



→ **NONPARTISAN
EDUCATION TOWN HALL**

What is an Education Town Hall?

A **nonpartisan** public forum regarding **literacy**, **education**, and **Oklahoma's Future**. Aiming to ensure depth, balance, and genuine public dialogue in a town hall setting. The town hall will be divided into **three** statewide discussion. Each discussion will focus on a distinct dimension of the issues facing Oklahoma's education system today.

Why This Matters

Education is the foundation of Oklahoma's future. Today, educators are being asked to do more with fewer resources, while students face growing academic and mental health challenges. Improving **literacy** and **educational outcomes** cannot rest on schools alone — it requires communities, institutions, and leaders working together.

How It Works

- Provides insight directly from educators and school leaders
- Convening leaders and hosting university-based town halls that model respectful, nonpartisan dialogue and move ideas into action
- Removes political banter from the conversation
- Inspires collaboration and common ground.
- Encourages more Oklahomans to speak up about Education
- A listening and accountability tool



For more information, contact:

info@okcitizensedu.org

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What to Expect

This town hall is a nonpartisan, community-centered **conversation** focused on **education** and **literacy** in Oklahoma. The evening will begin with brief opening remarks to provide context on the current state of education, followed by a moderated panel discussion guided by a small set of thoughtful questions. Panelists will share perspectives based on experience, not political affiliation.

Audience members will have opportunities to submit questions, which will be selected to support a respectful and productive discussion.

This is not a debate or a campaign event. All campaign speeches will be strictly forbidden.

The goal is to listen, learn, and better understand both the challenges facing our schools and the opportunities to support educators, students, and communities.

We ask all attendees to engage with curiosity, respect, and a shared commitment to strengthening education across Oklahoma.

THE OKLAHOMA SHIFT — CORE TOWN HALL QUESTIONS

QUESTION 1 — The Uncomfortable Truth

“If we listen carefully to teachers and school leaders across Oklahoma, what are they telling us that we have not fully acknowledged yet — and what are the consequences of continuing to overlook those realities?”



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THE OKLAHOMA SHIFT — CORE TOWN HALL QUESTIONS

QUESTION 2 — The Classroom Reality Check

“Inside today’s classrooms, what expectations have we added over the last decade without removing anything — and how has that accumulation changed what teaching and learning actually looks like?”

QUESTION 3 — The Shared Responsibility Question

“If schools cannot meet today’s academic, behavioral, and mental health demands alone, what responsibilities must shift to families, communities, universities, nonprofits, and the private sector — and what does meaningful support actually look like?”

QUESTION 4 — The Sustainability Question

“Oklahoma has launched promising education initiatives before that didn’t last. What specifically caused momentum to break down — and what must be designed differently this time to ensure lasting impact rather than short-term change?”

QUESTION 5 — The Vision with Accountability

“If Oklahoma truly aligned policy, schools, and communities around education, what should be visibly different for teachers and students within three to five years — and what decisions need to happen now to make that future real?”

Audience Q&A

The audience will be encouraged to submit questions during each town hall. The time per question will be limited and regulated by the moderator.



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WHAT IS THE OKLAHOMA SHIFT?

The Oklahoma Shift is a community-driven, nonpartisan effort to strengthen education and literacy across our state.

For too long, the conversation around education has been fragmented — often reactive, political, or disconnected from the people closest to the work. The Oklahoma Shift exists to move that conversation forward with purpose, clarity, and shared responsibility.

This effort brings together educators, families, community members, higher education, and civic leaders to focus on what matters most: supporting those in our classrooms, strengthening literacy, and building the foundations our students need to succeed.

The Oklahoma Shift is not about placing blame or **promoting one solution**. It is about **listening, aligning efforts**, and **creating practical pathways** that help communities support schools — and help schools better serve students.

Real change will not come from policy alone, nor can it rest solely on educators. It will take all of us, working together, to shift the trajectory of education in Oklahoma.

**This isn't another conversation.
It's THE SHIFT**



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