



WWW.OKEDRALLY.COM • FACEBOOK.COM/OKEDRALLY • TWITTER.COM/OKEDRALLY

A High Quality Teacher for Every Classroom

Goals:

- Long-term plan to improve teacher compensation for regional competitiveness.
- Policy changes to strengthen and sustain the teacher pipeline.

Facts:

- Oklahoma started the 2014-2015 school year about 1,000 teachers short.
- Oklahoma has teacher shortages in rural, suburban and urban areas throughout the state and in nearly every grade level/subject area.
- Oklahoma has approved 500 emergency teaching certificates for teachers who are not yet fully qualified in the area they are teaching.
- Oklahoma has 40,000 more public school students than in 2008, but fewer teachers.
- Oklahoma's average teacher salary is more than \$3,200 below the regional average and the lowest of surrounding states.

Solutions:

- Increase teacher pay to the regional average.
- Establish policies/incentives to recruit students into colleges of education.
- Establish policies/competitive compensation packages to keep teacher graduates in Oklahoma.
- Streamline certification process for out-of-state teachers who are highly qualified and want to teach in Oklahoma.
- Ease financial restrictions for retirees who want to return to the classroom.
- Establish policies to support new educators in their first three years of teaching.



