



**OKLAHOMA**  
**Rehabilitation Services**

# *Commission for Rehabilitation Services*

## **Commissioners**

➤ **Janet Barresi, Theresa Flannery, Lindsay Hanna,  
Kelsey Lee, Lance Robertson,  
Noel Tyler, and Kevin Wallace**

Regular Meeting

There is no video conferencing for this meeting

Oklahoma School for the Deaf  
1100 E. Oklahoma Avenue  
Sulphur, OK 73086

April 8, 2026

Empowering Oklahomans with Disabilities

**State of Oklahoma  
Commission for Rehabilitation Services  
Regular Commission Meeting  
April 8, 2026 at 10:30 a.m.**

Oklahoma School for the Deaf  
1100 East Oklahoma Ave., Auditorium  
Sulphur, OK 73086

Commissioners: Chair, Theresa Flannery; Vice Chair; Dr. Janet Barresi, Members, Lindsay Hanna, Kelsey Lee, Lance Robertson, Noel Tyler, and Kevin Wallace

Sign Language Interpreters are provided for public accessibility. There is no virtual attendance option for this meeting.

Public Comment: To sign up to speak, please sign up on arrival prior to the start of the meeting. Public comments will be limited to three minutes per person.

**AGENDA**

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Theresa Flannery, Chair

**2. Statement of Compliance with the Open Meeting Act**

Kathleen Arrieta, Commission Assistant

**3. Public Comments**

Public Audience - Under Oklahoma Open Meeting Laws, the Oklahoma Commission for Rehabilitation Services cannot respond to or discuss any matter not on today's agenda.

**4. Presentation of Longevity Certificates**

Theresa Flannery, Chair

**5. Spotlight on Students and Staff from the Oklahoma School for the Deaf**

Dr. Heather Laine, Superintendent, OSD

- 6. Oklahoma School for the Deaf (OSD) Report** Pg. 6  
Dr. Heather Laine, Superintendent  
a) Report includes school updates, meetings, events, and student activities.  
b) Possible discussion
- 7. Acceptance of Donations to the Oklahoma School for Deaf** Pg. 9  
Dr. Heather Laine, Superintendent  
a) Donation Report for March 2026  
c) Discussion and possible action to accept the donations.
- 8. Executive Director's Report** Pg. 11  
Melinda Fruendt, Executive Director  
a) Certificates of Appreciation  
b) Report includes agency and departmental updates, process improvement, case reviews, and program standards.  
c) Possible discussion
- 9. Chief Financial Officer's Report** Pg.13  
Kevin Statham, Chief Financial Officer  
a) Financial Status Report FY 26  
b) Possible discussion
- 10. Human Resources Report** Pg.21  
LaChelle Westfahl, HR Director  
a) Personnel Activity report  
b) Current FTE Status  
c) Introduction of new staff  
d) Possible discussion
- 11. Legislative Report** Pg.26  
Jennifer Hardin, Legislative Liaison  
a) Status of legislative bills  
b) Possible discussion
- 12. Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VR)** Pg.45  
Mark Kinnison, Division Administrator  
a) Priority Group Updates and Portal Referrals  
b) Report includes departmental updates and data, and meetings/events.  
c) Possible discussion

- 13. Acceptance of Donations to the Oklahoma School for the Blind** Pg.49  
Brent Pearce, Superintendent  
a) Donation Report for March 2026  
b) Discussion and possible action to accept the donations.

- 14. Acceptance of Donations to the Oklahoma Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped** Pg.51  
Kevin Treese, Program Manager III, SBVI  
a) Donation Report for March 2026  
b) Discussion and possible action to accept the donations.

- 15. Review of the March 11, 2026 Commission Meeting Minutes** Pg.53  
Theresa Flannery, Chair  
a) Discussion and possible action to modify and/or approve the minutes.

- 16. New Business**  
Theresa Flannery, Chair  
a) Any matter not known about, or which could not have been reasonably foreseen prior to the time of posting 25 O.S. § 311.

- 17. Adjournment**  
Theresa Flannery, Chair  
a) Discussion and possible action

**Note: "Possible action" by the Commission includes, but is not limited to, approval, authorization, adoption, rejection, denial, amendment, taking no action, or tabling the item for disposition at a later date or time.**

**Next Regular Commission meeting:  
Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 AM  
Disability Determination Services  
9801 N. Kelly Avenue, Oklahoma City, OK 73131**



# Oklahoma School for the Deaf Report

**Oklahoma School for the Deaf**  
**Report for the DRS Commission**  
**April 8, 2026**  
**Dr. Heather Laine**  
**Superintendent**

We have completed three-fourths of the 2025–2026 school year and are entering one of the busiest periods of the academic calendar. The months ahead include state testing, end-of-year events such as prom and graduation, and several competitions in robotics and track and field.

Since January 2026, the Oklahoma School for the Deaf (OSD) has maintained a high level of engagement across academics, athletics, and residential programming. Below are highlights from recent months:

Our high school basketball and cheerleading teams competed in the Great Plains Schools for the Deaf (GPSD) tournament in Kansas in February. The boys' basketball team advanced to the championship game and earned second place. The girls' team secured third place, and the cheerleading team also earned second place honors. Both basketball teams advanced to district and regional playoffs and performed well, though they did not advance to the state level. We are proud of their efforts and sportsmanship.

The cheerleading team also competed at the National Deaf Cheer Competition (NDCC) hosted by the Iowa School for the Deaf and delivered an outstanding performance.

OSD hosted the Midwest Regional Academic Bowl, welcoming approximately 14 schools and programs for Deaf students on the last week of February. Our team performed competitively and narrowly missed advancing to the final four teams that moved on to the national competition at Gallaudet University.

Our performing arts program will present *The Wizard of Oz* on Tuesday, April 14 at 6:00 p.m., featuring a performance in ASL with voice interpretation.

Our Esports team has advanced to the top 10 nationally and will travel to Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) on the first weekend of May to compete.

Overall, this has been a productive and rewarding year for OSD, and we look forward to continued growth and success.

We are looking forward to our annual summer camp where our Bison has gone mad focusing on science and technology.

**Current OSD Data:**

- Student Enrollment (Preschool–12th Grade): 105
- Family Engagement and Early Language Program (Birth–Five): 82
- Outreach Program – Educational Consultant Services: 259

### **OSD Updates as of March 31, 2026:**

- Several campus improvement projects are currently in progress.
  - The football and track field project is nearing completion, with sod installation scheduled for the week of March 30, followed by a final walkthrough.
  - The Griffing Hall elevator replacement is also underway, including construction of the elevator tower and connections to the existing structure.


### **Upcoming Events and Activities:**

The spring semester includes a number of key events and opportunities for students:

- Outreach Program community event in partnership with The Center in Tulsa: April 18 (1:00–3:00 p.m.)
- GPSD Track & Field Meet hosted by OSD: April 24–26
- Robotics and Esports competitions, including travel to Colorado: April 21–30
- Statewide Prom for high school students: May 9
- High School Graduation: May 20 at 1:00 p.m.

OSD remains committed to providing meaningful academic, extracurricular, and community engagement opportunities for all students and families.

*Respectfully submitted by Dr. Heather Laine, Superintendent*



# Oklahoma School for the Deaf Donation Report

## OSD Donation Report March 2026

### Donations Under \$500.00

Date	Name	Cash	Fund	Explanation	Property Value
3/2/2026	Sulphur Chamber of Commerce	\$ 250.00	70100/10020	Sponsor for Academic Bowl	
3/9/2026	Bill Wright	\$ 100.00	70100/20230	Sponsor for OSD Spaghetti Dinner	
3/9/2026	Trudy Mitchell		Academic Bowl	Items purchased for Academic Bowl	\$ 95.17
3/12/2026	Bethlehem Baptist Church	\$ 150.00	70100/20300	Donation made to Sorority account	
3/23/2026	Restored Hearts & Soles (x3)		Student	Clothes Closet Needs/Shoes	\$ 129.97
3/23/2026	Jamie Robinson	\$ 151.66	70100/20005	Spirit Shirts Fundraising	
3/23/2026	New Life Fellowship Deaf Church	\$ 50.00	70100/10252-01	Members donated for J Kale to attend YLC	
3/31/2026	Heather Laine	\$ 100.00	YLM Camp	Justin Kale YLC Camp Fund	
3/31/2026	Cosign Interpreting	\$ 100.00	YLM Camp	Justin Kale YLC Camp Fund	
<b>Subtotal Cash Under \$500.00</b>		<b>\$ 901.66</b>		<b>Subtotal Property Under \$500.00</b>	<b>\$ 225.14</b>

### Donations Over \$500.00

Date	Name	Cash	Fund	Explanation	Property Value
3/9/2026	Masonic Charity Foundation of OK	\$ 125,000.00	21600/23500	Senior Citizen's Hearing Aid Program	
<b>Subtotal Cash Over \$500.00</b>		<b>\$ 125,000.00</b>		<b>Subtotal Property Over \$500.00</b>	
<b>Subtotal Cash Combined</b>		<b>\$ 125,901.66</b>		<b>Subtotal Property Combined</b>	<b>\$ 225.14</b>

**Total donations for March 2026**

\$126,126.80
--------------



# Executive Director's Report

**Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services**  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**  
**April 8, 2026**

**Meetings**

- DRS Executive Team – Blind Immersive experience with Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired (SBVI).
- Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council Executive Committee meeting.
- Council of State Administrators for Vocational Rehabilitation Spring Conference.
- New Commissioner Orientation.
- VR/SBVI Performance Meeting.
- Oklahoma School for the Deaf Spaghetti Fundraiser.

**Process Improvement (PI)**

- Working on two Rehabilitation Services Administration requests. State Wage Interchange System (SWIS) wage data match and investigating potential missing wage data from previous quarter submission. Additional Office of Oklahoma Employment Security Commission (OESC) wage match requested.

**AWARE**

- A new version of AWARE was installed this month. There is already another new release available, which we will begin researching and testing soon.
- The Vendor Portal project for Employment Support Services (ESS) with Alliance is underway. At this stage in the project, a small group of staff members will be testing with the ESS Unit to provide initial feedback about features adapted per Alliance recommendations.
- Imported January 2026 OU Pre-Employment Transition Services and are preparing to import February 2026 services.

**Case Review**

- The Quality Assurance (QA) team is currently auditing randomly selected 60 open cases.
- QA team met with the Field Coordinators, the Division Administrators, two Program Managers and the Transition Coordinator to discuss how to address the concerns about Pre-Employment Transition Service (Pre-ETS) provision.

**Program Standards, Statistical Research**

- Completed the School Year 2025-2026 SDE IEP Power BI report
- Working on streamlining and improving Needs Assessment BI reports
- Working with the Transition Coordinator and SDE-SES on FY2027 MOU

**Power BI**

- Working with management on new report requests.
- Continue to clean up reports.

***Respectfully submitted by***  
***Melinda Freundt, Executive Director***



# Chief Financial Officer's Report

## Department of Rehabilitation Services Financial Status Report FY 26

As of February 28, 2026

Agency Summary						
	Budget	% of Total Budget	Expenditures	% Expended	Encumbrances	% Used
Personnel	94,950,151.00	49.6%	56,165,339.64	59.2%	37,416,702.50	98.6%
Travel	1,770,046.00	0.9%	913,541.21	51.6%	23,359.35	52.9%
General Operating	25,911,739.00	13.5%	11,046,431.54	42.6%	11,787,140.39	88.1%
Office Furniture & Equipment	2,662,973.00	1.4%	1,314,589.58	49.4%	389,754.29	64.0%
Client / General Assistance	55,879,813.00	29.2%	22,855,237.74	40.9%	29,503,033.30	93.7%
Indirect Cost	10,306,958.00	5.4%	6,296,353.94	61.1%	4,010,604.06	100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>191,481,680.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>98,591,493.65</b>	<b>51.5%</b>	<b>83,130,593.89</b>	<b>94.9%</b>

## Department of Rehabilitation Services Financial Status Report FY 26

As of February 28, 2026

<b>All Programs</b>						
<b>Vocational Rehabilitation and Services for the Blind &amp; Visually Impaired</b>						
	Budget	% of Total Budget	Expenditures	% Expended	Encumbrances	% Used
Personnel	30,745,704.00	32.6%	18,182,433.06	59.1%	11,917,652.79	97.9%
Travel	1,280,300.00	1.4%	671,512.39	52.4%	250.00	52.5%
General Operating	9,955,105.00	10.6%	5,199,923.50	52.2%	5,146,937.02	103.9%
Office Furniture & Equipment	1,336,063.00	1.4%	690,514.02	51.7%	217,236.64	67.9%
Client / General Assistance	46,730,813.00	49.6%	18,791,868.54	40.2%	24,565,241.25	92.8%
Indirect Cost	4,248,000.00	4.5%	2,587,534.67	60.9%	1,660,465.33	100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>94,295,985.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>46,123,786.18</b>	<b>48.9%</b>	<b>43,507,783.03</b>	<b>95.1%</b>
<i>Vocational Rehabilitation Grant</i>						
	Budget	% of Total Budget	Expenditures	% Expended	Encumbrances	% Used
Personnel	27,947,251.00	31.3%	16,511,482.17	59.1%	10,881,535.84	98.0%
Travel	1,245,300.00	1.4%	657,293.56	52.8%	250.00	52.8%
General Operating	9,271,581.00	10.4%	4,835,285.10	52.2%	4,819,554.48	104.1%
Office Furniture & Equipment	1,103,193.00	1.2%	601,239.51	54.5%	215,736.64	74.1%
Client / General Assistance	45,944,667.00	51.4%	18,531,342.19	40.3%	24,127,685.33	92.8%
Indirect Cost	3,858,836.00	4.3%	2,378,299.91	61.6%	1,480,536.09	100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>89,370,828.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>43,514,942.44</b>	<b>48.7%</b>	<b>41,525,298.38</b>	<b>95.2%</b>

## Department of Rehabilitation Services Financial Status Report FY 26

As of February 28, 2026

All Programs Oklahoma School for the Blind						
	Budget	% of Total Budget	Expenditures	% Expended	Encumbrances	% Used
Personnel	7,565,178.00	64.3%	4,789,488.71	63.3%	2,667,119.87	98.6%
Travel	92,200.00	0.8%	55,836.60	60.6%	420.00	61.0%
General Operating	2,822,702.00	24.0%	694,594.77	24.6%	1,264,468.25	69.4%
Office Furniture & Equipment	326,142.00	2.8%	187,179.11	57.4%	24,966.19	65.0%
Client / General Assistance	42,000.00	0.4%	21,601.67	51.4%	0.00	51.4%
Indirect Cost	912,770.00	7.8%	557,931.78	61.1%	354,838.22	100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,760,992.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>6,306,632.64</b>	<b>53.6%</b>	<b>4,311,812.53</b>	<b>90.3%</b>

## Department of Rehabilitation Services Financial Status Report FY 26

As of February 28, 2026

<b>All Programs</b>						
<b>Oklahoma School for the Deaf</b>						
	Budget	% of Total Budget	Expenditures	% Expended	Encumbrances	% Used
Personnel	9,578,719.00	53.8%	5,405,481.02	56.4%	3,930,056.20	97.5%
Travel	248,540.00	1.4%	122,080.45	49.1%	450.00	49.3%
General Operating	5,724,294.00	32.2%	1,991,768.63	34.8%	2,336,359.01	75.6%
Office Furniture & Equipment	584,505.00	3.3%	253,798.12	43.4%	146,244.81	68.4%
Client / General Assistance	522,000.00	2.9%	105,496.14	20.2%	285,897.00	75.0%
Indirect Cost	1,136,688.00	6.4%	698,930.56	61.5%	437,757.44	100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,794,746.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>8,577,554.92</b>	<b>48.2%</b>	<b>7,136,764.46</b>	<b>88.3%</b>

## Department of Rehabilitation Services Financial Status Report FY 26

As of February 28, 2026

<b>All Programs</b>						
<b>Disability Determination Services</b>						
	Budget	% of Total Budget	Expenditures	% Expended	Encumbrances	% Used
Personnel	38,154,742.00	68.5%	22,379,249.07	58.7%	15,705,547.42	99.8%
Travel	52,001.00	0.1%	9,392.52	18.1%	21,339.35	59.1%
General Operating	4,523,017.00	8.1%	1,821,642.31	40.3%	1,895,524.87	82.2%
Office Furniture & Equipment	381,164.00	0.7%	176,199.95	46.2%	0.00	46.2%
Client / General Assistance	8,585,000.00	15.4%	3,933,104.95	45.8%	4,651,895.05	100.0%
Indirect Cost	4,000,991.00	7.2%	2,447,063.68	61.2%	1,553,927.32	100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>55,696,915.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>30,766,652.48</b>	<b>55.2%</b>	<b>23,828,234.01</b>	<b>98.0%</b>

## Department of Rehabilitation Services Financial Status Report FY 26

As of February 28, 2026

<b>All Programs DRS Support Services</b>						
	<b>Budget</b>	<b>% of Total Budget</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>% Expended</b>	<b>Encumbrances</b>	<b>% Used</b>
Personnel	8,905,808.00	74.6%	5,408,687.78	60.7%	3,196,326.22	96.6%
Travel	97,005.00	0.8%	54,719.25	56.4%	900.00	57.3%
General Operating	2,886,621.00	24.2%	1,338,502.33	46.4%	1,143,851.24	86.0%
Office Furniture & Equipment	35,099.00	0.3%	6,898.38	19.7%	1,306.65	23.4%
Client / General Assistance	0.00	0.0%	3,166.44	0.0%	0.00	0.0%
Indirect Cost	8,509.00	0.1%	4,893.25	57.5%	3,615.75	100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,933,042.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>6,816,867.43</b>	<b>57.1%</b>	<b>4,345,999.86</b>	<b>93.5%</b>

# Department of Rehabilitation Services Financial Status Report FY 26

As of February 28, 2026

## **Personnel**

---

Salary Expense

Insurance Premium -Health-Life, etc

FICA-Retirement Contributions

## **Travel**

---

Travel - Agency Direct

Travel - Reimbursements

## **General Operating**

---

AFP Encumbrances

Bond Indebtness and Expenses

Buildings-Purchase, Construction and Renovation

General Operating

Inter/Intre Agency Payment for Personal Services

Maintenance & Repair

Miscellaneous Administration Fee

Professional Services

Production, Safety, Security

Refunds, Indemnities, Restitution

Rent Expense

Scholarships, Tuition and Other Incentive-Type Payments

Shop Expense

Specialized Supplies & Materials

## **Office Furniture & Equipment**

---

Library Equipment & Resources

Office Furniture & Equipment

## **Client / General Assistance**

---

Social Service and Assistance Payments

## **Indirect Cost**

---



# Human Resources Report

## PERSONNEL ACTIVITY REPORT AS OF MARCH 31, 2026

### FILLED AND VACANT POSITIONS

Personnel Activity = 10 vacant positions filled / 39 positions in Announcement or Selection Process

Division	Title/PIN	Date Vacated	Location	Begin date	End date	Ann. #	Action/Incumbent	Date Filled
EXEC	Business Analyst / 0682	11/02/2025	EXEC	01/21/2026	03/04/2026	26-040	Currently Open	
FSD	Accountant / 0013	10/02/2025	FSD	03/23/2026	Continuous	26-044	Currently Open	
MSD	Administrative Programs Officer / 1082	01/05/2026	MSD	01/09/2026	Continuous	26-041	Currently Open	
MSD	Human Resources Programs Director / 0343	01/31/2026	MSD	12/16/2025	01/07/2026	26-036	LaChelle Westfahl	03/01/2026
OSB	Housekeeping/Custodial Worker / 0822	03/01/2026	OSB	01/23/2026	Continuous	26-045	Shauna Williams	03/09/2026
OSB	Independent Living Instructor / 0852	12/03/2025	OSB	12/20/2025	Continuous	26-037	Currently Open	
OSB	LPN / 0017	12/15/2025	OSB	12/29/2025	Continuous	26-039	Chloe Craig	03/22/2026
		10/09/2025 10/21/2025						
OSB	Direct Care Specialist / 0237,0586,0235	09/20/2025	OSB	07/08/2025	Continuous	26-002	Currently Open	
OSD	Food Service Specialist / 0655	03/05/2026	OSD	03/05/2026	Continuous	26-054	Currently Open	
OSD	Administrative Assistant / 0088	12/01/2025	OSD	02/27/2026	Continuous	26-053	Currently Open	
OSD	Housekeeping/Custodial Worker / 0712	02/23/2026	OSD	02/26/2026	Continuous	26-052	Currently Open	
OSD	Construction/Maintenance Tech / 0701	11/12/2025	OSD	12/05/2025	Continuous	26-035	Currently Open	
OSD	Teacher / 0423	06/01/2024	OSD	09/19/2025	Continuous	26-016	Currently Open	
OSD	Sign Language Interpreter / 0186	07/31/2025	OSD	08/18/2025	Continuous	26-007	Currently Open	
OSD	Speech Language Pathologist / P107653	NEW PIN	OSD	07/17/2025	Continuous	26-003	Currently Open	
OSD	Counselor / 1028	11/13/2024	OSD	01/24/2025	Continuous	25-062	Currently Open	
OSD	Direct Care Specialist (Classroom) / P103831	09/30/2025	OSD	12/02/2024	Continuous	25-055	Mariah Henry	03/02/2026
OSD	Early Development Specialist / 1496	07/31/2024	OSD	09/19/2024	Continuous	25-036	Kaycee Summers	03/23/2026
OSD	School Counselor / 1488	10/06/2022	OSD	07/15/2024	Continuous	25-007	Currently Open	
OSD	Dir of Family and Early Childhood Services / 1494	05/10/2024	OSD	12/12/2025	Continuous	26-031	Erin Shepherd	03/09/2026
			OSD – Chickasha					
OSD	Teacher / 0635	07/31/2024	OSD – Chickasha	04/15/2024	Continuous	24-083	Currently Open	
OSD	Sign Language Specialist, 2308 / 1090	07/20/2023	OSD	08/17/2023	Continuous	24-023	Currently Open	
OSD	Direct Care Specialist (Dorm) / 0115	08/20/2025	OSD	10/24/2023	Continuous	23-032	Currently Open	
OSD	Teacher, 2083 / 0890	08/01/2021	OSD	10/04/2023	Continuous	23-079	Currently Open	

VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0516	03/17/2026	VR80 – Tulsa	03/24/2026	Continuous	26-056	Currently Open	
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0690	04/01/2026	VR80 – Tulsa	02/20/2026	Continuous	26-047	Currently Open	
VR	Rehabilitation Technician / 0307	12/31/2025	VR86 – Ada	02/20/2026	Continuous	26-050	Currently Open	
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0846	02/28/2026	VR15 – Midwest City	02/23/2026	02/27/2026	26-049	In Selection Process	
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0516	01/12/2026	VR80 – Tulsa	01/14/2026	Continuous	26-043	Rebecca Hobson	03/02/2026
VR	Rehabilitation Technician / 0437	11/17/2025	VR81 – Chickasha	11/19/2025	Continuous	26-032	Currently Open	
VR	Rehabilitation Technician / 0708	09/30/2025	VR05 – Weatherford	10/17/2025	Continuous	26-020	Andrea Smith	03/23/2026
VR	Rehabilitation Technician / 1189	09/30/2025	VR44 – Stillwater	10/17/2025	Continuous	26-024	Audra Cross	03/04/2026
VR	Job Placement Specialist / 0372	07/01/2025	VR47 – OKC	09/19/2025	Continuous	26-015	Currently Open	
VR	Programs Field Representative / 0786	08/31/2024	VR – TBD	05/01/2025	Continuous	25-093	Currently Open	
VR	Job Placement Specialist / 0925	05/31/2023	VR86 – Ada	05/09/2025	Continuous	25-098	Currently Open	
VR	Behavioral Health Clinician / 0165	03/01/2011	VR13 – McAlester	05/15/2025	Continuous	25-101	Currently Open	
VR	Assistive Technology Specialist / 0263	02/01/2025	VR36 – OKC	04/22/2025	Continuous	25-089	Currently Open	
VR	Assistive Technology Specialist / 0085	05/01/2024	VR36 – OKC	04/18/2025	Continuous	25-085	Currently Open	
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0567	09/01/2020	VR67 – Tulsa	11/01/2023	Continuous	21-028.1	Currently Open	
SBVI	Rehabilitation of the Blind Spec / 0812	03/06/2026	SBVI69 – Weatherford	03/25/2026	Continuous	26-055	Currently Open	
SBVI	Programs Manager (BEP Operations Coordinator) / 1209	07/01/2026	SBVI33 – OKC	03/25/2026	03/31/2026	26-057	Currently Open	
SBVI	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0938	01/30/2026	SBVI64 – Tulsa	02/20/2026	Continuous	26-046	Currently Open	
SBVI	Rehabilitation Technician / 0267	02/13/2026	SBVI64 – Tulsa	02/19/2026	Continuous	26-051	Currently Open	
SBVI	Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist / 0367	10/28/2025	SBVI64 – Tulsa	11/12/2025	Continuous	26-029	Pamela Lee	03/02/2026
SBVI	Rehabilitation Technician / 0267	10/03/2025	SBVI64 – Tulsa	10/01/2025	Continuous	26-018	Currently Open	
SBVI	Mechanical Systems Technician / 0560	08/11/2017	SBVI33 – OKC	06/03/2025	Continuous	25-114	Currently Open	
SBVI	Rehabilitation of the Blind Specialist / 0754	10/01/2018	SBVI – TBD	05/23/2025	Continuous	25-107	Currently Open	

**DISCHARGES/RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS = 10**

**As of March 31, 2026**

**SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION (Executive/MSD/FSD)**

**DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

Retirement = 1

1 - 23 years 7 months

Trial Period Discharge = 1

1 = 15 days

**SERVICES FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED DIVISION**

Resignation = 1

1 = 3 years 7 months

**OKLAHOMA SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND**

Resignation = 3

1 = 0 years 0 months

1 = 3 years 5 months

1 = 2 years 6 months

**OKLAHOMA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF**

Discharge = 1

1 = 4 years 9 months

**DISABILITY DETERMINATION SERVICES**

Resignation = 1

1 = 4 years 6 months

Retirement = 1

1 = 16 years 6 months

Discharge = 1

1 = 5 years 6 months

# CURRENT FTE STATUS FY 2026

*FTE as of March 31, 2026*

<u>DIVISION</u>	<u>BUDGETED FTE</u>	<u>FILLED</u>	<u>PENDING</u>	<u>EXEMPT FTE</u>	<u>TOTAL FILLED PLUS PENDING MINUS EXEMPT FTE</u>
Support Services (Executive/MSD/FSD)	82.5	78.00	3.00	(1.00)	80.00
Vocational Rehabilitation	230.0	218.00	12.00	0.00	230.00
Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired	113.0	104.00	7.00	0.00	111.00
VR/SBVI-DP	4.00	3.00	0.00	0.00	3.00
Oklahoma School for the Blind	100.0	92.00	4.00	0.00	96.00
Oklahoma School for the Deaf	131.5	115.00	13.00	0.00	128.00
<b>Total (NON-EXEMPT)</b>	<b>660.80</b>	<b>610.00</b>	<b>39.00</b>	<b>(1.00)</b>	<b>648.00</b>
Disability Determination Services (EXEMPT)	327.20	295.00	0.00	(295.00)	295.00
<b>TOTAL NON-EXEMPT &amp; EXEMPT</b>	<b>988.2</b>	<b>905.00</b>	<b>39.00</b>	<b>(296.00)</b>	<b>943.00</b>

**FY 26 Budgetary Limit = 1255**

**\* Authorized agency FTE limit does not include Executive Fellow and SWIP appointments**

ROUTING TO: Melinda Fruendt, Director  
 Kevin Statham, Chief Financial Officer  
 Randy Weaver, Chief of Operations  
 LaChelle Westfahl, Human Resources Program Director  
 Mark Beutler, Director of Communications  
 Kathleen Arrieta, Executive Assistant  
 Brett Jones, Public Information Officer III



# Legislative Report

# DRS Commission Legislative Report

Date: April 08, 2026

Prepared by: Jennifer Hardin

Report Submission Date: March 30, 2026

---

## Key Legislative Dates

- **March 26, 2026** – Floor deadline for bills to be heard in Chamber of Origin
- **Total pending bills after deadline – 1100 (House = 700, Senate = 400)**
- **April 23, 2026** – Committee deadline for bills in opposite chamber

## Legislative Engagement & Updates

- **March 17, 2026** - Speaker Hilbert hosted Capitol Kids Day for children of the Representatives and staff.
    - **DRS displayed assistive technology and Braille books for children to explore. The event was a success and there's was a lot of participation!**
- 

## '26 DRS Request HB3627

HB3627

[Rep. Josh Cantrell](#)  
[Sen. Alvord](#)

**Allows the State Committee of Blind Vendors to hold executive sessions by videoconference, EMERGENCY.**

**Bill History:** 03-05-26 Unanimously passed out of House Rules Committee.

03-17-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 78/N: 2)

03-23-26 Bill received in the Senate

---

## SB 1356 Update

- **Authors:** Sen. David Bullard and Sen. Toni Hasenbeck  
**Summary:** Modifies provisions related to OMES and transfers administrative duties of the State Use Program from OMES to DRS.
- **03/27/26 – Dead Pursuant to the rules.**



# OKLAHOMA Rehabilitation Services

## Bill Status Report

03-27-2026 - 16:24:16

### DRS Request Bills

[HB 3627](#)      [Cantrell, Josh\(R\)](#)  
[Alvord, Jerry\(R\)](#)

Allows the State Committee of Blind Vendors to hold executive sessions by videoconference and sets participation requirements; EMERGENCY.

**Bill History:** 03-23-26 S Received in the Senate

### Direct DRS Impact Bills

[HB 1268](#)      [Hays, Neil\(R\)](#)  
[Weaver, Darrell\(R\)](#)

Allows eligible emergency medical personnel and county law enforcement employees to defer retirement benefits under OPERS and clarifies plan contribution and distribution rules.

**Bill History:** 03-24-26 H Laid out for consideration in the House at 11:03am 🗳️  
03-24-26 H Title stricken  
03-24-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 92/N: 1)

[HB 1539](#)      [Lepak, Mark\(R\)](#)  
[Bergstrom, Micheal\(R\)](#)

Provides for income tax rate reductions based on estimated state revenue calculations.


**Bill History:** 04-10-25 S Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 36/N: 9)  
05-30-25 S Dormant pursuant to the rules  
11-07-25 S Carried Over

[HB 1836](#)      [Hefner, Eilyn\(D\)](#)  
[Dossett, Jo Anna\(D\)](#)

Modifies the definition of persons with significant disabilities to include those with intellectual or developmental disabilities and only requires them to work 50% of the labor hours offered by a qualified nonprofit agency.

**Bill History:** 04-01-25 S Referred to Senate Committee Senate Retirement & Government Resources  
04-25-25 S Dormant pursuant to the rules  
11-07-25 S Carried Over

<a href="#">HB 1934</a>	<a href="#">Sterling, Danny(R)</a> <a href="#">Weaver, Darrell(R)</a>	Creates the Jamie Lea Pearl Act which outlines standards and liability requirements for tax exempt medical needs motor carriers.
<b>Bill History:</b>		04-01-25 S And also Referred to Senate Appropriations 04-25-25 S Dormant pursuant to the rules 11-07-25 S Carried Over
<a href="#">HB 3024</a>	<a href="#">Lowe, Dick(R)</a> <a href="#">Kern, Spencer (F)(R)</a>	Places a cap on increases to state employee salaries, requiring approval from a relevant cabinet secretary for anything in excess of ten percent and directs agencies to set caps on bonuses; EMERGENCY.
<b>Bill History:</b>		03-10-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 79/N: 9) 03-10-26 H Emergency Passed (Vote: Y: 79/N: 9) 03-11-26 S Received in the Senate
<a href="#">HB 3047</a>	<a href="#">Tedford, Mark(R)</a> <a href="#">Haste, John(R)</a>	Directs agency reports statutorily required to be sent to the Legislature to be digitally submitted to LOFT; EMERGENCY.
<b>Bill History:</b>		03-23-26 H Laid out for consideration in the House at 3:25pm 📺 03-23-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 86/N: 5) 03-24-26 S Received in the Senate
<a href="#">HB 3279</a>	<a href="#">Pfeiffer, John(R)</a> <a href="#">Hall, Chuck(R)</a>	Tightens rules on former state employees contracting with the state and strengthens penalties for violations.
<b>Bill History:</b>		03-10-26 H Laid out for consideration in the House at 3:14pm 📺 03-10-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 80/N: 10) 03-11-26 S Received in the Senate
<a href="#">HB 3281</a>	<a href="#">Hall, Rob (F)(R)</a> <a href="#">Bergstrom, Micheal(R)</a>	Requires state agencies to publicly post guidance documents and clarify that they do not carry the force of law.
<b>Bill History:</b>		02-18-26 H Laid out for consideration in the House at 2:14pm 📺 02-18-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 96/N: 0) 02-19-26 S Received in the Senate
<a href="#">HB 3313</a>	<a href="#">Eaves, Ryan (F)(R)</a> <a href="#">Bullard, David(R)</a>	Revises the Retirement Freedom Act by increasing contribution rates and updating defined contribution plan rules.
<b>Bill History:</b>		03-11-26 H Laid out for consideration in the House at 7:36pm 📺 03-11-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 81/N: 10) 03-12-26 S Received in the Senate

<a href="#">HB 3383</a>	<a href="#">Ranson, Trish(D)</a> <a href="#">Frix, Avery (F)(R)</a>	Prohibits state employees from being required to work for more than 14 hours within a given 24-hour period, with exceptions for officially declared emergencies; EMERGENCY.
<b>Bill History:</b>		03-26-26 H Title stricken 03-26-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 56/N: 31) 03-26-26 H Emergency failed (Vote: Y: 56/N: 31)
<a href="#">HB 3413</a>	<a href="#">Strom, Judd(R)</a> <a href="#">Woods, Tom(R)</a>	Requires agencies to disclose contractor details and post consultant reports when submitting budget requests.
<b>Bill History:</b>		03-24-26 H Set on the House Floor Agenda 03-24-26 H Laid out for consideration in the House at 10:05am  03-24-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 95/N: 0)
<a href="#">SB 134</a>	<a href="#">Frix, Avery (F)(R)</a> <a href="#">Bashore, Steve(R)</a>	Reduces the lockout on retirees from state employment to be re-hired by former employers without an impact to benefits from one year to six months.
<b>Bill History:</b>		03-25-26 S Title stricken 03-25-26 S Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 47/N: 0) 03-26-26 H Received in the House
<a href="#">SB 169</a>	<a href="#">Hall, Chuck(R)</a> <a href="#">Kane, John(R)</a>	Increases the values of certain longevity payments to state employees across all brackets.
<b>Bill History:</b>		03-17-26 S Title restored on the floor 03-17-26 S Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 37/N: 8) 03-23-26 H Received in the House
<a href="#">SB 633</a>	<a href="#">Weaver, Darrell(R)</a> <a href="#">Blair, Jason (F)(R)</a>	Gives access to the Office of Juvenile Affairs' management information system to public school district superintendents.
<b>Bill History:</b>		04-01-25 H And also Referred to House Oversight: Health & Human Svcs 04-25-25 H Dormant pursuant to the rules 11-07-25 H Carried Over
<a href="#">SB 1877</a>	<a href="#">Hall, Chuck(R)</a> <a href="#">Caldwell, Trey(R)</a>	Requires state agencies to submit required reports through a centralized filing system, repeals obsolete reports, and standardizes reporting procedures.
<b>Bill History:</b>		03-17-26 S Laid out for consideration in the Senate at 11:25am 03-17-26 S Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 40/N: 4) 03-23-26 H Received in the House

## Education Bills

HB 1276 Caldwell, Chad(R)  
Seifried, Ally(R) Requires school districts to implement policies which prohibit students from using cell phones or personal electronic devices during the entire school day and while on school grounds; EMERGENCY.

**Bill History:** 04-08-25 S Voted from committee - Do Pass  
Senate Education  
05-09-25 S Dormant pursuant to the rules  
11-07-25 S Carried Over

HB 1388 Hasenbeck, Toni(R)  
Reinhardt, Aaron (F)(R) Creates the Protecting Oklahoma's Children on Social Media Act which requires the Department of Education to develop model programs for educating students regarding online safety; EMERGENCY.

**Bill History:** 04-17-25 S Voted from committee - Do Pass as substituted Senate Technology & Telecommunications  
05-09-25 S Dormant pursuant to the rules  
11-07-25 S Carried Over

HB 1417 West, Josh(R)  
Weaver, Darrell(R) Creates the School Access for Emergency Response Act which establishes a grant program for certain emergency communication system to be installed and maintained in school buildings.

**Bill History:** 04-16-25 S Voted from committee - Do Pass as substituted Senate Appropriations  
05-09-25 S Dormant pursuant to the rules  
11-07-25 S Carried Over


HB 1491 Johns, Ronny(R)  
Paxton, Lonnie(R) Authorizes members of the Board of Education to place an item on the following or subsequent meeting agenda upon written requests by at least two members.






**Bill History:** 04-15-25 S Senator Reinhardt removed as sponsor, replaced by Senator Paxton  
04-25-25 S Dormant pursuant to the rules  
11-07-25 S Carried Over

HB 1938 Sterling, Danny(R)  
Rader, Dave(R) Requires school districts to conduct an annual fitness assessment.


**Bill History:** 04-01-25 S And also Referred to Senate Appropriations  
04-25-25 S Dormant pursuant to the rules  
11-07-25 S Carried Over

HB 1979	Ranson, Trish(D) Hall, Chuck(R)	Creates the Early Childhood Task Force, providing for the membership, compensation, requirements, and authority its members.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-23-26 H Motion to reconsider vote, which motion succeeds 03-23-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 59/N: 33) 03-24-26 S Received in the Senate
HB 2247	Waldron, John(D) Hines, Kelly (F)(R)	Requires the Department of Education to develop and implement the least restrictive environment requirements for the IDEA Act, to ensure students with special needs are not unnecessarily excluded from the classroom.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 04-01-25 S Referred to Senate Committee Senate Education 04-25-25 S Dormant pursuant to the rules 11-07-25 S Carried Over
HB 2288	Hilbert, Kyle(R) Frix, Avery (F)(R)	Modifies provisions relating to the postretirement employment of teachers, allowing retired members to receive earning without a reduction in their retirement benefits; EMERGENCY.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 04-23-25 S Voted from committee - Do Pass Senate Appropriations 05-09-25 S Dormant pursuant to the rules 11-07-25 S Carried Over
HB 2418	Fetgatter, Scott(R) Frix, Avery (F)(R)	Requires adjunct teachers to obtain State Board of Education approval before employment and to be reapproved if any significant changes in their qualifications occur; EMERGENCY.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 04-01-25 S Referred to Senate Committee Senate Education 04-25-25 S Dormant pursuant to the rules 11-07-25 S Carried Over
HB 2696	Ford, Ross(R) Rader, Dave(R)	Sets standards for the protection of certain educational records of students in educational institutions and expands opt-out provisions to include guardians.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-25-26 H Floor amendment(s) adopted: 1 by Ford 03-25-26 H Floor substitute adopted 03-25-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 95/N: 1)

HB 2702	Ford, Ross(R) Rader, Dave(R)	Defines special education administrator for school districts and requires the Board of Education to offer certain options for completing competency requirements; EMERGENCY.
<b>Bill History:</b>		04-01-25 S Referred to Senate Committee Senate Education 04-25-25 S Dormant pursuant to the rules 11-07-25 S Carried Over
HB 2978	Banning, Chris(R) Logan, Bryan (F)(R)	Places certain obscenity restrictions on school community library standards.
<b>Bill History:</b>		03-09-26 H Rep. Provenzano presents an amendment to the bill, which is tabled 73-17 03-09-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 74/N: 17) 03-10-26 S Received in the Senate
HB 3021	Lowe, Dick(R) Pugh, Adam(R)	Adjusts public school subject matter standards across various curricula; EMERGENCY.
<b>Bill History:</b>		03-25-26 H Floor substitute adopted 03-25-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 82/N: 8) 03-25-26 H Emergency Passed (Vote: Y: 82/N: 8)
HB 3029	Kerbs, Dell(R) Pugh, Adam(R)	Directs the Dept. of Education to establish a comprehensive four-year plan for addressing needs and development in public education.
<b>Bill History:</b>		03-11-26 H Laid out for consideration in the House at 3:09pm  03-11-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 84/N: 9) 03-12-26 S Received in the Senate
HB 3031	Stewart, Ron (F)(D) Pugh, Adam(R)	Creates a fund for the Dept. of Commerce to act as the North Pointe Workforce Development Initiative Fund; EMERGENCY.
<b>Bill History:</b>		03-25-26 H Floor substitute adopted 03-25-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 51/N: 43) 03-25-26 H Emergency failed (Vote: Y: 52/N: 39)
HB 3076	Lepak, Mark(R) Seifried, Ally(R)	Adjusts the responsibilities for the alternative teacher preparation program from the Board of Education to the Educational Quality and Accountability Commission; EMERGENCY.
<b>Bill History:</b>		03-11-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 76/N: 17) 03-11-26 H Emergency Passed (Vote: Y: 76/N: 17) 03-12-26 S Received in the Senate

HB 3327	Osburn, Mike(R) Daniels, Julie(R)	Expands the membership of the Board of Education and requires members to be removed only for cause; EMERGENCY.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-25-26 H Laid out for consideration in the House at 11:34pm  03-25-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 75/N: 16) 03-25-26 H Emergency Passed (Vote: Y: 75/N: 16)
HB 3674	Provenzano, Melissa(D) McIntosh, Julie (F)(R)	Requires reporting of sexual assault in schools to relevant law enforcement and mandates certain training for all school resource officers.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-25-26 H Set on the House Floor Agenda 03-25-26 H Laid out for consideration in the House at 6:59pm  03-25-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 92/N: 0)
HB 3706	Caldwell, Chad(R) Seifried, Ally(R)	Sets standards and timelines for math proficiency screening in public schools and establishes mandatory minimums for math instruction time; EMERGENCY.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-24-26 H Floor substitute adopted 03-24-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 74/N: 19) 03-24-26 H Emergency Passed (Vote: Y: 74/N: 19)
HB 3710	Caldwell, Chad(R) Pugh, Adam(R)	Permits the State Regents to establish cohort-based award schedules for the Rising Scholars Award Program.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-23-26 H Laid out for consideration in the House at 4:31pm  03-23-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 89/N: 5) 03-24-26 S Received in the Senate
HB 3711	Caldwell, Chad(R) Pugh, Adam(R)	Requires school districts to publish certain information related to total expenditures, specifically the portion of any expenditures which are spent on classrooms directly on school websites and before bond elections; EMERGENCY.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-24-26 H Laid out for consideration in the House at 10:51am  03-24-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 79/N: 16) 03-24-26 H Emergency Passed (Vote: Y: 79/N: 16)
HB 3759	Turner, Tim (F)(R) Hamilton, Warren(R)	Revises temporary appropriation procedures by imposing a fiscal year deadline for school districts.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-11-26 H Laid out for consideration in the House at 3:39pm  03-11-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 90/N: 0) 03-12-26 S Received in the Senate

HB 3885	Cantrell, Josh(R) Hines, Kelly (F)(R)	Allows and requires schools to suspend or expel third through fifth graders who assault school staff; EMERGENCY.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-24-26 H Floor amendment(s) adopted: 1 by Caldwell (C) 03-24-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 83/N: 14) 03-24-26 H Emergency Passed (Vote: Y: 83/N: 14)
HB 4115	West, Tammy(R) Seifried, Ally(R)	Increases the upper limits on professional development requirements which school boards can impose on teachers; EMERGENCY.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-09-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 89/N: 0) 03-09-26 H Emergency Passed (Vote: Y: 89/N: 0) 03-10-26 S Received in the Senate
HB 4129	Fetgatter, Scott(R) Green, Grant(R)	Broadly restructures the Office of Management and Enterprise Services, splitting it into separate units based on certain functions and adjusting related responsibilities.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-25-26 H Floor substitute adopted 03-25-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 51/N: 44) 03-25-26 H Emergency failed (Vote: Y: 51/N: 44)
HB 4153	Hasenbeck, Toni(R) Pugh, Adam(R)	Requires minors to demonstrate eighth-grade reading proficiency to obtain or keep a driver license and sets testing and documentation requirements; EMERGENCY.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-24-26 H Laid out for consideration in the House at 2:46pm 📄 03-24-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 68/N: 25) 03-24-26 H Emergency Passed (Vote: Y: 68/N: 25)
HB 4159	Hasenbeck, Toni(R) Alvord, Jerry(R)	Expands certain dyslexia screening requirements for school districts and permits parents to request such a screening at any time.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-23-26 H Laid out for consideration in the House at 4:07pm 📄 03-23-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 79/N: 13) 03-24-26 S Received in the Senate
HB 4229	Kannady, Chris(R) Murdock, Casey(R)	Authorizes school districts and public schools to enter emergency contracts only when facilities are unusable or students are displaced.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-23-26 H Laid out for consideration in the House at 2:54pm 📄 03-23-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 92/N: 4) 03-24-26 S Received in the Senate

HB 4268	Johns, Ronny(R) Pugh, Adam(R)	Creates the Teacher Effectiveness and Excellence Act establishing growth-based teacher compensation and National Board certification bonuses and making appropriation; EMERGENCY.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-24-26 H Laid out for consideration in the House at 3:42pm  03-24-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 87/N: 4) 03-24-26 H Emergency Passed (Vote: Y: 87/N: 4)
HB 4326	Moore, Anthony(R) Seifried, Ally(R)	Expands Oklahoma's Promise eligibility and revises income, custody, and certified teacher qualification rules.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-25-26 H Floor amendment(s) adopted: 1 by Moore 03-25-26 H Floor substitute adopted 03-25-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 80/N: 15)
HB 4358	Moore, Anthony(R) Seifried, Ally(R)	Limits screen time for Pre-K through fifth grade public school students; EMERGENCY.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-25-26 H Floor substitute adopted 03-25-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 95/N: 0) 03-25-26 H Emergency Passed (Vote: Y: 95/N: 0)
HB 4359	Moore, Anthony(R) Seifried, Ally(R)	Requires statewide school assessments to be conducted in May of each year; EMERGENCY.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-25-26 H Floor amendment(s) adopted: 2 by Moore 03-25-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 83/N: 10) 03-25-26 H Emergency Passed (Vote: Y: 83/N: 10)
HB 4420	Hilbert, Kyle(R) Pugh, Adam(R)	Makes major changes to early reading instruction, testing, intervention, and third-grade promotion rules; EMERGENCY.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-25-26 H Floor substitute adopted 03-25-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 86/N: 6) 03-25-26 H Emergency Passed (Vote: Y: 86/N: 6)
SB 6	Seifried, Ally(R) Banning, Chris(R)	Adjusts school board elections dates and modifies filing periods to account for the adjustment.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 05-08-25 H Removed from the Floor Agenda 05-09-25 H Dormant pursuant to the rules 11-07-25 H Carried Over

SB 63	Goodwin, Regina (F)(D) Johns, Ronny(R)	Increases the per-meeting stipend paid to school district board members in districts of a certain size or larger.
<b>Bill History:</b>		03-24-26 S A Roll Call has been requested on the Advancement of the Bill. By a vote of Y:29, N:9, the Bill Advances to Third Reading. 03-24-26 S Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 32/N: 13) 03-25-26 H Received in the House
SB 201	Pugh, Adam(R) Caldwell, Chad(R)	Establishes a new pay scale for certified school personnel and sets standards for qualifying prior experience to advance up the scale; EMERGENCY.
<b>Bill History:</b>		03-24-26 S Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 46/N: 0) 03-24-26 S Emergency Passed (Vote: Y: 46/N: 0) 03-25-26 H Received in the House
SB 215	Seifried, Ally(R) Moore, Anthony(R)	Creates the Math Achievement and Proficiency Act which adjusts the standards and practices related to the education of mathematics in public schools.
<b>Bill History:</b>		05-21-25 H Conferees unable to agree 05-30-25 H Dormant pursuant to the rules 11-07-25 H Carried Over
SB 245	Deevers, Dusty(R) Hasenbeck, Toni(R)	Adjust various provisions related to advanced teachers and stipend calculations, directing the Education Dept. to establish and manage a High Dosage Tutoring Program to produce and assess tutors to improve student performance; EMERGENCY.
<b>Bill History:</b>		05-28-25 S Conference committee report submitted 05-30-25 S Dormant pursuant to the rules 11-07-25 S Carried Over
SB 382	Bullard, David(R) Stark, Marilyn(R)	Requires all children enrolling in pre-kindergarten to be toilet trained and directs the Dept. of Education to develop procedures to temporarily remove children not meeting required standards from the classroom; EMERGENCY.
<b>Bill History:</b>		04-09-25 H Failed in Committee House Common Education 04-25-25 H Dormant pursuant to the rules 11-07-25 H Carried Over

SB 646	Paxton, Lonnie(R) Kerbs, Dell(R)	Creates the Oklahoma Federal Official and Judicial Security and Privacy Act which allows high risk individuals to have their personal information kept confidential by state agencies upon request; EMERGENCY.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 05-09-25 H Rep. Hilbert removed as sponsor, replaced by Rep. Kerbs 05-09-25 H Dormant pursuant to the rules 11-07-25 H Carried Over
SB 1189	Pugh, Adam(R) Lowe, Dick(R)	Subject to available funding, directs \$50 MIL from the School Security Revolving Fund be withdrawn and divided among all public school districts each year, for three years, starting July 1, 2026; EMERGENCY.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-24-26 S Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 40/N: 5) 03-24-26 S Emergency Passed (Vote: Y: 40/N: 5) 03-25-26 H Received in the House
SB 1317	Dossett, Jo Anna(D) Provenzano, Melissa(D)	Modifies career teacher definitions to permit recognition of prior qualifying service when a teacher is employed by a different school district; EMERGENCY.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-03-26 S Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 43/N: 0) 03-03-26 S Emergency Passed (Vote: Y: 43/N: 0) 03-04-26 H Received in the House
SB 1338	Pugh, Adam(R) Caldwell, Chad(R)	Makes the Strong Readers Act literacy instructional team permanent, conditions eligibility for certain literacy funds on acceptance of instructional support, and updates reporting requirements; EMERGENCY.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-23-26 S Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 39/N: 6) 03-23-26 S Emergency Passed (Vote: Y: 42/N: 3) 03-24-26 H Received in the House
SB 1339	Pugh, Adam(R) Lowe, Dick(R)	Updates the statutory minimum salary schedule for certified school personnel and requires annual allocation of funds by the State Board of Education to support salary increases; EMERGENCY.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-24-26 S Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 47/N: 0) 03-24-26 S Emergency Passed (Vote: Y: 47/N: 0) 03-25-26 H Received in the House

SB 1360	Seifried, Ally(R) Moore, Anthony(R)	Creates the Office of Mathematics Improvement within the State Dept of Education and authorizes the Superintendent of Public Instruction to appoint a Director focused on mathematics instruction for students in K-5; EMERGENCY.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-24-26 S Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 46/N: 0) 03-24-26 S Emergency Passed (Vote: Y: 46/N: 0) 03-25-26 H Received in the House
SB 1432	Dossett, Jo Anna(D) Schreiber, Suzanne(D)	Makes the alternative teacher certification pilot program permanent by removing its sunset date; EMERGENCY.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-17-26 S Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 45/N: 0) 03-17-26 S Emergency Passed (Vote: Y: 45/N: 0) 03-23-26 H Received in the House
SB 1437	Pugh, Adam(R) Sterling, Danny(R)	Directs the Dept. of Education to set rules for the Presidential Fitness Test and requires school districts to administer the test with training, exemptions, and opt-out options.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-24-26 S Floor amendment(s) adopted: One by Prieto; one by Pugh. 03-24-26 S Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 40/N: 5) 03-25-26 H Received in the House
SB 1489	Pugh, Adam(R) Caldwell, Chad(R)	Requires additional IDEA-related training for principals and expands parental rights in special education meetings; EMERGENCY.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-10-26 S Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 47/N: 0) 03-10-26 S Emergency Passed (Vote: Y: 47/N: 0) 03-11-26 H Received in the House
SB 1546	Pugh, Adam(R) Caldwell, Chad(R)	Renames the Inspired to Teach Program as the New Educators for Excellence in Teaching and Education Program and updates related statutory references; EMERGENCY.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-10-26 S Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 37/N: 10) 03-10-26 S Emergency Passed (Vote: Y: 37/N: 10) 03-11-26 H Received in the House
SB 1630	Thompson, Kristen(R) Moore, Anthony(R)	Permits certain school days and hours to be counted towards required educational year totals for assessments conducted virtually if there is limited space or staff available to conduct such assessments safely and securely; EMERGENCY.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-10-26 S Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 47/N: 0) 03-10-26 S Emergency Passed (Vote: Y: 47/N: 0) 03-11-26 H Received in the House

SB 1632	Alvord, Jerry(R) Hasenbeck, Toni(R)	Directs that certain career-readiness assessments be conducted during grades ten through twelve and requires the Regents for Higher Education to set rules to allow college credit for assessment-based credentials and scores; EMERGENCY.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-10-26 S Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 46/N: 0) 03-10-26 S Emergency Passed (Vote: Y: 46/N: 0) 03-11-26 H Received in the House
SB 1733	Thompson, Kristen(R) Lawson, Mark(R)	Requires school employees to report certain student disclosures to law enforcement and limits school investigations; EMERGENCY.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-11-26 S Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 44/N: 0) 03-11-26 S Emergency Passed (Vote: Y: 44/N: 0) 03-12-26 H Received in the House
SB 1734	Seifried, Ally(R) Moore, Anthony(R)	Creates the Oklahoma Responsible Technology in Schools Act and limits use of artificial intelligence in public schools; EMERGENCY.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-23-26 S Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 42/N: 0) 03-23-26 S Emergency Passed (Vote: Y: 42/N: 0) 03-24-26 H Received in the House
SB 1778	Pugh, Adam(R) Hilbert, Kyle(R)	Revises the Strong Readers Act to require a single screening instrument and mandates transitional placement and third-grade retention for students not meeting reading targets; EMERGENCY.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-25-26 S Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 45/N: 2) 03-25-26 S Emergency Passed (Vote: Y: 45/N: 2) 03-26-26 H Received in the House
SB 1812	Reinhardt, Aaron (F)(R) Hall, Rob (F)(R)	Requires reporting of benchmark assessments by school districts to the Dept. of Education and requires such assessment results be made available to parents; EMERGENCY.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-17-26 S Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 46/N: 0) 03-17-26 S Emergency Passed (Vote: Y: 46/N: 0) 03-23-26 H Received in the House
SB 1884	Bullard, David(R) Townley, Tammy(R)	Gives educator groups equal access to school employees and lets employees quit an organization anytime; EMERGENCY.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-26-26 S Laid out for consideration in the Senate at 2:11pm 🇺🇸 03-26-26 S Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 34/N: 7) 03-26-26 S Emergency Passed (Vote: Y: 34/N: 7)

SB 1894 Reinhardt, Aaron (F)(R) West, Tammy(R) Removes the cap on required teacher professional development hours and requires electronic reporting; EMERGENCY.

**Bill History:** 03-25-26 S Title stricken  
03-25-26 S Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 46/N: 0)  
03-26-26 H Received in the House

SB 2045 Stanley, Brenda(R) Lowe, Dick(R) Sets mandatory minimum standards for school recess in grades K-5; EMERGENCY.

**Bill History:** 03-26-26 S Laid out for consideration in the Senate at 4:09pm 🗳️  
03-26-26 S Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 39/N: 0)  
03-26-26 S Emergency Passed (Vote: Y: 39/N: 0)

### General Government Bills

HB 3320 Osburn, Mike(R) Thompson, Kristen(R) Removes sunset dates and Oklahoma Sunset Law references for multiple state boards, commissions, and programs; EMERGENCY.

**Bill History:** 03-12-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 85/N: 6)  
03-12-26 H Emergency Passed (Vote: Y: 85/N: 6)  
03-16-26 S Received in the Senate

HB 3419 Strom, Judd(R) Stewart, Jack(R) Makes it a felony for state or local government officials or contractors to misuse nonpublic information for personal gain.

**Bill History:** 03-24-26 H Set on the House Floor Agenda  
03-24-26 H Laid out for consideration in the House at 10:27am 🗳️  
03-24-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 95/N: 0)

HB 3648 Stinson, Preston(R) Howard, Brent(R) Expands who may be treated as an employee for purposes of governmental tort liability.

**Bill History:** 03-24-26 H Set on the House Floor Agenda  
03-24-26 H Laid out for consideration in the House at 6:42pm 🗳️  
03-24-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 91/N: 5)


HB 4129 Fetgatter, Scott(R) Green, Grant(R) Broadly restructures the Office of Management and Enterprise Services, splitting it into separate units based on certain functions and adjusting related responsibilities.

**Bill History:** 03-25-26 H Floor substitute adopted  
03-25-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 51/N: 44)  
03-25-26 H Emergency failed (Vote: Y: 51/N: 44)

## OMES Bills


[HB 1752](#)      [Harris, Erick\(R\)](#)  
[Jech, Darcy\(R\)](#)

Exempts the Attorney General's Office and the Oklahoma District Attorneys Council from state motor vehicle requisition requirements.

**Bill History:** 03-11-26 H Laid out for consideration in the House at 7:48pm   
03-11-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 78/N: 12)  
03-12-26 S Received in the Senate


[HB 3310](#)      [Eaves, Ryan \(F\)\(R\)](#)  
[Kern, Spencer \(F\)\(R\)](#)

Strengthens enforcement of state purchasing rules by requiring compliance standards, public reporting, and disqualifying agency heads from pay increases or longevity pay for noncompliance.

**Bill History:** 03-10-26 H Laid out for consideration in the House at 2:54pm   
03-10-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 94/N: 0)  
03-11-26 S Received in the Senate


[HB 3414](#)      [Strom, Judd\(R\)](#)  
[Coleman, Bill\(R\)](#)

OMES directed to create a reporting function to determine if contract services are service-driven or for staff augmentation.

**Bill History:** 03-24-26 H Set on the House Floor Agenda  
03-24-26 H Laid out for consideration in the House at 10:12am   
03-24-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 94/N: 0)

[HB 3415](#)      [Strom, Judd\(R\)](#)  
[Daniels, Julie\(R\)](#)

Requires vendors and agencies to disclose who does contract work, post contract details publicly, and review contract performance.

**Bill History:** 03-24-26 H Set on the House Floor Agenda  
03-24-26 H Laid out for consideration in the House at 10:15am   
03-24-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 94/N: 2)

[SB 1722](#)      [Kern, Spencer \(F\)\(R\)](#)  
[Newton, Carl\(R\)](#)

Requires certain fees related to projects under OMES construction to only include costs directly related to construction and not interior design or furnishings.

**Bill History:** 02-17-26 S Referred to Senate Committee Senate Appropriations  
02-19-26 S Withdrawn from committee Senate Appropriations  
02-19-26 S Bill no longer dual referred to Appropriations

## Open Meeting/Rules Bills

[HB 1409](#)     [Crosswhite-Hader, Denise\(R\)](#)  
[Sacchieri, Kendal \(F\)\(R\)](#)     Permits public bodies subject to the Open Meeting Act which have a opt-in notice distribution system to require subscribers to such systems to biennially renew their participation.

**Bill History:** 03-17-26 S Floor amendment(s) adopted:  
 One by Sacchieri  
 03-17-26 S Title restored on the floor  
 03-17-26 S Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 32/N: 10)

[HB 2095](#)     [Menz, Annie\(D\)](#)  
[Kirt, Julia\(D\)](#)     Requires public bodies to respond to an open records request within 30 business days of receipt.

**Bill History:** 04-22-25 S Voted from committee - Do Pass  
 Senate Judiciary  
 05-09-25 S Dormant pursuant to the rules  
 11-07-25 S Carried Over

[HB 2209](#)     [Lay, Mike \(F\)\(R\)](#)  
[Guthrie, Brian \(F\)\(R\)](#)     Allows a member of a public body to participate in a public meeting via videoconference or teleconference from a private residence and does not require them to disclose their location when certain conditions are met.

**Bill History:** 04-01-25 S Referred to Senate Committee Senate Judiciary  
 04-25-25 S Dormant pursuant to the rules  
 11-07-25 S Carried Over

[HB 3278](#)     [Pfeiffer, John\(R\)](#)  
[Howard, Brent\(R\)](#)     Expands Open Meeting Act enforcement by authorizing Attorney General consent orders, findings of violation, civil penalties, and court enforcement.

**Bill History:** 03-10-26 H Laid out for consideration in the House at 3:11pm 📺  
 03-10-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 82/N: 4)  
 03-11-26 S Received in the Senate

[HB 4319](#)     [Kendrix, Gerrid\(R\)](#)  
[Bergstrom, Micheal\(R\)](#)     Requires agencies to cite explicit state law authority for rules and repeals noncompliant rules by 2030.

**Bill History:** 03-11-26 H Laid out for consideration in the House at 8:08pm 📺  
 03-11-26 H Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 89/N: 0)  
 03-12-26 S Received in the Senate

[SB 1316](#) [Bergstrom, Micheal\(R\)](#) [Kendrix, Gerrid\(R\)](#) Requires permanent rules of designated agencies, boards, and commissions to sunset on a rotating basis and mandates legislative review and approval for renewal.

**Bill History:** 03-25-26 S Murdock moves to advance the Bill to Third Reading, Motion prevails  
03-25-26 S Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 45/N: 1)  
03-26-26 H Received in the House

---

[SB 1433](#) [Bergstrom, Micheal\(R\)](#) [Hall, Rob \(F\)\(R\)](#) Adjusts provisions related to administrative rules to create standards for guidance documents and limit the power of agencies when not acting within statutory boundaries.

**Bill History:** 03-17-26 S Laid out for consideration in the Senate at 10:22am 📺  
03-17-26 S Passed/Adopted (Vote: Y: 37/N: 7)  
03-23-26 H Received in the House

### Workforce Dev. Bills

[SB 1771](#) [Thompson, Kristen\(R\)](#) [Tedford, Mark\(R\)](#) Permits the Workforce Commission to collect certain data and employ outside counsel.

**Bill History:** 03-05-26 H Received in the House



# Vocational Rehabilitation Services Report

## Commission for Rehabilitation Services

Report by Mark Kinnison, VR Division Administrator  
March 2026

### Overview

As of March 29, 2026, we are at the midpoint of the production year. The Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) program continues to demonstrate strong performance and engagement across service delivery, partnerships, and staff development.

### Program Activity

- Applications Completed: 1,990
- Employment Plans Developed: 1,491
- Successful Outcomes Achieved: 438

### Employment Outcomes

- Average Hourly Wage: \$17.25
- Average Weekly Hours Worked: 34

### Timeliness Metrics

- Application to Eligibility: 37 days
- Eligibility to Plan Development: 54 days

### Staffing and Caseloads

- Vacant Counselor Positions: 2
- Active Caseloads: 88
- Average Clients per Caseload: 92
- Total Active Cases: 9,001

### Collaboration and Partnerships

VR staff continue to actively engage in partnership and collaboration efforts; several of these activities over the past several months include:

- Staff have participated in Oklahoma Tribal VR (OKTVR) meetings and ongoing coordination with Tribal VR partners. The next OKTVR meeting is scheduled for April 2026.
- Staff attended the Consortia of Administrators for Native American Rehabilitation (CANAR) conference, with the next conference scheduled for June 2026.
- Ongoing meetings are being held with the Developmental Disability Services Department (DDSD) to coordinate sequencing of services and work readiness assessments for individuals pursuing competitive integrated employment.
- Discussions are underway with Oklahoma State University (OSU) regarding the development of a micro-credentialing program focused on Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC) certification, which has strong potential to support staff development.
- The VR Administrator participated in the first meeting of the Sub-Minimum Wage Task Force Committee. The next meeting is scheduled for April 24, 2026.

### Training and Professional Development

- Self-employment training was conducted in February for counseling staff, Program Managers, and Vocational Evaluators. This training was provided through the Office of Rehabilitation Counseling (ORC) with presenters Catherine Inspen, Ph.D., and Rebecca Holland, M.S., CRC.
- The VR Administrator attended the National Mobility Equipment Dealers Association (NMEDA) conference in February alongside the Assistive Technology team.
- The VR Administrator also attended the Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation (CSAVR) conference.
- A virtual VR update meeting was conducted in late January.
- In March, a statewide meeting was held with Program Managers and Field Coordinators. Brenda Knutson provided team-building and

leadership training on the first day, followed by program-focused discussions on the second day.

### Program Highlights

- Staff participation in Disability Awareness Day was exceptional, marking the largest event to date.
- Transition Services are increasing activity in preparation for the summer months, with additional updates forthcoming.
- The Business Services Team continues to engage employers statewide, supporting job placement efforts. To date, over 5,000 employers have been engaged according to program data.


### Conclusion

The VR program continues to make meaningful progress in supporting Oklahomans with disabilities in achieving and maintaining employment. These accomplishments reflect the dedication, collaboration, and professionalism of our staff and partners.

As always, I am proud to work alongside a team committed to making a positive impact across the state.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Kinnison, M.Ed., CRC, LPC-S  
VR Administrator  
Oklahoma Rehabilitation Services




# Oklahoma School for the Blind Donation Report

# OSB DONATION REPORT

<b>March 2026 Donations</b>
-----------------------------

**Donations under \$500**

Date	Name	Cash	Fund	Property	Value
3/2/2026	James Moss Jr / Canes and cane ends			canes/cane ends	\$ 150.00
3/24/2026	Misty Glynn/FCCLA	\$ 100.00	701		
<b>Subtotal of Cash (under \$500) donated in March 2026</b>		<b>\$ 100.00</b>		<b>Subtotal prop.</b>	<b>\$ 150.00</b>
<b>Donations \$500 and over</b>		<b>\$ -</b>			
3/3/2026	Sherry Holder/FCCLA	\$ 1,000.00	701		
3/5/2026	Brust Investment Group / SCASB	\$ 500.00	216		
3/26/2026	Jim Murphy/Magnifer, monitor, speakers, keyboards			equipment	\$ 895.00
3/26/2026	Jim Glover Chevrolet/SCASB Sponsor	\$1,250.00	216		
3/26/2026	RC Law Group PLLC/FCCLA Nat'l Leadership Conf	\$ 1,000.00	701		
<b>Subtotal of Cash (\$500 and over) donated in March 2026</b>		<b>\$ 3,750.00</b>		<b>Subtotal prop.</b>	<b>\$ 895.00</b>
<b>TOTAL DONATION AMOUNTS March - 2026</b>		<b>\$4,895.00</b>			



# Oklahoma Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped Report

OLBPH March 2026 Donations

<b>Donations under \$500</b>				
<b>DATE</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>CASH</b>	<b>PROPERTY</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
03/10/2026	Oklahomans for Special Library Services (OSLS)		iPad Reward for Winter Reading Program	\$357.38
<b>Subtotal of Donations Under \$500</b>	<b>\$357.38</b>			
	<b>Donations \$500 and over</b>			
<b>DATE</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>CASH</b>	<b>PROPERTY</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
03/19/2026	Susan Barker, patron		Perkin's Braille (used)	\$700
<b>Subtotal of Donations \$500 and over</b>	<b>\$700</b>			
<b>Total Donation Amount</b>	<b>\$1,057.38</b>			



# Commission Minutes



**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**March 11, 2026**

Oklahoma Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped  
300 NE 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73105

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 10:32 a.m. by Commissioner Flannery with a quorum present: Theresa Flannery, Dr. Janet Barresi, Lindsay Hanna, Kelsey Lee, Noel Tyler and Kevin Wallace.

**STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE**

Commission Assistant Kathleen Arrieta confirmed the Commission for Rehabilitation Services follows the Open Meetings Act.

**PRESENTATION OF LONGEVITY CERTIFICATES**

*Theresa Flannery, Chair*

The Commission presented a longevity award to Paulette McNair, Certified Vocational Evaluator, Lawton. She has worked for fifty-five years with the Department of Rehabilitation Services.

*[Kevin Wallace left the meeting at 10:38 a.m. and returned at 10:40 a.m.]*

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

*Melinda Fruendt, Executive Director*

Report Highlights:

Meetings and events attended in February and March

- Governor's Council on Workforce and Economic Development
- Human Services Cabinet meeting.
- Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council quarterly meeting
- Director's meetings with 2 – VR and 2 – SBVI units in NE Oklahoma.
- Oklahoma Inclusive Post Secondary Education update meeting.
- People with Disabilities Awareness Day and awards.

Other updates:

- AWARE - Testing new AWARE versions which have several new features and updates.
- Case Review - The Quality Assurance staff is currently completing the February closed case audit. 71 Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) and Services to the Blind and Visually Impaired (SBVI) cases were randomly pulled for this month's review

3535 N.W. 58th Street, Suite 500, Oklahoma City, OK 73112  
o: 405-951-3400 | f: 405 951-3529 | Oklahoma.gov | okdrs.gov

Executive Director Melinda Fruendt

Commissioners Janet Barresi, Theresa Flannery, Lindsay Hanna, Kelsey Lee, Noel Tyler,  
Lance Robertson and Kevin Wallace

- Program Standards, Statistical Research - Completed the staff survey report; worked with the Power BI administrator on a new report for the Transition team; Completed the February VIBE evaluation summary.
- Power BI - Completed work with the Career Planning Center on their reports; worked with staff to create and publish new Employment Rate reports

Director Fruendt requested Mark Kinnison, Division Administrator of Vocational Rehabilitation to give the Priority Group and Portal updates.

#### Priority Group Update

On March 4<sup>th</sup>, 12 clients were released off the Priority Group 3 waitlist.

As of March 9, 2026:

- Priority Groups 1 and 2 are open.
- Priority Group 3 is closed, clients waiting: 2
- Total clients on waiting list: 2

#### Portal Referral Update for March 2026

- 65 applications received:
  - 23 active assignments
  - 21 pending assignments
  - 21 closed for reasons which include referrals to other agencies, no shows, already has a case or application, or refused services.

### **CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT**

*Kevin Statham, CFO*

- Financial Status Report for FY 2026. As of January 31, 2026, the agency spent \$80.7M of the \$191.2M budget, with remaining encumbrances of \$93.4M which represents 94.7% of the budget.

### **HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT**

*LaChelle Westfahl, Human Resources Programs Manager*

As of February 28th, 6 vacant positions were filled, and 46 positions were open. There were 6 separations, which included retirements, resignations and two trial period discharges. There were 950 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions. The Commission requested FTE's by division for the next meeting.

### **LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

*Jennifer Hardin, Legislative Liaison*

- The Department of Rehabilitation Services Bill Request Bill (HB 3627) has unanimously passed out of the House Rules Committee. The next deadline is March 26 when it must pass the House Floor. The purpose of the legislation is to allow the State Committee of Blind Vendors to hold meetings and executive sessions via videoconference, making an exception to physical quorum

requirements. This Bill mirrors legislation passed during the 2025 legislative session for the Statewide Independent Living Council (See HB 1664).

- SB 1356 transfers some duties from the Office of Management and Enterprise Service (OMES) to state agencies. The title was stricken on 2/17/2026., which acknowledges that changes need to be made, and allows a bill to advance to meet legislative deadlines, even if the language hasn't been finalized.

### **STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL REPORT (SILC)**

*Sidna Madden-Trimnell, Executive Director*

Ms. Madden-Trimnell could not attend the meeting, but the SILC report was included in the packet for the Commission.

### **APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

*Theresa Flannery, Chair*

*Commissioner Lee moved to approve January 16, 2026 and February 11, 2026 minutes. Commissioner Barresi seconded. Commissioners Barresi, Flannery, Lee and Wallace voted in the affirmative. Commissioners Hanna and Tyler abstained. Motion passed.*

### **ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS TO THE OKLAHOMA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF (OSD)**

*Dr. Heather Laine, Superintendent*

The donations for February 2026 totaled \$34,339.87.

*Commissioner Hanna made a motion to accept the February 2026 OSD donations. Commissioner Wallace seconded. All Commissioners voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.*

### **ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS TO THE OKLAHOMA SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND (OSB)**

*Brent Pearce, Superintendent*

The donations for February 2026 totaled \$650.00.

*Commissioner Lee made a motion to accept the February 2026 OSB donations. Commissioner Hanna seconded. All Commissioners voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.*

## **ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS TO THE OKLAHOMA LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED (OLBPH)**

*Kevin Treese, Program Manager III, SBVI*

The donations for February 2026 totaled \$360.00.

*Commissioner Lee made a motion to accept the March 2026 OSB donations. Commissioner Hanna seconded. All Commissioners voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.*

## **REQUEST FOR A DECLARATION OF AN EMERGENCY PURSUANT TO 61 O.S. § 130 TO REPLACE THE HVAC CHILLER IN STEWART HALL AT THE OKLAHOMA SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND (OSB).**

*Susan Smith, CPO II, Management Services | Contracts and Purchasing  
Brent Pearce, Superintendent, OSB*

The School for the Blind is experiencing ongoing issues with an HVAC chiller, which serves classrooms, the computer server-room and administration offices. The HVAC unit was installed in 2020 and has already required about \$45,000 in repairs. After receiving an estimate of \$48,630 to replace failing compressors, it was decided to replace the system at an estimated cost of \$174,300.

Because of the possibility of the standard bidding process delaying installation, an emergency declaration was requested to expedite replacement by early summer. Jonathan Woodward, Administrator, Central Dept. Services, joined the discussion, during which there were concerns about bypassing the bidding process, and whether the situation qualifies as an emergency since no students or staff have been displaced. After discussion of alternatives and broader concerns about long-term solutions, there was no motion made to declare an emergency.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE PERFORMANCE REVIEW OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

*Theresa Flannery, Chair*

- **Vote to convene into executive session:**

*Commissioner Barresi made a motion to convene into an Executive Session for the purpose of reviewing and discussing the performance review of the Executive Director as authorized the Open Meeting Act 25 O.S. 307 (B) (7). Commissioner Hanna seconded. All Commissioners voted in the affirmative and the motion carried.*

- **Vote to reconvene into regular session.**

*Commissioner Flannery moved to reconvene into regular session. Commissioner Lee seconded. All Commissioners voted in the affirmative and the motion carried.*

- **Discussion and possible action on matters discussed in executive session.**

The evaluation for the Executive Director was completed. A performance review meeting with the executive director will be scheduled.

*Commissioner Barresi made a motion to approve the final version of the job description for the Executive Director. Commissioner Tyler seconded. All Commissioners voted in the affirmative and the motion carried.*

*Commissioner Barresi made a motion to present the evaluation at a performance review meeting with Director Fruendt, to occur by March 30, 2026. Commissioner Hanna seconded. All Commissioners voted in the affirmative and the motion carried.*

## **ADJOURN**

Theresa Flannery, Chair

*Commissioner Flannery made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Barresi seconded. All Commissioners voted in the affirmative, and the meeting was adjourned.*