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TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF

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TEAMTN
Tennessee Educator Acceleration Model

March 4, 2015

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Announced Planning Observations

As we are now in the second semester, many observers are beginning to conduct announced observations of the Planning domain, per the [suggested observation pacing guide](#). We have received some questions about how best to conduct these observations with fidelity. As a reminder, to collect the full scope of evidence of student growth, the observer needs to see the lesson in action, not just the paper used for planning purposes. Therefore, if the Planning domain is being scored independently, a full length lesson should accompany that evaluation. For more guidance on observing the Planning domain, please visit our [website](#). If you have any further questions, please send us an email at TEAM.Questions@tn.gov.

Training Opportunity: Powerful Instructional Coaching

We are happy to announce that NIET is partnering with TOSS to present another training opportunity for evaluators and those who support evaluation. Although specifically designed for TEAM districts, the learning is applicable to anyone who provides feedback based on evaluation. This session will be offered across the state on the following dates:

- Monday, March 23: Jackson, TN
- Tuesday, March 24: Nashville, TN

- Wednesday, March 25: Knoxville, TN

Registration for this training is \$110/person and includes lunch and materials. To get registered, please click [here](#). If you have any questions, please reach out to [Rene Diamond](#).

Why I'm Thankful for My Teacher

We are excited to announce the launch of our second annual “Why I am Thankful for My Teacher” essay competition. This essay competition gives students a chance to publicly recognize a current K-12 Tennessee educator. Plus, the authors of the winning essays will receive a prize that we hope to announce soon. Students are encouraged to write an essay sharing how a teacher has impacted their life and why the student is thankful for them. Submissions should be no longer than 500 words and are due by **5 p.m. CST on Friday, April 3**. For more information, check out this [blog post](#).

Education Policy Fellowship for Tennessee Teachers

Hope Street Group, a national nonpartisan nonprofit that connects teachers with policymakers, is partnering with the department to launch the [Tennessee State Teacher Fellowship](#). The fellowship provides teachers with opportunities to meet leading policymakers and present them with solutions for elevating the teaching profession.

Teacher Fellows stay in their classrooms full time, work with Hope Street Group 10-15 hours each month, and receive a \$3,500 stipend for the 12-month fellowship. Teachers with interest and experience in teacher leadership and education policy are strongly

encouraged to apply. The application, due ***Friday, March 20***, can be found [here](#).

Student Voices

Across Tennessee, students and teachers are hard at work developing essential writing skills. We asked Tennessee students to share their thoughts on why writing matters. Please take a moment to read about [10th grade Hawkins County student Mollie Price's](#) goal to become the kind of writer that can inspire feelings in people. Please also read [this piece](#) by Kerri Porter, an 11th grader from Hamblen County.

Contact Information

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