

Oklahoma Senate Committee on Appropriations

2017-2018 Performance Report

State Department of Education

AGENCY MISSION STATEMENT:

To champion equitable access to a high-quality public education that readies students for future success in college, career and life

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GOVERNANCE:

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Joy Hofmeister is a statewide elected official. The State Board of Education is appointed by the Governor's office. Members of the State Board of Education are listed below:

Joy Hofmeister - Chairperson
Dan Keating – Congressional District 1
William Flanagan – Congressional District 2
Cathryn Franks – Congressional District 3
Leo J. Baxter – Congressional District 4
Bill Price – Congressional District 5
Bob Ross – At large

GOVERNANCE ACCOUNTABILITY:

There is no attendance policy for members of the State Board of Education. A quorum is required in order for the Board to conduct business.

SAVINGS, EFFICIENCIES AND SHARED SERVICES

The OSDE has filled several positions to make the agency more efficient. Among them is a Chief Data Officer to better manage the agency's data through the use of a formal data governance process which includes establishing a policy statement. These efforts will reduce the reporting burden on districts, augment data quality and increase transparency of the OSDE while maintaining student data privacy in accordance with state and federal law. The OSDE also has hired a researcher and data-analyst who will be responsible for preparing and analyzing the educator supply-and-demand study that the OSDE is required to publish every three years. Additionally, grant funds have allowed for data mapping to provide data to educator preparation programs for continuous improvement. OSDE recently has established a Process Improvement Group to focus on improving internal workflow and business processes that will result in cost savings and efficiencies for the

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agency. Finally, the OSDE has secured a grant writer to assist the agency in securing outside funding to move the agency's goals forward. As several new grants have recently been received by the state, this position has more than paid for itself. These efforts provide a stronger analytical capability to the OSDE and other government entities for data-driven decision-making.

Professional Development: The OSDE uses webinars and video conferences to provide technical assistance and PD for schools that have reduced travel costs for the OSDE and school districts. Additionally, using agency owned audio and video equipment at various events has resulted in significant savings. EngageOK on the Road, held once a year, provides rich and meaningful professional development at no cost for all school personnel. It also provides a great opportunity for community engagement. The conference, in its current format, has produced an annual savings of approximately \$300,000.

Interagency agreements: The OSDE has an agreement with the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services to share FTEs for related services, resulting in savings of approximately \$37,000. Through data-sharing agreements with other education agencies such as the Office of Educational Quality and Accountability (OEQA) and the State Regents for higher Education, student data collected by the OSDE can be used to make better decisions. The OSDE also benefits from a multi-agency data sharing agreement that includes the Department of Health, Department of Human Services, Department of Rehabilitation Services, and other agencies that allows for sharing of protected health and student education information to achieve regulatory goals and public benefits.

IT Consolidation and Data Management: The continuing partnership with OMES ISD has led to standardization of IT systems, better data security standards and technology solutions. Continued use of e-pro for acquisition of goods and services has created efficiencies in the purchasing process and establishes an audit trail.

Human Resources: As part of the human resources modernization plan, the Human Resources Division has updated the recruitment system from NeoGov to JobAps, hosted by OMES. The conversion of recruitment systems allows for a broader applicant pool, evaluation of vacancy exposure and reduced spending by approximately \$4,100+ annually. Throughout implementation of the plan, the OSDE is reviewing multiple ways to reduce overall spending and increase customer service. Human resources also began offering in-house trainings on various topics for supervisors and staff that has resulted in savings on trainings and travel costs.