State of Tennessee
School Nutrition Program
First TN Field Service Center
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School Nutrition and
First To The Top
May you live in interesting times

Chinese proverb/curse
Race To The Top

Race to the Top is a program by the U.S. Department of Education funded through federal stimulus dollars (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act—ARRA). At $4.35 billion, it represents the largest investment in school reform ever.
Race To The Top

Race to the Top provides $4.35 billion in competitive grants designed to encourage and reward states that are implementing ambitious plans in four core education reform areas:

• Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;

• Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
Race To The Top

• Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and

• Turning around the lowest-achieving schools.
First to the Top

First to the Top is Tennessee's initiative to improve education through the federal Race to the Top program.
First to the Top

- March marked the one year anniversary of Tennessee’s Race to the Top win and of the dramatic set of school reforms planned over the next four years.

- Tennessee was one of just two states selected to receive over $501 million for education in the first round of the federal government’s Race to the Top competition.
First to the Top

There are three main student performance goals:

• Young students’ academic readiness

• High school graduates’ readiness for college and careers

• Higher rates of graduates enrolling and succeeding in post-secondary education
TCAP

• Students in Grades 3-8 take the Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP) Achievement Test each spring.

• The Achievement Test is a timed, multiple choice assessment that measures skills in Reading, Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies. Student results are reported to parents, teachers and administrators.
Secondary Assessment Tests

The End-of-Course examinations for 2010-2011 are

- English I
- English II
- Biology I
- Algebra I
- Algebra II
- U.S. History
Secondary Assessment Tests

In the new High School Transition Policy, the State Board stipulated that End-of-Course examinations will be given in

- English I
- English II
- English III
- Biology I
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Algebra I
- Algebra II
- Geometry
- U.S. History
Secondary Assessment Tests

• The end-of-course test grade will count 20% of the second semester grade for the 2009/2010 and the 2010/2011 school years and 25% of the second semester grade in subsequent school years.

• Students will not be required to pass any one examination, but instead students must achieve a passing score for the course in accordance with the State Board of Education’s uniform grading policy.
Senate Bill 7005

- Creates a 15 member teacher evaluation advisory committee

- Revises present law regarding the evaluation of teachers and principals (3 years of data no longer necessary)

- 35% of new evaluation must consist of Tennessee Value Added Assessment System (TVAAS) data or some other comparable measure of student growth
35% Growth measures for Non-Tested Subjects/Grades

- Groups of 8-12 educators in each of the non-tested subject and grade groupings have gathered to discuss and make recommendations to the Tennessee Department of Education (DOE) regarding appropriate growth measures and instruments for the 35% component of the new teacher evaluation system.

- Comprises 60% of Tennessee teachers.
35% Growth measures for Non-Tested Subjects/Grades

• Approved growth measures will be available in June with professional development offered for teachers and principals over the summer.

• Teachers with TVAAS data available will use it for this portion of the evaluation.
15% Other Achievement Measures

• To develop options for the 15% achievement portion of the teacher evaluation, the Teacher Evaluation Advisory Committee (TEAC) is recommending a menu of options for State Board approval from which teachers may choose, in cooperation with their administrator, for use in their evaluation.

• The chosen measures should reflect the educator’s primary responsibility as directly as possible.
50% Qualitative Evaluation

• The remaining 50% of the new evaluation system will be based on qualitative measures.

• The 50% qualitative component must address planning, environment, professionalism, and instruction
What is School Nutrition’s role?
Universal breakfast

- A heightened alertness while learning

Source:
Universal breakfast

• Improvements in behavior, attendance, and tardiness rates.

Source:
Universal breakfast

• De-stigmatizes free and reduced students

Source:

Universal breakfast

- Schools with 70% or more free or reduced percentage can put universal breakfast into operation with minimal extra funding

Source:
Universal Breakfast

Unicoi County, Tennessee Study

The purpose of the study was to investigate the relationship of how standardized test scores on the Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment program (TCAP), of students from the Unicoi County school system, which offers a universal breakfast program, compare with average scores on identical tests of students from across Tennessee during the 2007-2008 school year.
Universal breakfast

Unicoi County, which offers a universal breakfast program, showed significantly higher Fourth grade Math and Reading and Language Arts TCAP scores than the Tennessee State mean in 2007-2008.

Source:
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