

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
of the
State Board of Education**

January 22, 2026



**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OKLAHOMA STATE DEPT. OF EDUCATION
OLIVER HODGE BUILDING
2500 NORTH LINCOLN BOULEVARD
STATE BOARD ROOM, SUITE 1-20
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA**

**Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 22, 2026**

The State Board of Education met in a regular meeting session on or about 9:30 a.m., Thursday, January 22, 2026, in the Board Room of the Oliver Hodge Education Building at 2500 North Lincoln Boulevard, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The final agenda was posted at 9:29 a.m. on Wednesday, January 21, 2026.

The following were present:

Ms. Jacki Phelps, General Counsel to the Oklahoma State Department of Education
Mr. Ryan Leonard, General Counsel to the Oklahoma State Board of Education
Dr. Jennifer Hembree, Executive Secretary to the Oklahoma State Board of Education

Members of the State Board of Education present:

State Superintendent, Lindel Fields, Chairman of the Board
Mr. Chris Van Denhende, Tulsa
Ms. Becky Carson, Edmond
Mr. Wes Nofire, Park Hill
Mr. Brian Bobek, Oklahoma City
Mr. Ryan Deatherage, Kingfisher

Members of the State Board of Education absent:

Mr. Mike Tinney, Norman

Others in attendance are shown as an attachment.

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL:

State Superintendent Lindel Fields called the State Board of Education regular meeting to order on or about 9:30 a.m. Executive Secretary Jennifer Hembree called the roll and ascertained there was a quorum.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, OKLAHOMA FLAG SALUTE, MOMENT OF SILENCE:

Superintendent Fields welcomed everyone to the meeting and led Board Members and all present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag, a salute to the Oklahoma Flag, and a moment of silence.

3. BOARD – ADMINISTRATIVE:

State Board of Education—Administrative (Action) Discussion and possible action on the minutes of the December 18, 2025, Regular Meeting of the State Board of Education.

Board Member Ryan Deatherage moved to approve the December 18, 2025, board meeting minutes. Board Member Van Denhende, seconded the motion. **The motion was approved** with all members voting in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions. **APPROVED.**

4. SUPERINTENDENT REMARKS: (No Action)

5. Academic Standards—Shana Classen, Project Manager, Health and PE Instruction, and Sharon Morgan, Program Director, Standards & Instruction Discussion and possible action to adopt, disapprove, or modify the proposed Oklahoma Academic Standards for Physical Education and Health pursuant to Title 70 O.S. §§ 11-103.6, 11-103.6a, and 11-103.6a-1:

(a) Board Member Bobek moved to adopt the proposed Oklahoma Academic Standards for Health. Board Member Carson seconded the motion. **The motion carried** with the following votes: Mr. Deatherage, yes; Mr. Van Denhende, yes; Mr. Nofire, yes; Mr. Bobek, yes; Ms. Carson, yes; Superintendent Fields, yes. **APPROVED.**

(b) Board Member Bobek moved to adopt the proposed Oklahoma Academic Standards for Physical Education. Board Member Van Denhende seconded the motion. **The motion carried** with the following votes: Mr. Deatherage, yes; Mr. Van Denhende, yes; Mr. Nofire, yes; Mr. Bobek, yes; Ms. Carson, yes; Superintendent Fields, yes. **APPROVED.**

6. DEPARTMENT—ADMINISTRATIVE:

State Department of Education—Administrative (No Action) Departmental Updates from the Deputy Superintendents: Dr. Romel Muex-Pullen, Deputy Superintendent of Instruction and Ms. Kristen Stephens, Deputy Superintendent of Operations.

7. Administrative Rules—Kory Kile, Administrative Rules Liaison Discussion and possible action to adopt, disapprove, or modify the proposed permanent rules including all additions, amendments, and revocations included therein pursuant to the Oklahoma Administrative Procedures Act, Title 75 O.S. §§ 250, et. seq.:

Superintendent of Public Instruction Fields moved to amend rule language in agenda item 7b O.A.C. 210:10-1-21 to read “contact the parent within ten minutes” instead of “as soon as possible” in addition to adopting with modification pursuant to public comment agenda items. Board Member Carson seconded the motion. **The motion carried** with the following votes: Mr. Deatherage, yes; Mr. Van Denhende, yes; Mr. Nofire, yes; Mr. Bobek, yes; Ms. Carson,

yes; Superintendent Fields, yes. **APPROVED WITH AMENDMENTS.**

8. Emergency (Provisional) Teacher Certification Discussion and possible action on request for exceptions to the State Board of Education teacher certification regulations to permit emergency (provisional) certificates 70 O.S. § 6-187(G):

Board Member Bobek moved to approve the request. Board Member Van Denhende seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: Mr. Deatherage, yes; Mr. Van Denhende, yes; Mr. Nofire, yes; Mr. Bobek, yes; Ms. Carson, abstain; Superintendent Fields, yes. **APPROVED.**

9. Private School Accreditation Discussion and possible action on accreditation approval pursuant to 70 O.S. § 3- 104(A)(7) and O.A.C 210:35-33-1 for Nature Field Creative Academy:

Board Member Bobek moved to approve the request. Board Member Van Denhende seconded the motion. **The motion carried** with the following votes: Mr. Deatherage, yes; Mr. Van Denhende, yes; Mr. Nofire, yes; Mr. Bobek, yes; Ms. Carson, yes; Superintendent Fields, yes. **APPROVED.**

10. Discussion and possible action to convene into Executive Session pursuant to 25 O.S.§§ 307(b)(4), (7), and (8) for the purpose of discussion possible action on the following issues:

Board Member Van Denhende moved to convene into Executive Session. Board Member Bobek seconded the motion. **The motion was approved** with all members voting in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions. **APPROVED.**

11. Vote to Acknowledge Return to Open Session

Board Member Deatherage moved to convene into Executive Session. Board Member Bobek seconded the motion. **The motion was approved** with all members voting in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions. **APPROVED.**

12. Applications to Revoke Teacher Certificates and Certificate Numbers Applications for emergency orders pursuant to OAC 210:1-5-6(d)(1) summarily suspending the teaching certificates and certificate numbers and setting the matters before a hearing officer of:

Board member Nofire moved to dismiss with a requirement of a 12 month probation with an additional training specified by OSDE for persons named in Agenda Item 11(a). Board Member Carson seconded the motion. **The motion carried** with the following votes: Mr. Deatherage, yes; Mr. Van Denhende, yes; Mr. Nofire, yes; Mr. Bobek, yes; Ms. Carson, yes;; Superintendent Fields, yes. **APPROVED.**

Board member Nofire moved to suspend persons named in Agenda Item 11(b) and set that matter for a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge. Board member Carson seconded the motion. **The motion carried** with the following votes: Mr. Deatherage, yes; Mr. Van Denhende, yes; Mr. Nofire, yes; Mr. Bobek, yes; Ms. Carson, yes;; Superintendent Fields, yes. **APPROVED.**

13. Motion to Dismiss Respondent requests dismissal of the Application to Revoke and requests reinstatement of her teaching credentials:

Board member Bobek moved to accept the settlement agreement and to grant a motion to dismiss revocation proceedings against persons named in Agenda Item 12 reinstating her teaching credentials effective as of the date of the order of dismissal. Board member

Deatherage seconded the motion. **The motion carried** with the following votes: Mr. Deatherage, yes; Mr. Van Denhende, yes; Mr. Nofire, yes; Mr. Bobek, yes; Ms. Carson, yes;; Superintendent Fields, yes. **APPROVED.**

14. Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law Motion to accept the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law issued by the Administrative Law Judge based on evidence and testimony presented at revocation hearing:

Board member Deatherage moved to accept in the matter of OSDE v. Lewis the findings of fact and conclusions of law, recommendation from the administrative law judge. Board member Bobek seconded the motion. **The motion carried** with the following votes: Mr. Deatherage, yes; Mr. Van Denhende, yes; Mr. Nofire, yes; Mr. Bobek, yes; Ms. Carson, yes;; Superintendent Fields, yes. **APPROVED.**

15. New Business (Any business not known about which could not have been reasonably foreseen prior to the time of posting of the Agenda pursuant to Title 25 O.S. § 311.)

16. ADJOURNMENT:

Board member Bobek moved to adjourn the meeting. Board member Deatherage seconded the motion. **The motion was approved** with all members voting in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions. **APPROVED.**

The next regular meeting of the State Board of Education will be held on Thursday, February 26, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. The meeting will convene at the State Department of Education-State Board Room, 2500 North Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Lindel Fields, Chairperson of the Board

Jennifer Hembree, Executive Secretary