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TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF

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TEAMTN
Tennessee Educator Acceleration Model

January 13, 2015

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Administrator Observation Entry Deadline

Please remember that the deadline for entering fall administrator observations in CODE is **Thursday, Jan. 15**. It is incredibly important to meet the entry deadline as first semester observations are weighted one-third and second semester observations are weighted two-thirds. If you have any questions or concerns about this process, please reach out to Pennye.Thurmond@tn.gov.

Mid-Year Distribution Reports

Over the next few weeks, we will be sending mid-year distribution reports to CORE Directors and directors of schools. These reports will include:

- 2013-14 Distribution of Observation Scores
- 2014-15 Distribution of Observation Scores
- Percentage of Educators with Growth and Achievement Measure Selections

These reports provide a snapshot of the progress made in your schools to date and help identify schools that may need extra support. Observations that are not entered by **Friday, Jan. 16** will not be included in these reports. Please remember that it is important

to both complete observations and enter the data into CODE in a timely manner. This ensures that teachers receive valuable feedback and have full access to their data.

January TEAM Trainings

Our January TEAM Teacher and Administrator Evaluator training sessions are open for registration. To sign up for one of these sessions, please click on the appropriate link below. These will be the only additional trainings offered prior to our summer sessions, so it is imperative for those who are not yet certified to conduct observations during the 2014-15 school year to sign up for one of these sessions. If you have any questions, please send an email to TNED.Registration@tn.gov.

TEAM Teacher Evaluator:

- [Jackson, TN: Jan. 29-30, 8:30-4:30](#)

TEAM Administrator Evaluator:

- [Knoxville, TN: Jan. 14, 8:30-4:30](#)
- [Jackson, TN: Jan. 26, 8:30-4:30](#)

New Assistant Commissioner for Data and Research

We are pleased to announce that Nakia Towns has joined the Tennessee Department of Education as assistant commissioner for data and research. In this role, she will oversee the department's work in assessment logistics, data quality, accountability, and research.

Most recently, Nakia spent more than four years at Knox County Schools as chief accountability officer and director of human capital strategy. Her email address is Nakia.Towns@tn.gov.

Working Through the Wrong Answer

Watch [here](#) as the current Tennessee Teacher of the Year, Karen Vogelsang, uses modeling and scaffolding to support students at different levels. Notice how Karen works with students until they verbalize their understanding.

This Math Teacher Loves Mistakes

You told us you learn best from your colleagues, so we've been working to build a brand new vault of videos featuring some best practices from top Tennessee teachers. In [this video](#), Christian Jenkins, a math teacher at Antioch High School in Nashville, explains why mistakes are one of his most powerful teaching tools. In this [video](#), Christian explains why he needs to hear his students talk about math during any given lesson.

Surviving and Thriving the First Five Years

As any new teacher can tell you, there is a lot to learn about running a classroom, planning and executing effective lessons, and supporting students at all levels. In [this post](#), an East Tennessee teacher shares seven ways to not only survive the first few years of your teaching career, but ways to thrive and promote student learning.

Upcoming Deadlines

- Complete fall observation entry for administrators in CODE by **Thursday, Jan. 15.**
- Identify current Partial Year Exemptions (PYEs) in CODE by **Monday, Feb 16.**

Contact Information

Deputy Director of Evaluation: Courtney Seiler, Courtney.Seiler@tn.gov

General Inquiries: TEAM.Questions@tn.gov

Training Questions: TNEP.Registration@tn.gov

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