Overview of Critical Race Theory & House Bill 1775

What is Critical Race Theory?
“Critical race theory is a way of thinking about America’s history through the lens of racism. Scholars developed it during the 1970s and 1980s in response to what they viewed as a lack of racial progress following the civil rights legislation of the 1960s.” – AP News

Broken Arrow Public Schools does NOT teach Critical Race Theory. Rather, the teaching is consistent with Oklahoma Academic Standards.

The Law:
House Bill 1775 prohibits public schools and universities from teaching that “one race or sex is inherently superior to another,” and that “an individual, by virtue of his or her race or sex, is inherently racist, sexist or oppressive.”

Nothing in this law shall be construed to prevent the teaching of history, social studies, English language arts, biology or any other subject matter area consistent with Oklahoma Academic Standards. All Broken Arrow teachers will participate in professional development to review the law. Secondary English language arts, social studies and history teachers will undergo more detailed in-depth professional development to review standards that may illicit tough discussions.

Nothing will change for Broken Arrow teachers or students. The district will and has always followed Oklahoma State Academic Standards by providing multiple perspectives to historical events through primary sources. The district’s teachers are dedicated to teaching difficult history in a way that helps students understand the past without inserting personal opinions or beliefs. Alternative assignments remain available for parental choice.

Important Links:
- Broken Arrow Public Schools Board Policy 3045
- Oklahoma State Department of Education
- Oklahoma Academic Standards
- Oklahoma Academic Standards for Social Studies
- Video: Gov. Stitt on HB 1775
- Inter-Tribal Council: Resolution Supporting Teaching History of Tribal Nations

If you have questions or concerns, please contact your school site principal or utilize our complaint resolution process.