

Oklahoma Board of Corrections

Resolution

WHEREAS, the Department of Corrections employs 60 full-time certified teachers and administrators across the state who work diligently to ensure that the educational needs of offenders are served; and

WHEREAS, these professional staff are called upon to provide educational services to a population with more concentrated special needs in a challenging population who have, for the most part, been unsuccessful in the public school setting; and

WHEREAS, the education staff must meet and maintain rigorous standards to remain accredited through three entities: State Department of Education, North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement, and the American Correctional Association; and

WHEREAS, the knowledge and skills provided to offenders through the services of the correctional education unit consistently prove to be one of the main deterrents against offenders recidivating back into the system; and

WHEREAS, the provision of education by the teachers in corrections proves to be a cost savings to the State of Oklahoma each year through reduction in incarceration services; and

WHEREAS, National Teachers' Week will be celebrated from May 2-6, 2011, with May 3 known as National Teachers' Day, a day in which to "Thank a Teacher":

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Oklahoma Board of Corrections, request that all Oklahomans join us in honoring the professionalism, commitment, and compassion of the education staff of the Oklahoma Department of Corrections.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we, the Oklahoma Board of Corrections, affirm our appreciation for the accomplishments and efforts of our certified education staff to improve the academic achievements, employability, and lives of the offenders under their care.

ADOPTED this 26th day of April, 2011.

Ted Logan, Chair

Matthew Hunter McBee, Vice Chair

Linda K. Neal, Secretary

Robert Lee Rainey, Member

Earnest D. Ware, Member

Gerald W. Wright, Member

David C. Henneke, Member