

Organization of Rural Oklahoma Schools

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Vol 24 # 9

September 2010

2010 Fall Conference Program

The annual OROS Fall Conference is scheduled for October 14 and 15 at the Clarion Meridian Hotel and Convention Center in Oklahoma City. Final plans for this year's program are almost completed. Jim Lamer, Superintendent of Garber and President-Elect of OROS, is in charge of this year's conference. Jim has put together an outstanding line-up of presenters with topics that will be of interest to all rural educators. **The luncheon has become a popular item at the conference the past three years; so, Jim has made arrangement for another luncheon on Thursday of this year. There is a registration form located on page 6 of this newsletter and it is very important that you indicate your intention as to the luncheon, dinner on THURSDAY, and the breakfast on FRIDAY. We must give the motel a final number of attendees.**

You can also register on-line this year 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. You can make these motel reservations by calling 405-942-8511. Below is the tentative conference program:

THURSDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 14

8:30-8:55 REGISTRATION - CONFERENCE CENTER

8:55 WELCOME - Phillip Ratcliff, OROS President

9:00- 9:30 Michael Hunter - Secretary of School Land Commission

9:30-10:00 State Superintendent Candidate Susan Paddack

10:00-10:20 BREAK

10:20 -11:05 SDE - Accreditation Updates & Issues

11:05-11:35 Oklahoma Budget Overview - Dr. David Blatt, Director Okla. Policy Institute

11:40-1:00 LUNCH PROVIDED BY The Oklahoma Schools Cooperative

THURSDAY AFTERNOON, OCTOBER 14

1:00-1:05 DRAWING FOR DOOR PRIZES

1:05-1:35 Insurance Info- Lee Roy Pettyjohn

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- 1:35-2:05 **New Teacher Evaluation Requirements - Terri Thomas, OROS Attorney**
- 2:05-2:25 **BREAK -**
- 2:30-3:00 **YES ON STATE QUESTION 744 - Michael Kolenc**
- 3:00-3:30 **OSSAA Update - Ed Shakley, OSSAA Executive Secretary**
- 3:40-5:30 **HOSPITALITY - SEXTON & SEXTON**

THURSDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 14

- 6:00 **WELCOME - Phillip Ratcliff, OROS PRESIDENT**
- 6:05 **INVOCATION - Kevin McKinley, Supt. Bray-Doyle**
- 6:10-6:50 **DINNER - Provided by Pettyjohn Financial Group-LSW**
- 6:50-7:15 **OROS AWARDS - Presented by Perry Willis & Kevin McKinley**

FRIDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 15

- 7:30-8:45 **BREAKFAST - Provided by Wiley Copeland of Mass Group Marketing**
- 8:55-9:00 **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - Jim Lamer, OROS President-Elect**
- 9:00-9:30 **SANDY GARRETT- State Superintendent**
- 9:30-10:15 **Jari Askins - Lieutenant Gov. & Candidate for Governor**
- 10:15-10:30 **BREAK -**
- 10:30-11:30 **Legislative Panel**
- 11:30-12:00 **Legislative Projections and Interim Studies - Megan Benn**
- 12:00 **DOOR PRIZES AND CLOSING REMARKS**

Earl Curtis Fish Fry

The annual Earl Curtis fish fry has been scheduled for Tuesday, October 12, 2010. The fish fry will be held at the Clayton Lake State Park. The festivities will begin around 6:30 P.M. There will be enough fish, hush puppies, french fries and baked beans for everyone to get their fill.

Earl helped start this fish fry several years ago and always looked forward to the event every year. After his untimely death, the group named the event in his honor. All school personnel are invited, along with other guests, including State Department of Education personnel. For more information contact Barry Simpson, Superintendent of Tuskahoma Public School or Bruce Lawless, Superintendent of Rattan Public Schools.

Associate Members

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

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

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

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

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

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

Professional Oklahoma Educators
P.O. Box 667
Norman, OK 73070
405-321-3175

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

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

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

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

OK Association for Pupil Transportation
P.O. Box 1626
Guthrie, OK 73044
918-270-7122

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BRB Roofing & Mfg.
1726 N. Green, Ste 900
Purcell, OK 73080
405-527-2726

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

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

Service & Funding Group, Inc.
301 W Main, Ste 510
Ardmore, OK 73401
580-490-9094

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Parsons Commercial Roofing, Inc
P.O. Box 21835
Waco, TX 76702
254-881-1733

Primary Insurance for Education
P.O. Box 190
Paris, TX 75461
903-783-1400

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

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

Pro Presenters, Inc
P.O. Box 721320
Norman, OK 73070
405-364-5400

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

Attorney Talk
BY TERRI THOMAS

SB 2033 – INCENTIVE PAY AND TEACHER EVALUATION

Every year at the OROS conference I get the opportunity to present on a topic of current interest. It's funny how there's always something new to discuss. This year is no exception, thanks to Senate Bill 2033—the new and improved incentive pay and teacher evaluation requirements. It's big, both in terms of its length—heck, just the description of this bill is two pages long—and in terms of what it purports to add or to change. If this doesn't get altered or repealed in the future (because there's going to be a lot of time passing between now and when much of it actually takes effect, as you will see below), then there will be substantial policy changes down the road. For the time being, here's the gist of what will occur under the new/revised law (this is only a broad summary...there's much, much more):

- Teacher evaluations are going to be uniform statewide. The State Board of Education (in conjunction with the Race to the Top Commission) is required to develop an evaluation system called the TLE (Oklahoma Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Evaluation System) by December 15th of 2011. Once that's done, you are required to use it in your district no later than the 2013-2014 school year.
- This system has a five-tier rating system—"superior", "highly effective", "effective", "needs improvement" and "ineffective"—at its core. In addition, it provides for "quantitative and qualitative assessment components" broken down into 35% based on student academic growth; 15% based on "other academic measurements"; and 50% based on "rigorous and fair qualitative assessment components".
- Repercussions are written into the law. If a career teacher is rated "ineffective" for two consecutive years; or is rated "needs improvement" for three consecutive years; or hasn't averaged at least an "effective" rating over five years, then schools are required to dismiss or non-reemploy the teacher on grounds of instructional ineffectiveness. Probationary teachers ranked "ineffective" for two consecutive years, or who have not attained career status within four years shall have their contracts non-renewed.
- Principals are also going to be subject to the TLE, and must be non-reemployed if they receive a rating of "ineffective" for two consecutive years on the TLE.
- Teachers will not acquire career status automatically in three years any more—that is, unless they have a rating of "superior" on their TLE for at least two of the three years, with no rating below "effective" during that time. Otherwise, the teacher must complete four consecutive years in the district, averaging at least "effective" on the TLE during that time and achieving at least "effective" for the last two years of the four-year period. If all that doesn't occur, then career status can only be granted after four consecutive years upon petition by the principal to the superintendent and then by the superintendent's and board's approval of said petition.
- Once the TLE is in place, districts are given the option to develop salary schedules that reward teachers for high ratings ("teacher incentive pay") under the new system. The existing 20% cap on such incentive pay has been increased to 50% of the teacher's salary.
- Payment of salary to teachers terminated at the board level who are awaiting trial de novo has been reduced from basically forever down to 63 days (with a few exceptions for delays caused by the school board, etc.). I haven't heard the back-story of how the number 63 was arrived at.
- Finally, the bill contains a new law addressing RIFs. It reads as follows: "The primary basis used in determining the retention or reassignment of affected teachers and administrators when a school district implements a reduction in force plan shall be the ratings of the teachers and administrators as measured

pursuant to the Oklahoma Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Evaluation System (TLE) as set forth in Section 6 of this Act."

Very interesting stuff, indeed! We'll have fun watching it all play out over the next several years. In the meantime, I look forward to seeing you all at the annual OROS Fall Conference in just a few weeks.

LOCAL HISTORY CURRICULUM AVAILABLE

"With your curriculum, the kids were able to engage in hands-on, no-lecture learning that resulted in full participation. Most importantly, they were excited to learn about local history and interested in sharing it with their families...I can wholeheartedly endorse the use of your local history curriculum approach to teach local history and build civic pride!"

Ms. Rae Ann Wilson, Okmulgee Multi-Cultural Youth Enrichment Program

Your school system can have a custom Local History curriculum developed specifically for your community. This process-driven curriculum addresses PASS objectives and standards from Oklahoma History, US History, World Studies, World Geography, Social Studies, Economics, Information Literacy, and Instructional Technology. Activities are correlated to applicable PASS Standards with embedded Information Literacy and Instructional Technology learning objectives.

"Developing curriculum resources based upon the process skills that a student needs to be successful in history is a very valuable and pedagogically sound framework. It aligns to the state PASS standards and objectives for history and provides the Oklahoma History teacher additional skills beyond the state minimum expectations."

Mr. Kelly S. Curtright, Director, Social Studies Education, OK State Dept. of Education

The curriculum is flexible and includes 10 Activity Modules that can be used as one course, or the modules can be separated according to the instructional time available. The design allows teachers to take advantage of instructional periods as brief as a single classroom period, to more extended instructional time including homework assignments. The modules can be used in any sequence because they are all free-standing and do not have to all be used. The teacher does not have to be a content expert to succeed with this curriculum.

Comprehensive electronic and printed materials include reading materials, student handouts with instructions for activities and assignments, instruments to assess learning, and bibliographies for further printed and electronic research. NO TEXTBOOKS ARE REQUIRED to teach the material because extensive online sources are cited from the Oklahoma Historical Society and other credible sources.

Recommended assignments include reading, research and writing, collaborative learning, using maps, creating timelines, using technology, games and puzzles, artwork, spelling and vocabulary building, library and internet-based research, and improving student study skills. Interdisciplinary activities are included to integrate the Social Studies objectives with Technology or the Arts. Writing across the curriculum can easily be accomplished with several of the modules.

You decide if your Local History curriculum will cover your entire county, or specific cities and towns in your school district. The researchers developing your curriculum will emphasize local people and events, but you can also make special requests to have the curriculum developer place extra emphasis on particular topics of local interest.

Have your Local History curriculum created for the one-time fee of only \$3,700 for orders placed before December 31, 2010. For more information contact Kathryn Shurden at 918-650-8586 or shurdenk@sbcglobal.net

(Editors note: Kathryn presented this program at our September board meeting and has since called me and offered a \$100.00 discount to all OROS members. If you are interested in the program be sure to tell her you

are an OROS member.)

Conference Registration Form
REGISTRATION FOR OROS FALL CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 14 & 15, 2010
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. If you wish to register on-line go to the OROS web page (orosok.org) and follow the instructions.

OROS Calendar

OROS Board of Directors Meeting

October 13, 2010
Clarion Meridian Convention Center
Oklahoma City, OK
6:00 P.M.

November 17, 2010
High Plains Tech Center
Woodward, OK
10:00 A. M.

OROS Fall Conference
October 14-15, 2010
Clarion Meridian Convention Center
Oklahoma City, OK