

# Organization of Rural Oklahoma Schools

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Vol 25 # 8

August 2011

## 2011 Fall Conference dates set for October 27-28

The 2011 OROS Fall Conference is scheduled for **October 27 and 28 at the Clarion Meridian Hotel and Convention Center in Oklahoma City**. Tony Potts, Superintendent of Stringtown and President-Elect of OROS, was appointed the chair of the conference committee with full authority to plan and organize the conference. Tony is already putting the program together. We hope to have the complete conference program in the September newsletter. Be sure to mark these dates on your calenders because our conferences have gotten bigger and better each and every year.

The Conference Center is located at I-40 and Meridian in Oklahoma City. The room rates are \$66.00 per night, single or double. Reservations must be made by **September 26 to receive the above rate**. To make reservations call **405-942-8511**.

There are no registration fees or meal charges of any kind for attending this conference. **We would ask that you register as soon as possible in order that we can better control the cost of the banquet**. A registration form is located on page 6 of this newsletter. **You can also register on-line by going to our web page at orosok.org. On the right you will see the announcement about the conference. Click on the "Registration Information" link and that will take you to 2 forms for registration. To register on-line click on the email form.**

We will also have a board of directors meeting on Wednesday, October 26, 2011. The meeting is held at the Convention Center at 6:00 p.m. and you are welcome to attend.

The attendance of our members is what makes the conference successful.

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## Attorney Talk

By: Terri Thomas

**CHANGES TO "CAREER STATUS"**

Over the course of the summer I've been asked by quite a few of you whether teacher tenure status has been abolished. The answer is NO. Teacher tenure is in fact alive and well. The genesis of this inquiry, and the resulting confusion, likely resulted from the recent elimination of the trial *de novo* option for tenured ("career") teachers who are being terminated or non-renewed. Many of you understandably equated the lack of a trial *de novo* with the demise of tenure.

Although the opportunity remains for teachers to obtain career status, there are some big changes coming up in the next few years. It's a good time to review those changes so that we'll all be ready when the time comes.

Right now, as has been the case for quite some time, teachers automatically progress from probationary status to career status if they've taught three or more consecutive complete school years in one district under a written teaching contract (70 O.S. 6-101.3). This will soon change, however, as the result of 2010's SB 2033 (designed for the Race to the Top funding application). Beginning with the 2012-2013 school year, here's how it will work:

4. "Career teacher" means a teacher who:

a. for teachers employed by a school district during the 2011-12 school year, has completed three (3) or more consecutive complete school years as a teacher in one school district under a written continuing or temporary teaching contract, or

b. for teachers employed for the first time by a school district under a written continuing or temporary teaching contract on or after July 1, 2012:

(1) has completed three (3) consecutive complete school years as a teacher in one school district under a written continuing or temporary teaching contract and has achieved a rating of "superior" as measured pursuant to the Oklahoma Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Evaluation System (TLE) as set forth in Section 6 of this act for at least two (2) of the three (3) school years, with no rating below "effective",

(2) has completed four (4) consecutive complete school years as a teacher in one school district under a written continuing or temporary teaching contract, has averaged a rating of at least "effective" as measured pursuant to the TLE for the four-year period, and has received a rating of at least "effective" for the last two (2) years of the four-year period, or

(3) has completed four (4) or more consecutive complete school years in one school district under a written continuing or temporary teaching contract and has not met the requirements of subparagraph a or b of this paragraph, only if the principal of the school at which the teacher is employed submits a petition to the superintendent of the school district requesting that the teacher be granted career status, the superintendent

agrees with the petition, and the school district board of education approves the petition. The principal shall specify in the petition the underlying facts supporting the granting of career status to the teacher;

As you can see, this opens up a whole logistical can of worms. Among other things, this is going to be more difficult to keep track of than the previous system. Your district may want to set up some sort of record-keeping method in advance of its effective date so that you're not taken off guard. As always, I'm available to assist you with this. Just give me a call!

Finally, the state is currently working on the new Oklahoma Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Evaluation System (TLE). The system is supposed to be adopted by the State Board by December 15<sup>th</sup> of this year, although it isn't required to be implemented by schools until the 2013-2014 school year. The committee responsible for developing this new system has begun meeting, and is looking at several different model systems upon which to possibly base Oklahoma's new system. In an upcoming newsletter, I'll outline the basics of the law as it's currently written and will report on any new information put out by the development committee.

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### Associate Members

**Stephen McDonald & Associates**  
 2200 McKown Drive  
 Norman, OK 73072  
 405-329-0123

**Kerry Patten, CPA**  
 2101 N. Willow Ave.  
 Broken Arrow, OK 74012  
 918-250-8838

**Sexton & Sexton School Supplies**  
 P.O. Box 346  
 Apache, OK 73006  
 1-800-657-7273

**Mass Group Marketing**  
 HC 79 Box 459  
 Hugo, OK 74743  
 580-326-2705

**Barlow Ed. & Manag. Services**  
 2801 N. Lincoln Blvd  
 Oklahoma City, OK 73127  
 405-495-1911

**Pettyjohn Financial Group, Inc.**  
 5174 Silo Road  
 Durant, OK 74701  
 580-920-4572

**Kellogg & Sovereign Consulting**  
 1101 Stadium Drive  
 Ada, OK 74820  
 580-332-1444

**Okla. School Assurance Group**  
 P.O. Box 18858  
 Oklahoma City, OK 73154  
 800-699-5905

**Midwest Bus Sales**  
 P.O. Box 338  
 El Reno, OK 73036  
 405-262-1044

**The Learning System**  
 3501 NW 63, Ste. 115  
 Oklahoma City, OK 73116  
 800-7363658

**ARBO Enterprises, Inc**  
 5017 N. Rockwell  
 Bethany, OK 73008  
 405-787-3902

**American Fidelity Assurance**  
 7510 N. Broadway Ext. Ste 202  
 Oklahoma City, OK 73116  
 405-416-8810

**Chas. W. Carroll, P.A.**  
 114 E. Broadway, Ste 805  
 Enid, OK 73701  
 580-234-5468

**ADPC**  
 P.O. Box 592  
 Ponca City, OK 74602  
 580-762-6376

**Document Imaging Solutions**  
 P.O. Box 470646  
 Tulsa, OK 74147  
 918-664-8800

**Municipal Accounting Systems**  
 P.O. Box 1325  
 Shawnee, OK 74802  
 405-275-4349

**Blunck Studios, Inc.**  
 228 West Main  
 Moore, OK 73160  
 405-794-7748

**Justin Walker, CPA**  
 P.O. Box 7  
 Caney, OK 74533  
 580-889-3713

**OK Association for Pupil Transportation**  
 P.O. Box 1626  
 Guthrie, OK 73044  
 405-514-4606

**Assoc. of Prof. Okla. Educators**  
 P.O. Box 667  
 Norman, OK 73070  
 405-321-3175

**The Interlocal Purchasing System**  
 P.O. Box 1894  
 Mt. Pleasant, TX 75456  
 866-839-8477

Twotrees Technologies  
7701 E. Kellogg Drive, STE 610  
Wichita, KS 67207  
918-270-7122

Treat's Solutions, Inc.  
300 E. Arlington  
Ada, OK 74820  
580-332-8861

PIE, Inc  
1686 CR NW  
Talco, TX 75487  
903-285-1558

J & J Educational Services  
30742 S. Lona Valley  
Kinta, OK 74552  
918-469-2656

OASIS  
4002 Eagle Crest Drive  
Muskogee, OK 74401  
918-465-7001

BRB Roofing & Mfg  
P.O. Box 506  
Purcell, OK 73080  
405-527-2726

Southern Financial Group, Inc.  
301 West Main Street, Ste 520  
Ardmore, OK 73401  
580-490-9094

Boynton Williams & Assoc's., Inc  
900-36th Ave. NW, Ste 100  
Norman, OK 73072-4187  
405-329-0423

Ross Transportation, Inc  
2500 South Meridian Avenue  
Oklahoma City, OK 73108  
405-681-6691

Lierman Graduate Services/Josten's  
5829 N.W. 40<sup>th</sup> Street  
Oklahoma City, OK 73122  
405-789-2052

American Bus Sales  
8 S. Atlanta, Ste B  
Owasso, OK 74055  
866-574-9970

FES LLC  
1300 O Street  
Lincoln, NE 68508  
800-850-8397

Advance Oklahoma  
2500 N. Lincoln Blvd.  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105  
405-521-3773

ClearResult Consulting, Inc.  
2610 W. 68<sup>th</sup> Street  
Tulsa, OK 74132  
918-810-4160

TRC Disaster Solutions  
712 S. Wheeling Ave.  
Tulsa, OK 74104  
918-585-1990

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### Perry Willis Comments

Well, it's time to start another school year and it seems as if school has only been out for a week or two. The years are moving a lot faster now than when I was younger. Hope you have a great school year.

Don't forget to register for the Fall Conference. Tony Potts, Superintendent of Stringtown and President-Elect of OROS, is responsible for the conference this year and has started scheduling speakers and presenters and I am sure he will put together an outstanding program. **It is extremely important that you let us know if you plan to attend the luncheon on Thursday, the dinner on Thursday night and the breakfast on Friday morning. We are required to let the Convention Center know how many will be eating each of these meals and after we turn in a number, we are responsible for the cost of the meal based on that number.** To register on-line go to **orosok.org** and just click on the link that says "Registration Information" on the right of the home page that says OROS Fall Conference 2011. That will take you to a page that tells about the conference and gives you the option to print a **pdf file** to fill out and mail or fax to the OROS office that will register you for the conference **or an "email form" that will take you to a registration form that can be filled out and e-mailed directly to the OROS office. All information must be filled out before you can send it.**

If you are an associate member just click on "More Information" and that will take you to a page that describes the booth spaces and provides links to download forms needed to register for booth space at the conference.

Be sure to renew your membership to OROS if you have not already done so. We need to maintain as many members as possible because numbers has been a large part of our strength. The cost of membership is not much when you look at all the benefits that you receive. If you used the services of our attorney only once during the year, it would probably come close to paying your dues.

**Access to the board policy changes have been e-mailed to our member schools and are on-line on the OROS web page. Just click on the "News" link and you will see the updates.** Attorney Terri Thomas kept up with the possibilities as legislation moved through the process and was quick to complete the task when the legislature adjourned.

I really appreciate everyone who attended and sent messages concerning my induction in the Oklahoma Educators Hall of Fame. It was a great honor to receive this award and recognition and I will forever be grateful to those that made this possible. A very special thanks goes to Lee Roy Pettyjohn who gave my introductory and did an outstanding job. All in all, it was a great night for me and my family and we will never forget it.

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**Board Meeting Dates For 2011-2012**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>PLACE</b>
August 17, 2011	10:00 a.m.	OSSAA
September 21, 2011	10:00 a.m.	OSSAA
October 26, 2011	6:00 p.m.	Clarion
November 16, 2011	10:00 a.m.	OSSAA
December 14, 2011	10:00 a.m.	OSSAA
January 18, 2012	10:00 a.m.	OSSAA
February 15, 2012	10:00 a.m.	OSSAA
March 1, 2012	10:00 a.m.	OSSAA
April 5, 2012	10:00 a.m.	OSSAA
May 9, 2012	10:00 a.m.	OSSAA
June 13, 2012	10:00 a.m.	OSSAA

**ALL MEETINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

May 9, 2012 will also be the Annual Meeting Date and will begin at 9:30 a.m.

OSSAA -Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association Building

Clarion - Clarion Meridian Hotel & Convention Center on Meridian in OKC

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**OROS Calendar**

**OROS Board of Directors Meeting**

**September 21, 2011**

**OSSAA Building**

**Oklahoma City, OK**

**10:00 A.M.**

**October 26, 2011**

**Clarion Meridian Convention Center**

**Oklahoma City, OK**

**6:00 P.M.**

**OROS Fall Conference**

**October 27-28, 2011**

**Clarion Meridian Convention Center**

**Oklahoma City, OK**

Conference Registration Form

REGISTRATION FOR OROS FALL CONFERENCE  
OCTOBER 27 & 28, 2011  
CLARION MERIDIAN CONVENTION CENTER  
737 S. Meridian, Oklahoma City, OK

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_

I PLAN TO ATTEND THURSDAY \_\_\_\_\_ FRIDAY \_\_\_\_\_ BOTH \_\_\_\_\_

I WILL \_\_\_ WILL NOT \_\_\_ ATTEND THE NOON LUNCHEON THURSDAY

I WILL \_\_\_ WILL NOT \_\_\_ ATTEND THE DINNER MEETING THURSDAY NIGHT

I WILL \_\_\_ WILL NOT \_\_\_ HAVE A GUEST THURSDAY NIGHT

I WILL \_\_\_ WILL NOT \_\_\_ ATTEND BREAKFAST FRIDAY MORNING

Please mail or Fax to Perry Willis, 311 W Davis Creek Road, Ste B, Caney, Okla. 74533 Fax number (580) 889-7484.

Motel reservations can be made by calling the Clarion Hotel at (405) 942-8511. Reservations must be made by SEPTEMBER 26, 2011 in order to receive the \$66.00 room rate. If you wish to register on-line go to the OROS web page ([orosok.org](http://orosok.org)) and follow the instructions.

**DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP. IF YOU NEED ANOTHER INVOICE, JUST LET US KNOW.**