



JANET BARRESI
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

January 15, 2013

Dear Administrator:

As the new Executive Director of Teacher and Leader Effectiveness (TLE) at the Oklahoma State Department of Education, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your diligent efforts to improve the quality of teacher effectiveness across our state through your leadership. With the creation of the new TLE system in our state, we will have the opportunity to provide meaningful feedback, professional development, and growth opportunities for educators as we continue to focus on increasing student achievement through effective teachers and leaders.

It is extremely important to me that I communicate with you effectively and efficiently. Therefore, you will begin to receive TLE updates and essential information regarding the implementation of TLE from my office on a consistent basis. I will reach out to you via email, videoconferences, webinars, online video presentations, phone calls and face-to-face contact. It is my sincerest goal to work alongside you, partnering with you in your efforts to train your board members, leaders, administrators, teachers, and community members.

Other Academic Measures

Today, it is imperative that I share with you information regarding the quantitative portion of the TLE system. On December 19, 2012, the Oklahoma State Board of Education adopted policies recommended to them by the TLE Commission concerning Other Academic Measures. As you know, Other Academic Measures will comprise fifteen percent of the total evaluation score. Other Academic Measures are additional alternative instruments ensuring a robust evaluation. They capture unique facets of effective teaching, reflect student academic performance impacted by the teacher, and are specific to teachers' job assignments. A Working Group which included both educators and stakeholders collaborated, evaluated, and synthesized both the approved list of Other Academic Measures and recommendations to the TLE Commission. The professional expertise the Working Group provided is greatly appreciated by the TLE Commission, State Board of Education, and the State Department of Education.

Attached Documents

I am attaching several items of import for you today including: the approved Other Academic Measures list, the State Board of Education adopted policies, guidance for the adoption of local policies regarding Other Academic Measures, and an invitation to attend an informative videoconference for superintendents and leadership teams. Finally, I have attached a white paper overview explaining all components for the TLE including a proposed implementation timeline. Thank you for taking the time to review each of the documents.

I look forward to working alongside you as together we impact the future by ensuring every student has an effective teacher, every school has an effective leader, and every educator has an effective evaluation tool. May this year be rewarding and characterized by growth in our invaluable profession.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laura L. McGee".

Laura L. McGee, M.Ed.

Executive Director of Teacher and Leader Effectiveness