STATE BOARD *of* EDUCATION
OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT *of* EDUCATION

Pursuant to the powers, authority and duties vested by the Oklahoma Constitution and the State of Oklahoma, the Oklahoma State Board of Education hereby orders, effective immediately:

1. Suspension of in-person instruction and extracurricular activities and closing of buildings for the remainder of the school year (recommended ending date on or after May 8-15, 2020) for general student and personnel attendance. The only exceptions among Oklahoma public schools and their staff shall be those who are provide nutrition services, essential core services (governance, HR, billing, maintenance and continuity of building functions, staff to maintain building access control and security measures, student enrollment) and staff for purposes of facilitating or supporting required delivery of distance learning (see item 3.d. to ensure the safety of these individuals);

2. Now through April 6, is established a dedicated window to:

    a. provide Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) with expedited waiver and assurances; and

    b. prepare for and begin distance learning; preparations may include immediately convening staff development, consistent with the intent and purposes of this Order.

3. In consideration of the waivers considered and granted by the State Board of Education at its March 25, 2020, special meeting, districts will provide the following assurances through the 2019-20 school year (recommended ending date on or after May 8-15, 2020):

    a. While taking into account the needs and resources of their local communities and students, develop and implement an approved distance learning plan.

        i. Districts using the OSDE Distance Learning resources will be expedited for review.

        ii. Those districts not using the OSDE's Distance Learning resources must develop a distance learning plan and submit the proposed framework and distance learning plan to the OSDE for review and approval.

    b. Districts must complete and return the survey sent by the OSDE on March 24, 2020, assessing the technology capacity of their staff and community and report results back in the manner and time determined by the OSDE.

    c. Districts must comply with FERPA, IDEA, etc., including information in the most recent fact sheets and guidelines from federal and state agencies.

d. Districts must comply with CDC guidelines and apply a health and safety policy that ensures students, staff and families are not exposed to potential pathogens that could lead to illness.

e. Districts will enroll all new students according to state statute and school district enrollment policies and provide educational plan for new students for the duration of the school year.

f. Districts will comply with the requirements stipulated in Executive Orders of the Office of Governor of the State of Oklahoma.

4. Awarding of credits being primarily a local function, districts are encouraged to use this flexibility so that students in the graduating class of 2020 or earlier who were on track to graduate before the gubernatorial declaration of emergency in March 2020, and any subsequent amendments to that proclamation, are not negatively impacted by measures taken by the local education agency in response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19);

5. Consistent with the above, the State Board will consider waivers and flexibilities that are on the agenda this morning and to authorize the OSDE to grant waivers for the duration of the school year for such items;

6. Nothing in this Order is intended to interfere with contracts between public schools and employees, and staff of public schools are expected to carry out the terms and conditions of their contracts as entered or later amended by the parties;

7. **In carrying out the terms of this Order, the public schools shall adopt any policies or regulations necessary to comply with the directives herein;**

8. This First Amended Order will be continuously monitored and updated accordingly.

IT IS SO ORDERED

Joy Hofmeister
Chair, Oklahoma State Board of Education