 prior to the issuance of an emergency certificate, the district  
8 shall document substantial efforts to employ a teacher who holds a  
9 provisional or standard certificate. In the event a district is  
10 unable to hire an individual meeting this criteria, the district  
11 shall document efforts to employ an individual with a provisional or  
12 standard certificate in another curricular area with academic  
13 preparation in the field of need. Only after these alternatives  
14 have been exhausted shall the district be allowed to employ an  
15 individual meeting minimum standards as established by the State  
16 Board of Education for the issuance of emergency certificates.

17 G. The State Board of Education may grant an exception to the  
18 requirements for all certification examinations for teacher  
19 candidates who are "deaf," which for the purposes of this section  
20 shall mean having a hearing loss so severe that the person cannot  
21 process auditory linguistic information with or without  
22 accommodation and whose primary language and teaching environment is  
23 American Sign Language. The Board may grant an exception upon:  
24

1        1. Verification by a licensed audiologist of a hearing loss so  
2 severe that the teacher candidate cannot process auditory linguistic  
3 information with or without accommodation;

4        2. Demonstration of fluency in American Sign Language;

5        3. Demonstration of competency in the subject area of  
6 specialization as approved by the Board in lieu of certification  
7 examinations; and

8        4. Sponsorship by a certified deaf education teacher for a  
9 mentorship program.

10       The Board may promulgate rules and other requirements as  
11 necessary to grant the exceptions described in this subsection.

12 Applicable teaching environments may include American Sign Language  
13 immersion programs, the Oklahoma School for the Deaf, programs for  
14 the deaf or other classroom settings in which American Sign Language  
15 is the language of instruction.

16       SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2020.

17       SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
18 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby  
19 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
20 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

21  
22       57-2-2844

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**Oklahoma  
Library for the  
Blind and Physically  
Handicapped  
Donation  
Report**

**OLBPH Donation Report  
January 2020**

**Donations (all 23) under \$500**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Cash</b>	<b>Fund</b>	<b>Property</b>	<b>Value</b>
1/2	Diane West	100.00	216		
1/2	Kent James	25.00	216		
1/2	William Jolly	25.00	216		
1/3	Brenda Beaty	25.00	216		
1/6	Cheri Abshere	50.00	216		
1/6	David Denham	100.00	216		
1/6	Glenda Atkinson	25.00	216		
1/7	Sally Hillis	100.00	216		
1/8	Diane Anderson	25.00	216		
1/8	Betty L. Marable	50.00	216		
1/8	Linda M. Murdock	50.00	216		
1/8	Don Nolan	50.00	216		
1/8	Linda Richardson	50.00	216		
1/9	Mary Buchwald	50.00	216		
1/10	Beth Johnson	100.00	216		
1/10	Dorothy Shaw	20.00	216		
1/13	Broker Source – Mary Amundsen	150.00	216		
1/14	Brox Industries, LLC	100.00	216		
1/15	Edward's Men's Wear	50.00	216		
1/16	Betty Conklin/Nancy Wollenberg	100.00	216		
1/16	Barbara Schaefer	100.00	216		
1/16	Tom Schaefer	20.00	216		
1/27	Lois C Nason	100.00	216		
<b>Subtotal of Cash (Under \$500) Donated in January 2020</b>		<b>\$1,465.00</b>			

**TOTAL DONATION AMOUNT JANUARY 2020      \$1,465.00**

# **Oklahoma School for the Blind Donation Report**

# OSB DONATION REPORT

## January 2020 Donations

Date	Name	Cash	Fund	Property	Value
1/9/2020	OKADE	\$ 225.58	216		
1/15/2020	Mrs. Wilburia Burns	\$ 300.00	216		
1/21/2020	Frank T. Dirksen	\$ 225.00	701		
<b>Subtotal of Cash (under \$500) donated in January 2020</b>		<b>\$ 750.58</b>		<b>Subtotal prop.</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Donations \$500 and over</b>					
1/9/2020	Mike Hatchette	\$ -			
1/9/2020	OKC Community Foundation (Kirschner Grant)	\$ 15,000.00	216	Misc items	\$ 7,050.00
1/15/2020	Silver Spur Construction LLC	\$ 2,500.00	216		
1/21/2020	Complete Eye Care	\$ 780.00	701		
1/29/2020	Oklahoma Association for Blind Athletes	\$ 1,000.00	701		
1/29/2020	Professional Oklahoma Educators			Braille writer	\$ 775.00
<b>Subtotal of Cash (\$500 and over) donated in January 2020</b>		<b>\$ 19,280.00</b>		<b>Subtotal prop.</b>	<b>\$ 7,825.00</b>
<b>TOTAL DONATION AMOUNTS JANUARY - 2020</b>		<b>\$ 27,105.00</b>			

# **Oklahoma School for the Deaf Donation Report**

# OSD Donation Report

January 2020

**Donations Under \$500.00**

Date	Name	Cash	Fund	Explanation	Property Value
1/13	OKRID	250.00	70100	GPSD Athletic Tournament	
1/13	Chickasaw Telephone Company	200.00	70100	GPSD Athletic Tournament	
1/13	OKADA	225.58	21600	Needy Pupil fund	
1/29	ESA/Linda Dubois	25.00	70100	Student Trust	
<b>Subtotal Cash Under \$500.00</b>					<b>0.00</b>

**Donations Over \$500.00**

Date	Name	Cash	Fund	Explanation	Value
1/13	Sorenson Communications	1,500.00	70100	GPSD Athletic Tournament	720.00
1/14	Gallaudet University	1,000.00	70100	GPSD Athletic Tournament	2,914.47
1/21	Sorenson Communications	900.00	70100	GPSD Athletic Tournament	
1/21	Dr. Sharon Baker			340 Various used books	
1/21	Sorenson-Danayt Gafo			53 GPSD backpacks	
1/29	Bill Anoatubby, Governor, Chicksaw Nation	500.00	70100	Junior class for Prom	
<b>Subtotal Cash Over \$500.00</b>					<b>3,634.47</b>
<b>Subtotal Cash Combined</b>					<b>4,600.58</b>
<b>Subtotal Property Combined</b>					<b>3,634.47</b>

**Total donation for January 2020**

**\$8,235.05**