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TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF

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TEAMTN
Tennessee Educator Acceleration Model

May 13, 2015

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Individual Growth for Teachers Scoring 4 or 5

As a reminder, districts can elect to allow teachers with individual growth scores of 4 or 5 to use their individual growth score for 100 percent of their overall level of effectiveness if it would improve their rating. As you complete testing and start to wrap up the end of the school year, we want to ensure you have sufficient time to discuss this decision internally and consult with your local board as needed.

If your district wishes to opt into this policy for the 2014-15 school year, please send an email to Courtney.Seiler@tn.gov by **Friday, May 29**. We will provide additional reminders as we approach the deadline. Once your district has opted in, TDOE will automatically implement the change in CODE in the limited number of circumstances in which a change is warranted. If we do not receive notification that your district would like to opt in, your teachers will continue to receive a composite score based on individual growth, observations, and achievement.

TEAM Recertification Test

If you are a currently certified teacher evaluator or administrator evaluator, you will

receive an email on **Friday, May 15** with the link to the online recertification test. The email will come from support@niet.org, so please make sure they are not on your blocked senders list. If you do not receive the email, you can log in to the [NIET Best Practices Portal](#) to gain access to the recertification test. When you click on the tab titled 'Online Certification', you will see the link for the recertification test(s) you are qualified to complete. Please remember that you will have two opportunities to pass the test by **Tuesday, June 30**. If you are unable to pass the test within two tries, you will be required to attend an in-person session. If you have any questions about this process, please reach out to TNED.Registration@tn.gov.

Teacher Appreciation Week Recap

Nearly 2,000 essays later, the Tennessee Department of Education is proud to announce the winners of our second "Why I'm Thankful for my Teacher" essay contest. After reading hundreds of poignant, honest essays (with lots of smiles and a few tears), their stories stole our hearts. Click [here](#) to watch second grader Ayush Doshi celebrate his teacher, and click [here](#) to read fourth grader Maria Kime's essay celebrating her teacher. Thanks again to all of our wonderful essay writers and their inspiring teachers!

We also heard some great stories from teachers and department staff about why they appreciate teachers. To read more about why Karen Vogelsang, the 2014-15 Tennessee Teacher of the Year, appreciates teachers, check out [this post](#). You can also read about one of the most influential teachers our director of teacher and training support has had [here](#).

TEAM Training Registration Now Open

Registration for summer TEAM Training is now open. You may view a schedule of training dates and locations and sign up [here](#). Please also review [this document](#) for information about the training sessions that will be offered, testing out of in-person training, and certification policy in general. These sessions fill up quickly, so make sure you get your team signed up as soon as possible! If you have any training questions, please direct them to TNED.Registration@tn.gov.

Upcoming Deadlines

- The recertification test opens for currently certified teacher and administrator evaluators on **Friday, May 15**.

Contact Information

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

General Inquiries: TEAM.Questions@tn.gov

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