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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Meredith Exline – 405-820-3926
Megan Benn –405-826-7591
Oklahoma Central PLAC Coordinator
okcentralplac@gmail.com

MEDIA ADVISORY
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**OK CENTRAL PARENT LEGISLATIVE ACTION GROUP (PLAC) GRADES LEGISLATORS ON THEIR SUPPORT
OF PUBLIC EDUCATION FOR THE 2014 SESSION:**

OK Central PLAC was formed as a non-partisan group in February of 2013 to inform and advocate on behalf of parents and community members regarding legislative decisions that impact public education. Parents have contacted and visited their legislators often over the last two sessions and many have been happy to hear the statements of support for public education. OK Central PLAC felt the best way for constituents to validate their allegiance and hold their elected officials accountable is to see how the legislators voted on bills that directly affected public education. With the release of our 1st Annual PLAC Legislative Report Card, we hope to help parents and other stakeholders see where their elected officials stand on education issues. Our first report card focused on bills that would increase funding and reduce testing for our children. These two issues have been the focus of OK Central PLAC's advocacy work and are crucial to the future success of our public schools. Although OK Central PLAC is only addressing bills relating to funding/testing; there are other educational bills that can be viewed at <http://www.oklegislature.gov>.

To arrive at the scores, a 1 was given for a pro-education vote and a 0 for a vote against our education priorities; an increase in funding and a decrease in testing. The votes were averaged with a percentage grade based on a 100% scale. The higher the percentage, the more the legislator supported public education as it pertained to finding ways to increase funding or reduce testing. The attached document lists legislators in both chambers, listed from most supportive to least supportive, based on how they voted on the identified bills.

As constituents, we should elect our officials to represent us on issues we value for our community. It is time we start working together to do what is best for our state and the communities in which we live. We hope this report card will help parents and community members to become informed voters as they are deciding on who they want to represent them. We understand there are many factors that our legislators have to consider in the decisions they make; but as constituents, it is our duty to communicate our concerns with them and to hold them accountable for those decisions. The best way to do this is by learning how our legislators vote on issues and then vote for the right person at the polls that will best represent us. We hope this report card will serve as a tool in the decision making process.