



# Teacher Pay

## Summary of Teacher Pay in the Appropriations Bill

### *for Districts and School Board Partners*

On January 22, 2021, during the 1st Extraordinary Session of the 112th General Assembly, the Tennessee General Assembly passed an Appropriations Bill (SB7009/HB7020), which included critical pay increases for Tennessee teachers during an unprecedented school year impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

We all know educators are critical for the success and safety of students. Throughout these unprecedented times, Tennessee teachers and districts continue to rise to the occasion to meet the needs of all students and provide them with a quality education. Educators are working especially hard through the pandemic to adapt to new challenges, dynamics, and instructional environments.

By passing this appropriations bill recommended by Governor Lee, the General Assembly appropriated funding to provide an increase equivalent to a 2% increase of the instructional component of the BEP for this school year (dating back to January 1, 2021). This funding includes the state fully covering the local match for an equivalent 2% increase. It will be up to you at the district-level to decide how this increased funding is dispersed for district instructional staff.

The 2% increase to the instructional component of the BEP is not equivalent to a 2% salary increase for all teachers. The exact amount of money available for educator salaries and/or bonuses has been sent to districts and will be distributed at their discretion.

In addition to this one-time increase, Governor Lee has already committed to proposing a recurring 4% increase in the instructional component of the BEP to begin next fiscal year. This investment will provide significant funding to support districts as they provide instructional salary increases for teachers.