

(Continued)

The Governor's "4 by 4" plan would take effect for the entering high school freshman class of 1999, making the graduates of 2003 the first in Oklahoma's history to have completed four years in each of the core subjects.

Coppedge said Oklahoma's average ACT college entrance scores still lag behind national and regional averages, a deficit the 4 by 4 plan would do much to remedy.

He said Oklahoma's average score of 20.3 ranks 17th out of 25 states where half or more of high school seniors take the test.

Coppedge said the "4 by 4" curriculum would raise ACT scores, increase college enrollment, reduce the need for costly remedial classes for poorly prepared college freshmen, and better prepare graduates who do not plan to attend college for the workplace.

Current Oklahoma high school graduation requirements call for four years of English but only two each of math, science, and history. The Board has been considering increasing the math requirement to three years to match new college entrance requirements.

Coppedge said El Reno Public Schools have already implemented what they call a "four core" program.

"Superintendent Sandy Wisely says it is very successful," he said. El Reno has allowed exceptions for students enrolled in vocational technical classes and special education, which Coppedge said would be necessary for a statewide plan as well.

"The goal is a very basic one," he said. "As the Governor has said, if we ask more of our young people they will respond to the challenge and be better prepared to become Oklahoma's leaders of the future. I hope the Board will agree."

FROM: THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

DATE: 03/26/96

## GOVERNOR KEATING, PHILLIPS CEO TO ATTEND EDUCATION SUMMIT

■(OKLAHOMA CITY) Oklahoma Governor Frank Keating will be joined by Phillips Petroleum CEO Wayne Allen at the 1996 National Education Summit this week in Palisades, NY. The summit will bring together the nation's governors and designated business leaders from each state to discuss the need for establishing and implementing higher academic standards in public schools and the role technology can play in that effort.

"I am pleased to see the agenda for this summit is increasing standards at the state and local level. This is not about setting national standards, it is about reforming our education system with locally established standards. We also plan to discuss how technology plays a role in improving teaching and learning. In Oklahoma, we are ahead of the curve in that area with the implementation of the OneNet statewide computer system to bring a whole new learning experience to Oklahoma classrooms," the Governor said.

FROM: THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

DATE: 03/26/96

## SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE GIVES NOD TO ROGERS STATE COLLEGE APPOINTMENTS

■(GIT) The Senate's Education Committee on Wednesday gave its approval to three nominations to the Board of Regents for Rogers State College.

Receiving committee approval were Timothy Best, of Skiatook; James Henry Morrison, of Tulsa; and H.E. Reynolds, of Coweta.

The nominations will now go before the full Senate for final approval.

FROM: SHAWN ASHLEY

DATE: 03/27/96