

Texhoma Public Schools

PO Box 648
418 W. Elm St.
Texhoma, OK 73949

Tom Schroeder, Superintendent (580) 423-7433
Fax: (580) 423 7096

Kayla Yates, HS/MS Principal (580) 423-7433
Fax: (580) 423-7141

Greg Higgins, Athletic Dir./ Admin. (580) 423-7371
Fax: (580) 423-7096



January 27, 2016

State Board of Education
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105

Honorable Members of the Oklahoma State Board of Education,

On behalf of Texhoma Public Schools, we want offer our support for the proposed Oklahoma Academic Standards for Mathematics and English / Language Arts we are keenly aware of the importance of having standards in place as quickly as possible. Hearing from organization members about their involvement in the review and development of the proposed standards gives us tremendous confidence in the process utilized by the State Department of Education to create these new standards.

Oklahomans from all walks of life were afforded a meaningful opportunity to review and create the proposed academic standards. The process used to create these standards was deliberately inclusive of all interested voices, leaving out only those that chose not to participate in the many steps of review, development, and refinement. The proposed standards are designed to prepare students for successful entry into the workforce, career technology institutes, or higher education. Importantly, the educators involved in this process have determined that the proposed standards will benefit the students of Oklahoma.

We appreciate the commitment to continuous improvement from Superintendent Hofmeister, the staff of the State Department of Education, and the members of the State Board of Education. As it relates to state academic standards, we know that there is never a final product. Standards are frequently reviewed and modified with an eye toward improving student achievement. Sustained fidelity to a comprehensive process of standards review and refinement will ensure that all Oklahoma students receive the high quality educational experience to which they are entitled.

Texhoma Public Schools supports the approval of the Oklahoma Academic Standards as proposed by the State Superintendent and the many other Oklahomans involved in this process. It is imperative that the standards are quickly acted upon so that school leaders and teachers can begin the important work of training and implementing these new standards by August of 2016.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Schroeder". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tom Schroeder
Superintendent
Texhoma Public Schools
PO Box 648
Texhoma, OK 73949