

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 58th Legislature (2021)

3 HOUSE BILL 1813

By: Blancett

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2011,
8 Section 1-116, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter
9 273, O.S.L. 2019 (70 O.S. Supp. 2020, Section 1-116),
10 which relates to school personnel definitions;
11 modifying definition for student teacher; providing
12 an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

14 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 1-116, as
15 last amended by Section 1, Chapter 273, O.S.L. 2019 (70 O.S. Supp.
16 2020, Section 1-116), is amended to read as follows:

17 Section 1-116. As used in this title:

18 1. "Teacher" means any person who is employed to serve as
19 district superintendent, principal, supervisor, a counselor,
20 librarian, school nurse or classroom teacher or in any other
21 instructional, supervisory or administrative capacity. The person
22 shall not be deemed qualified unless the person holds a valid
23 certificate issued by and in accordance with the rules of the State
24 Board of Education or the rules of the State Board of Career and

1 Technology Education, to perform the particular services for which
2 the person is employed;

3 2. "Superintendent" or "superintendent of schools" means the
4 executive officer of the board of education and the administrative
5 head of the school system of a district maintaining an accredited
6 school, provided the person holds an administrator's certificate
7 recognized by the State Board of Education;

8 3. "Principal" means any person other than a district
9 superintendent of schools having supervisory or administrative
10 authority over any school or school building having two or more
11 teachers. A teaching principal shall be a principal who devotes at
12 least one-half (1/2) the time school is in session to classroom
13 teaching. Teaching principals shall be required to hold
14 administrative certificates;

15 4. "Teachers" means, for purposes of complying with the State
16 Aid Law and other statutes, but not any other provision of law,
17 which apportion money on the basis of teaching units or the number
18 of teachers employed or qualified, all persons holding proper
19 certificates and connected in any capacity with the instruction of
20 pupils;

21 5. "Inductee" means any certified teacher who is employed in a
22 local school to serve as a classroom teacher under the guidance and
23 assistance of a mentor teacher or teachers;

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1 6. "Student teacher" means any student who is enrolled in an
2 institution of higher learning approved by the State Board of
3 Education for teacher training and who is jointly assigned by the
4 institution of higher learning and a board of education of a school
5 district to perform practice teaching under the direction of a
6 regularly employed and certified teacher. A student teacher, while
7 serving an internship under the supervision of a certified teacher,
8 shall be accorded the same protection of the laws as that accorded
9 the certified teacher. A student teacher, while serving a full-day
10 internship, shall be eligible to receive compensation beginning on
11 the first day of the internship and for up to one full school year;

12 7. "School nurse" means a person employed full time by a board
13 of education who is a registered nurse licensed by the Oklahoma
14 State Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education and is
15 certified the same as a teacher by the State Board of Education.
16 Provided, that any person who is employed as a full-time school
17 nurse in any school district in Oklahoma who is not registered on
18 the effective date of this act may continue to serve in the same
19 capacity; however, such person shall, under rules adopted by the
20 State Board of Education, attend classes in nursing and prepare to
21 become registered.

22 A school nurse employed by a board of education shall be
23 accorded the same protection of laws and all other benefits accorded
24 a certified teacher; and

1 8. "Support employee" means an employee who provides those
2 services which are not performed by certified teachers, principals,
3 superintendents or administrators and which are necessary for the
4 efficient and satisfactory functioning of a school district.

5 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2021.

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

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11 58-1-6377 EK 12/28/20

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