

TEAMTN

Tennessee Educator Acceleration Model

TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

TEAM Update
April 1, 2014

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Upcoming Deadlines

Tuesday, April 15:

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Announcements

A. TEAM Training Registration

Registration for summer TEAM Training is now open. Please go to the [schedule page](#) to sign up. Click on the date of the training session you would like to attend, which will take you to the registration form. Training dates will close as they reach capacity, so if your choice of dates is limited, please make sure you sign

Tuesday, April 15.

Achievement and growth measure selections must be finalized in CODE.

Friday, June 6: Last day to opt into policy allowing teachers with a 4 or 5 on individual growth to use their individual growth score for 100 percent of their overall level of effectiveness

up quickly. Please remember that if you are a currently certified teacher evaluator, you will be eligible to test out of in-person teacher evaluator training. For more information on that process, please click [here](#). Should you have any questions, please reach out to TNEP.Registration@tn.gov.

B. NTGS Summit Recap

Last Friday 54 educators and district staff members representing 26 districts attended the non-tested grades and subjects summit to help increase familiarity with currently approved individual growth measures for teachers in non-tested areas. The gathering was focused on learning details about the existing models from current practitioners, as well as outlining the planning process for districts interested in implementing a portfolio model in the future. To access both the presentations outlining the existing models as well as a planning tool, please click [here](#).

C. Achievement and Growth Measure Selections

Please review all achievement and growth measure selections to make sure they are finalized in CODE prior to **Tuesday, April 15**. It is important that these decisions are made prior to testing. After April 15, you will not be able to make any changes to the achievement or growth measure selections. On April 15, we will lock the 2013-14 Evaluation Data page in CODE from editing.

Please remember that to enter the growth measure selections, you must scroll all the way over to the right-hand part of the screen to find the 'Growth Measure' column with the drop-down options. For more information on the options for achievement and growth, please see the [Achievement Measures Worksheet](#). You are not required to enter the achievement measure scales into CODE, but we recommend doing so to ensure that you know how to calculate the scale scores when the data is returned or in the event of a grievance.

D. 2014 First to the Top Educator Survey

This April, Tennessee teachers and school administrators will have the opportunity to share their feedback on major education initiatives in the state. The survey requests teacher input on evaluation, the Common Core State Standards, and other issues. Survey responses are provided directly to the Tennessee Consortium on Research, Evaluation, and Development (TNCRED), an independent research organization at Vanderbilt University. Teachers'

confidentiality is fully protected as no individual responses will be shared. Survey findings will be reported in the aggregate-absolutely no participants will be identified in study reports.

Last year, almost 25,000 teachers responded to the survey, representing 40 percent of all teachers across Tennessee. Based on this feedback, we adjusted our teacher evaluation system in several ways. Please read an overview of [last year's survey results](#) for more information. Teacher feedback this year will inform our focus in professional development, the types of resources we provide, and our implementation of the Response to Instruction and Intervention framework. Districts with at least 30 respondents and a participation rate of 50 percent or higher will receive a district-level report of survey findings.

A survey invitation will be sent to teachers and administrators in your district between April 2 and April 8 in an email from tnconsortium@vanderbilt.org. The department alerted teachers to the upcoming survey in the Educator Update that went out on March 27. If you have additional questions, please contact your [CORE director](#).

E. Sara Heyburn Takes Your Questions

We recently launched a monthly Q&A series on education issues based on the recommendation of a Tennessee teacher. The first Q&A was with Sara Heyburn, Assistant Commissioner for Teachers & Leaders at the Tennessee Department of Education. Sara's division oversees teacher preparation, licensure, evaluation, and professional development. You can see the questions on Sara answered on [Classroom Chronicles](#), including two questions about evaluation.

F. Positive Phone Call Home

The department's Teacher Ambassador, Eva Boster, has been traveling the state, meeting teachers and visiting classrooms. [Here](#) she shares one Maury County school's simple, no-budget strategy to engage parents and shamelessly brag on their students.