

DATE: November 14, 2013

SUBJECT: First to the Top Update

ACTION RECOMMENDED: Information

2013 Report Card on the Effectiveness of Teacher Training Programs

The 2013 *Report Card on the Effectiveness of Teacher Training Programs* was released on Friday, November 1. This is the sixth year that the state has made data available to the public regarding the effectiveness of the state's teacher training program completers. Over the past year, THEC staff members have worked in collaboration with the teacher training programs, the State Board of Education, the State Department of Education, and other key stakeholders to improve and expand the Report Card.

The report provides information on the placement and retention rates of teacher training program completers, Praxis II licensure exam passage rates, and the Tennessee Value-Added Assessment System (TVAAS) teacher effect data. Key findings of the report include information related to the academic preparation of Tennessee's teachers and how well an institution's completers perform in the classroom. A new feature of the 2013 Report Card is the inclusion of trend data which allows the tracking of a training program's completer effectiveness over time. The full report, including individual program reports, is available on the THEC website.

Advanced Analytics

The Tennessee Higher Education Commission and SAS Institute are working together to expand the research and insight available to teacher preparation programs using TVAAS data. The goal of the Advanced Analytics work is to provide diagnostic information for each teacher preparation program. THEC and the SAS Institute will provide up to ten individual reports to each teacher training program. The content of the reports and the variables included were developed through collaboration between THEC, SAS, and the teacher preparation programs statewide. Based on these conversations, the Advanced Analytics reports will examine a variety of variables such as program of study, course sequence, and the effect of mentor teachers on a completer's future success.

Common Core Professional Development and Resources

The Tennessee Higher Education Commission, in partnership with The Ayers Institute for Teacher Learning and Innovation at Lipscomb University, has created a multimedia, professional development program to support higher education institutions in imbedding Common Core State Standards (CCSS) into the pre-service teacher curriculum. The program includes full length videos of authentic, CCSS aligned lessons taught by highly qualified Tennessee K-12 teachers. The video modules are accompanied by additional resources for higher education faculty including a facilitator's guide and strategies for using the modules in higher education classrooms.

Six training sessions were held around the state to introduce these resources to higher education faculty and provide opportunities for institutions to create a strategic plan for incorporating the more rigorous CCSS into their training programs. Additional modules are currently in development and will be accompanied by statewide professional development opportunities for faculty around these new resources.