



# **Commission for Educational Quality and Accountability**

## **REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**January 21, 2026, 1:30 P.M.**

**The Strata Tower at Oklahoma Commons  
123 Robert S. Kerr Avenue  
Oklahoma City, OK 73102  
28<sup>th</sup> Floor, Conference Room 5**

The Commission for Educational Quality and Accountability (the “Commission” or “CEQA”) met for a Regular Meeting of the Commission at 1:30 p.m., on January 21, 2026, at the offices of the Office of Educational Quality and Accountability (“OEQA”), 123 Robert S. Kerr Avenue, 28<sup>th</sup> Floor, Conference Room 5, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102. Notice of Regular Meeting and Agenda were posted in accordance with the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act.

**COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Secretary of Education Daniel Hamlin, Ph.D.  
Ken Parker, John Daniel, Kathryn Szallar, Melissa Evon and Ashlyn Fiegenger, PhD.

**COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

**OEQA STAFF PRESENT:**

Michelle Seybolt, Ed.D., Tatyana Blakemore,  
and Eric Jones

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

Kristin Bugg, Jackie Mania, Bryan Duke,  
Sada Knowles, Toni Ivey, and Stephanie  
Hathcoat

**Call to Order:** Secretary of Education Daniel Hamlin, Ph.D. called the January 21, 2026, meeting of the Commission to order at 1:30 p.m. Roll call established the presence of a quorum with six (6) Commission Members present as follows: Secretary of Education Dr. Daniel Hamlin; Ken Parker; John Daniel; Kathryn Szallar, Melissa Evon; and Dr. Ashlyn Fiegener.

**Welcome and Introduction of Others Present:** Ms. Connie Reilly welcomed the Commission and introduced others present at the meeting.

**Public Comment:** None

**Discussion, and Possible Revision, and Action to:** Approve Consent Agenda. The following items were presented under the Consent Agenda as these items included are considered routine in nature or had been previously discussed by the Commission and could be approved in one motion unless removed for separate consideration:

A. Approval of Minutes of the December 17, 2025, Regular Meeting of the Commission

The Commission reviewed the Consent Agenda. Ms. Szallar made a motion to: Approve the Consent Agenda of the December 17, 2025, Regular Meeting of the Commission. Mr. Parker seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote of the Commission Members present. Those voting for the motion: Secretary Dr. Hamlin, Ken Parker, John Daniel, Kathryn Szallar, Melissa Evon, and Dr. Ashlyn Fiegener.

**Discussion and Possible Action to:** Accredit new program for a Bachelor of Science in Mid-level Education - Science leading to certification in mid-level science, at Oklahoma State University.

Dr. Ashlyn Fiegener recused herself from this agenda item.

Secretary Dr. Hamlin made a motion to: Accredit new program for a Bachelor of Science in Mid-level Education - Science leading to certification in mid-level science, at Oklahoma State University John Daniel seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote of the Commission Members present and voting. Those voting for the motion: Secretary Dr. Hamlin, Ken Parker, John Daniel, Kathryn Szallar, and Melissa Evon. Recused: Dr. Ashlyn Fiegener.

**Discussion and Possible Action to:** Accredit new program for Bachelor of Science in Mid-level Education – Mathematics leading to certification in mid-level mathematics at Oklahoma State University.

Dr. Ashlyn Fiegener recused herself from this agenda item.

Ms. Evon made a motion to: Accredit new program for Bachelor of Science in Mid-level Education – Mathematics leading to certification in mid-level mathematics at Oklahoma State University. Ms. Szallar seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote of the Commission Members present and voting. Those voting for the motion: Secretary Dr. Hamlin, Ken Parker, John Daniel, Kathryn Szallar, and Melissa Evon. Recused: Dr. Ashlyn Fiegener.

**Discussion and Possible Action to:** Accredite the University of Central Oklahoma’s proposal for an Ed.D. in Transformative Leadership and Learning, leading to School Superintendent Certification.

Dr. Ashlyn Fiegenger and Secretary Dr. Hamlin recused themselves from this agenda item.

Mr. Daniel made a motion to: Accredite the University of Central Oklahoma’s proposal for an Ed.D. in Transformative Leadership and Learning, leading to School Superintendent Certification. Ms. Evon seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote of the Commission Members present and voting. Those voting for the motion: Ken Parker, John Daniel, Kathryn Szallar, and Melissa Evon. Recused: Secretary Dr. Hamlin and Dr. Ashlyn Fiegenger.

**Discussion and Possible Action to:** Accredite a new program for a Master's in Elementary Education at Oklahoma Christian University leading to an initial standard certification.

Dr. Ashlyn Fiegenger recused herself from this agenda item.

Secretary Dr. Hamlin made a motion to: Accredite a new program for a Master's in Elementary Education at Oklahoma Christian University leading to an initial standard certification. Mr. Parker seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote of the Commission Members present and voting. Those voting for the motion: Secretary Dr. Hamlin, Ken Parker, John Daniel, Kathryn Szallar, and Melissa Evon. Recused: Dr. Ashlyn Fiegenger.

**Discussion and Possible Action to:** Approve Southwestern Christian University’s request for a new accreditation review schedule in 2026. Mr. Parker made a motion to: Approve Southwestern Christian University’s request for a new accreditation review schedule in 2026. Ms. Szallar seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote of the Commission Members present. Those voting for the motion: Secretary Dr. Hamlin, Ken Parker, John Daniel, Kathryn Szallar, Melissa Evon, and Dr. Ashlyn Fiegenger.

**Discussion and Possible Action to:** Adopt the Permanent Rule Changes Pursuant to 75 O.S. § 303 of Article I of the Administrative Procedures Act. Secretary Dr. Hamlin made a motion for: Final Adoption of the Permanent Rule Changes, as they have been set forth in the Notice of Rulemaking Intent published in the Oklahoma Register, Volume 43, Number 7, on December 15, 2025, with no changes. Dr. Fiegenger seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote of the Commission Members present. Those voting for the motion: Secretary Dr. Hamlin, Ken Parker, John Daniel, Kathryn Szallar, Melissa Evon, and Dr. Ashlyn Fiegenger.

**Adjournment:** Secretary Dr. Hamlin made a motion to adjourn at 3:05 P.M. Ms. Szallar seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote of the Commission Members present. Those voting for the motion: Secretary Dr. Hamlin, Ken Parker, John Daniel, Kathryn Szallar, Melissa Evon, and Dr. Ashlyn Fiegener.



