



Tennessee Department of Education
Division of Federal Programs and Oversight
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Annual Alternative Education Report (2019–20 School Year)

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Momodou Keita, Council Member
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Josiah Holland, Council Member
Tammy Hayes, Council Member
Makeda Porter, Council Member

Governor's Advisory Council for Alternative Education January 2021

Printable report also available on the department's website at
<https://www.tn.gov/education/instruction/alternative-education.html>.

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Introduction

T.C.A. § 49-6-3402 requires that at least one alternative school or program be established for local education agencies (LEAs) serving students in grades 7–12 who have been suspended or expelled from the regular school program and also allows LEAs to create alternative schools or programs for grades 1–6. T.C.A. § 49-6-3404 mandates the establishment of an advisory council that shall advise, assist, and consult on alternative education. The advisory council is required to make an annual report to the Governor, the General Assembly, the Commissioner of Education, and the State Board of Education on the state of alternative education in Tennessee. For a comprehensive history of alternative education in Tennessee, please refer to [Appendix D](#). The report presented here meets the legislative requirement set forth.

To obtain the needed data, the Governor’s Advisory Council for Alternative Education, in conjunction with the Tennessee Department of Education, developed the Annual Alternative Education Survey. A copy of the survey is included in [Appendix A](#). The Governor’s Advisory Council for Alternative Education defines an alternative school/program as, “A non-traditional academic program or school designed to meet the student’s educational, behavioral, and social needs.” Typically, alternative programs are self-contained within a traditional school while alternative schools are considered separate school buildings with their own administrator(s) and staff. Operating under this definition, LEAs reported on various aspects of their alternative education programming. The broad categories of information collected included student participation numbers, reasons students were assigned to alternative programs, program elements, and staffing. Information presented in this report summarizes survey responses provided by Tennessee LEAs. In addition to collecting data on current programming at the local level, LEAs were asked a series of questions related to their current needs in the field. Those major findings are included in this report.

Questions regarding this report may be directed to Daniel Froemel, Senior Director of Non-Public and Non-Traditional Programs at the department via email at Daniel.Froemel@tn.gov or by phone (615) 351-1208.

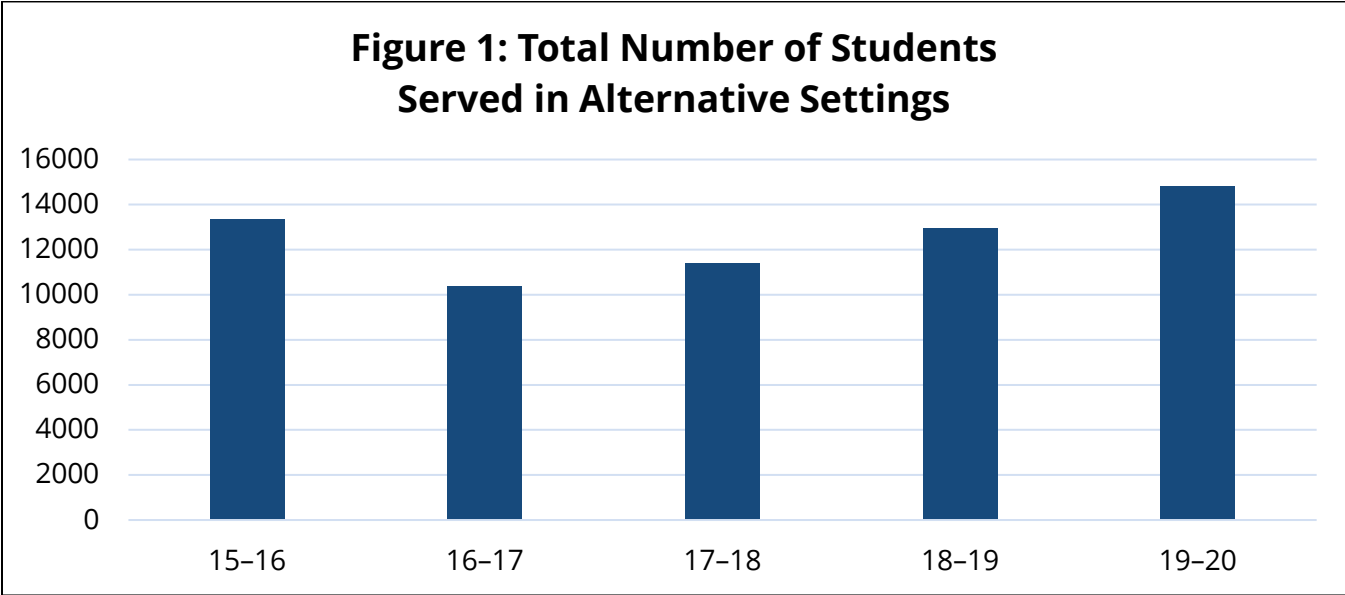
Survey Results and Findings

The annual alternative education survey requires each LEA to identify an alternative education coordinator, thereby providing a framework for networking, collaboration, training, and technical assistance. The designee for every LEA is listed in [Appendix B](#). The survey asks LEAs to report by grade bands (i.e., K–5, 6–8, and 9–12) whether they have an alternative school or program, the number of classrooms, the number of students served, and the average length of placement. The information in Table 1 below reflects survey responses from LEAs. The total number of students

served in an alternative setting for 2019–20, as reported in the LEA surveys, was **14,803**, a **14.2%** percent increase from 2018–19. Please see Figure 1 below for trend data.

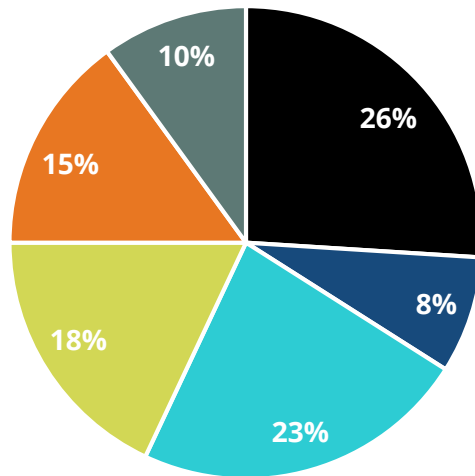
Table 1: 2019–20 Alternative Education Survey Summary

	K 5	6 8	9 12
Number of alternative schools	38	86	95
Number of alternative programs	39	102	116
Number of classrooms	88	246	419
Number of students served	502	3,890	10,411
Average length of placement	45 days	49 days	61 days
Number of certified staff	128	305	562
Number of classified staff	77	183	283



LEAs were asked to distinguish between the various types of professionals providing services to students in the alternative school or program. Statewide, there were **995** certified teachers serving students. Of those certified teachers, **351.5** were certified special education teachers, and **126** were certified English as a second language (ESL) teachers. A total of **263.5** school counselors are also working with alternative education students. Other groups providing alternative education services include **543** non-certified staff in which **384.5** were education assistants, **224.5** were school resource officers (SROs), and **154** were social workers. Please see Figure 2 below.

Figure 2: Special Faculty/Staff Providing Services



■ EL Teachers ■ Special Education Teachers ■ School Counselors
■ School Resource Officers ■ Social Workers ■ Educational Assistants

LEAs were asked to rate the primary reason for student participation in the alternative school or program. The number one reason for attendance in the grade spans of 9–12 and 6–8 was the *violation of school rules*. Additionally, the number one reason for attendance in the grade spans of K–5 was *disruptive behavior*.

Alternative education programs throughout the state vary in the types of services they provide, the number of students served, and their overall purpose and mission. Alternative schools and programs may be housed in a designated, separate alternative school building, which may or may not have a school number, or may be self-contained within a traditional school. Alternative services are geared toward students who have been suspended or expelled, as well as students who have dropped out of school and are re-entering the education system. Some alternative schools and programs have a mixture of elements making them a hybrid school serving various alternative programming purposes.

The *Alternative Education Survey* gave districts an opportunity to discuss the general needs of their program(s) and/or school(s). Sample comments from districts are found in [Appendix C](#). Comments shed light on the needs of alternative education programs across the state. The needs most commonly reported were increased mental health supports and additional funding for alternative education.

COVID-19 Impact

On March 13, 2020, Governor Bill Lee urged schools to close due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the impact of the virus was felt by every county in the state. Across the state, school closures continued through the remainder of the 2019–20 school year. As a result, the council was unable to conduct site visits and was unable to complete the process of identifying recipients for recognition. At the time of the publication of this report, the pandemic continues to create uncertainty and the council will postpone the recognition program for the 2020–21 school year. In an effort to continue to support alternative schools, and in lieu of an exemplary program, the advisory council will be offering virtual training and networking opportunities for educators in alternative settings within each state region.

Appendix A: Annual Alternative Education Survey

Annual Alternative Education Survey

As Required by Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-3404



Alternative Education as defined by the Advisory Council for Alternative Education:

"A nontraditional academic program designed to meet the student's educational, behavioral and social needs."

T.C.A. § 49-6-3402 mandates "at least one (1) alternative school shall be established and available for students in grades seven through twelve (7-12) who have been suspended or expelled."

T.C.A. § 49-6-3404 also requires that the Department of Education submit a report annually on the status of alternative education in Tennessee. In order to gain a better perspective, the following survey was developed. The information provided to the department will be reported to the Governor, both education committees of the General Assembly, and the State Board of Education. Please complete the following survey and email it to the address listed below.

<i>School System:</i>	<i>Date:</i>
<i>District Alternative Education Coordinator:</i>	<i>Email Address:</i>
<i>Phone Number:</i>	<i>Fax:</i>
<i>Address:</i>	<i>City and Zip Code:</i>
<i>Person Completing Report (if different from above):</i>	<i>Phone Number:</i>

ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL(S) OR PROGRAM(S) THAT OPERATED DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR 2018-19:

(For each alternative school/program, please identify the principal or program coordinator and provide an email address and phone number for each. Please do not include ISS.)

Alternative School/ Program Name	Principal/ Program Coordinator	Email Address of Principal/Program Coordinator	Phone Number for School/Program

PARTICIPATION (TOTAL FOR ALL SCHOOLS/PROGRAMS IN YOUR DISTRICT):

	K-5	6-8	9-12
Number of alternative school(s)*			
Number of alternative education program(s)**			
Total number of classroom(s) serving alternative education students			
Total number of students served during the 2018-19 school year			
Number of students placed more than once during the 2018-19 school year			
District's total capacity (seats)			
Average length of placement (stay) in an alternative setting (number in days)			
Number of certificated staff working in an alternative school/program			
Number of non-certificated staff assigned to an alternative education setting			
* A facility dedicated solely to alternative education			
** An alternative education program within a school			

	Yes	No
An alternative education advisory committee has been established at the district level		
Attendance at the alternative school is mandatory		
Transportation is provided to the alternative school/program		

PRIMARY REASON FOR STUDENT ASSIGNMENT (RANK 1, 2, 3, AND 4):

	K-5	6-8	9-12
Zero tolerance offense (firearm, drugs, aggravated assault)			
Violation of school rules			
Disruptive behavior			
Need for alternative education strategy			
Other (please describe below)			

ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL/PROGRAM ELEMENTS (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):

	K 5	6 8	9 12
Afterschool or other extended day programming			
Individual behavior plans			
Character education			
Credit recovery			
Distance learning			
Dropout prevention strategies			
Individual and/or family counseling			
Individual learner plans			
Juvenile court partnership			
Life skills			
Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS)			
Mental health partnership			
Service learning			
Student drug testing			
Technology based instruction			
Transitions services (a formal plan)*			
Use of level system that encourages appropriate behavior			
Restorative practices			
College and career ready act			
Other (please describe in space given)			
<i>*Mandated requirement under T.C.A. §49-6-3402</i>			

NUMBER OF SPECIAL FACULTY/STAFF SERVING ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL/PROGRAM

	K-5	6-8	9-12
ELL Teachers			
School Counselors			
Special Education Teachers			
Social Workers			
School Resource Officers			
Teaching Assistants			
Transition Counselor			
Behavior Specialist			
Other (please describe in space given)			

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:

What models or curriculum are you currently implementing in your alternative education classroom(s)?

What technical assistance opportunities would help you as an alternative educator?

What is the greatest challenge facing your alternative education school(s)/programs(s)?

Additional comments/feedback that would be appropriate for the alternative education report to the General Assembly?

What offenses are classified as “zero tolerance” in your school?

Please list any community partners that collaborate with the alternative school/program.

Appendix B: LEA Alternative Education Coordinators

SCHOOL DISTRICT	ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL/ PROGRAM NAME	PRINCIPAL/ PROGRAM COORDINATOR	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Achievement School District	Pathways in Education - Frayser	James Bacchus, II	jbacchusii@pathwaysedu.org
Alcoa City	Pershing Academy of Learning	Jason Adams	jadams@alcoaschools.net
Alcoa City	Spark Program at AHS	Lisa Frazier	lfrazier@alcoaschools.net
Alcoa City	AMS HELP Program	Richard Gamble	rgamble@alcoaschools.net
Alvin C. York Institute	Fentress County Alternative School	Diana Hannahan	diana.hannahan@fentressboe.com
Anderson County	Connect Academy	Teresa Taylor	ttaylor@acs.ac
Anderson County	Innovation Academy	Dr. Tricia Jones	djones@acs.ac
Anderson County	Clinch River Community School	Darren Leach	dleach@acs.ac
Anderson County	Middle School ACCOLA	Kim Towe	ktowe@acs.ac
Anderson County	AC 21st Century Program	Kim Towe	ktowe@acs.ac
Arlington Municipal	Arlington Alternative Education Program	Felicia Turner	felicia.turner@acsk-12.org
Athens City	Athens Pathway Schools	Justin Wallace	jwallace@athensk8.net
Bartlett Municipal	Bartlett Bridges	Zoe Anne Bozeman	zbozeman@bartlettschools.org
Bedford County	Bedford County Learning Academy	Julie Elliott	elliottj@bedfordk12tn.net
Benton County	Benton County Alternative Program	Dr. Randy Shannon	randy.shannon@bcos.org
Bledsoe County	Bledsoe County Alternative Schools	Mark Mosley	mmosley@bledsoecountyschools.org
Blount County	STAGE Academy	Justin Ridge	justin.ridge@blountk12.org
Blount County	AIM Academy	Justin Ridge	justin.ridge@blountk12.org
Bradford SSD	Bradford Alternative School	Shane Paschall	paschalls2@bradfordspecial.com
Bradley County	Goal Academy At-Risk Learner Program	Kyle Pge	kpage@bradleyschools.org
Bristol City	BTCS Alternative Program	Dave Collins	collinsd@btcs.org
Bristol City	Elementary Learning Center	Kelli Campbell	campbellk1@btcs.org
Campbell County	Homer A. Rutherford Learning Academy	Harold Sanders	harold.sanders@ccpstn.net

SCHOOL DISTRICT	ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL/ PROGRAM NAME	PRINCIPAL/ PROGRAM COORDINATOR	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Campbell County	J.L. "Sarge" Collins Learning Academy	Donna Singley	donna.singley@ccpstn.net
Cannon County	Lion Academy Alternative School	Courtney Nichols	courtney.nichols@ccstn.net
Carroll County	Carroll County Alternative School	Stephanie Pearson	spearson@carrollschools.com
Carter County	Siam Learning Center	Mike Ensor	mikeensor@carterk12.net
Cheatham County	Cheatham Academy	Andrea N. Bringard, Ed. D	andrea.bringard@ccstn.org
Chester County	North Chester Alternative School	Bobby Helton	heltonb2@120cc.org
Claiborne County	Claiborne Alternative Program	Jeff Stephenson	jeff.stephenson@claibornecsd.org
Clarksville-Montgomery County	CMCSS Alternative School	Dr. Kim Siegars	kim.siegars@cmcss.net
Clay County	Clay County Alternative School	Alicia Dailey	daileya@clayedu.com
Cleveland City	Alternative Placement	Jacqueline Lane	jlane@clevelandschools.org
Cleveland City	Raider Blue Academy	Jacqueline Lane	jlane@clevelandschools.org
Clinton City	Behavior/Diagnostic Program	Suzanne Oliver	olivers@clintonschools.org
Cocke County	Cocke County Alternative Program (GAP)	Bryan Douglas	douglasb@cocke.k12.tn.us
Cocke County	Cocke County Adult HS	Bryan Douglas	douglasb@cocke.k12.tn.us
Cocke County	The Learning Center	Bryan Douglas	douglasb@cocke.k12.tn.us
Cocke County	Graduation Alt Program (GAP)	Bryan Douglas	douglasb@cocke.k12.tn.us
Coffee County	Coffee County Koss Center	Jeff Johnson	johnsonj@k12coffee.net
Collierville Municipal	IMPACT Program	Veronica Norfleet	vnorfleet@colliervilleschools.org
Crockett County	Crockett County Alternative School	Kent Scott	kent.scott@crockettschools.net
Cumberland County	Cumberland County Alternative School- Middle & High	Stephanie Barnes	barness5@ccschools.k12tn.net
Dayton City	Dayton City Alternative School	Chris Tallent	tallentch@daytoncity.net
Decatur County	Decatur Co Riverside High	Hugh Smith	hugh.smith@decaturschools.org
DeKalb County	Alternative Learning Center	Brad Hendrix	bradhendrix@dekalbschools.net
Dickson County	New Directions Academy	Rhiannon Mason	rmason@dcstn.org
Dyersburg City	College Street Campus	Lyn Taylor	ltaylor@dyersburgcityschools.org

SCHOOL DISTRICT	ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL/ PROGRAM NAME	PRINCIPAL/ PROGRAM COORDINATOR	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Elizabethton City	Elizabethton City Alternative Program	Jon Minton	jon.minton@ecschools.net
Etowah City	Etowah City School	Cheryle Cooper	cooperc6@k12tn.net
Fayette County	Jefferson Innovative Learning	Marcus Stokes	marcus.stokes@fcsk12.net
Fayetteville City	FCS Alternative School	Eric Jones	jonese@fcsboe.org
Fentress County	Fentress County Alternative School	Diana Hannahan	diana.hannahan@fentressboe.com
Franklin County	Franklin County Alternative School	Jeff Sons	jeff.sons@fcstn.net
Germantown Municipal	Alternative Ed. Program (The Point/ GMSD)	Kathryn Jones Lorrie Tingle	kathryn.jones@gmsdk12.org lorrie.tingle@gmsdk12.org
Gibson County SSD	Gibson Co High School	Michael Wickersham	wickersham@gcssd.org
Gibson County SSD	S Gibson Co High School	Scott Rohovit	rohovits@gcssd.org
Giles County	Giles County Alternative School	Don Thomas	dthomas@gcboe.us
Giles County	Richland School	Micah Landers	mlanders@gcboe.us
Grainger County	Grainger County Alternative School	Kip Combs	kcombs@gcs123.net
Greene County	Thomas Howard McNeese/ABIC	Mike Garland	mike.garland@gcstn.org
Greeneville City	Greeneville City Alternative Learning Program	Fred Dobson	dobsonf@gcschoools.net
Greeneville City	Elementary Behavior and Transition Program	Tracie Deaton	deatont@gcschoools.net
Grundy County	Grundy County Alternative School	Charlie Westmoreland	cwestmoreland@grundyk12.com
Hamblen County	Miller Boyd Alternative School	Randy Greene	greener@hcboe.net
Hamilton County	Washington	Lesa Johnson	johnson_L@hcde.org
Hamilton County	ELL	Karol Stroud	stroud_k@hcde.org
Hamilton County	Hearing Impaired	Sarah Samarin	samarin_s@hcde.org
Hamilton County	Hearing Impaired	Deborah Smith	smith_deborah@hcde.org
Hamilton County	Transition Classroom	Riquel Burton	burton_riquel@hcde.org
Hancock County	The Alternative School	Janie Cole	janie.cole@hcsk12.com
Hardeman County	Hardeman County Learning Center	Thomas Polk	polkt1@hcsedu.org

SCHOOL DISTRICT	ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL/ PROGRAM NAME	PRINCIPAL/ PROGRAM COORDINATOR	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Hardin County	Hardin County Alternative	Jason Dennis	jason.dennis@hctnschools.com
Hawkins County	Pathways Alternative School	Sharon Lindsey	sharon.lindsey@hck12.net
Haywood County	Sunny Hill Innovative Learning Center	Stephen May	stephen.may@hcsk12.net
Henderson County	Henderson County Juvenile Academy	Dennis McDaniel	mcdaniel.dennis@hcschoolstn.org
Henry County	Henry County Alternative Learning Center	Michael Poteete	poteetem@henryk12.net
Hickman County	Hickman County Alternative School	Becky Malugin	becky.malugin@hickmank12.org
Hollow Rock Bruceton SSD (Carroll Co)	Carroll County Board of Education Alternative School	Dennis Stokes	dstokes@carrollschools.com
Houston County	Houston County Alternative School	Linda McDonough	mcdonough15@houstonk12tn.net
Humboldt City	Humboldt Alternative School	Lillian Shelton	lillian.Shelton@hcsvikings.org
Humphreys County	Humphreys County Alternative School	Emily Ballard	ballarde@hcss.org
Jackson County	Alternative Learning Center	Jason Brown	jasonbrown@jacksoncoschools.com
Jackson-Madison County	Parkview Learning Center	Janet Gore	jdgore@jmcass.org
Jefferson County	Jefferson Academy	Garry Jett	gjett@jcboe.net
Johnson City	Science Hill HS Toppr Academy	Melanie Riden-Bacon	ridenbaconm@jcschools.org
Johnson County	Extended Service Center	Leon Henley	lhenley@jocoed.net
Kingsport City	Cora Cox Academy	Julie Malone	jmalone@k12k.com
Knox County	Richard Yoakley School	Michelle Clayton	michelle.clayton@knoxschools.org
Knox County	Ridgedale Alternative School	Kristi Phillips	kristi.phillips@knoxschools.org
Knox County *	KCG Night Alternative Program	Seth Smith	seth.smith@knoxschools.org
Lake County	Lake County Alternative	David ayers	david.ayers@lcfalcons.net
Lauderdale County	Alternative Learning Academy	Billie Young	byoung@mail.lced.net
Lawrence County	Lawrence County Achievement Academy	Evan White	evan.white@lcss.us
Lebanon SSD	Alternative School Program (ASP)	Wallace Brummett	wallace.brummett@lssd.org
Lenoir City	Alternative School (9-12)	Charles Orr	corr@lenoircityschools.net

SCHOOL DISTRICT	ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL/ PROGRAM NAME	PRINCIPAL/ PROGRAM COORDINATOR	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Lenoir City	SPED Alternative School (9-12)	Charles Orr	corr@lenoircityschools.net
Lenoir City	Restorative Learning Center (4-8)	Brandee Hoglund	bhoglund@lenoircityschools.net
Lenoir City	Behavior Alternative	Brandee Hoglund	bhoglund@lenoircityschools.net
Lewis County	Lewis County Alternative School	Scott Duncan	sduncan@lewisk12.org
Lexington City	See Carroll County	Patrick Steele	psteele@carroll.tn.org
Lincoln County	Falcon Achievement Academy	Amy Clemons	aclemons@lcdoe.org
Loudon County	Loudon County Alternative School	Cheri Parrish	parrishc@loudoncounty.org
Macon County	Macon County Alternative Learning Center	Stephanie Meador	smeador@maconcountyschools.org
Macon County	Macon County High School	Stephanie Meador	smeador@maconcountyschools.org
Manchester City	WMS Flight Program	Julie Miller	jmiller7@k12mcs.net
Marion County	Marion County Alternative School	Mack Reeves	mreeves@mctns.net
Marshall County	Alternative Learning Center	Morgan Sanders	morgan.sanders@mcstn.net
Maryville City	Maryville Academy	Kelly Forester	kelly.forester@maryville-schools.org
Maury County	Horace O. Porter School	Dedra Dawson	dawsond@mauryk12.org
McKenzie SSD	<i>See Carroll County</i>	<i>See Carroll County</i>	<i>See Carroll County</i>
McMinn County	AIM (Achieve, Improve, Mature)	J. Preston Moser	pmoser@mcminnschools.com
McNairy County	McNairy County Alternative School	Stephanie Brown	browns@mcnairy.org
Meigs County	Meigs High Alternative School	John Grissom	johngrissom@meigsboe.net
Metro/Nashville Public	Bass Alternative Learning Center	Henry Johnson	henry.johnson@mnps.org
Metro/Nashville Public	Johnson Alternative Learning Center	Myron Franklin	myron.franklin@mnps.org
Metro/Nashville Public	Park Ave. Elementary School	Deltina Braden Short	deltina.braden@mnps.org
Metro/Nashville Public	MNPS Middle School ALC	Bruce Jackson	bruce.jackson@mnps.org
Metro/Nashville Public	Glenn Elementary ALC	Dr. Dexter Adams	dexter.adams@mnps.org
Milan SSD	Milan Alternative School Program	Kevin Ellison	ellisonk@milanssd.org
Millington Municipal	Millington Municipal Alternative Program	Jill Church	jchurch@millingtonschools.org

SCHOOL DISTRICT	ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL/ PROGRAM NAME	PRINCIPAL/ PROGRAM COORDINATOR	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Monroe County	Monroe County	Chris Bowers	bowersc@monroe.k12.tn.us
Moore County	Raider Academy	Danny Mooney	danny.mooney@moorecountyschools.net
Morgan County	MCCTC (9-12)	Dan Shoemaker	shoemakerd@mcsed.et
Morgan County	Coalfield	Matt Murphy	murphym@mcsed.net
Morgan County	Coalfield School	Matt Murphy	murphym@mcsed.net
Morgan County	Central High School	Aaron Jones	jonesa@mcsed.net
Oak Ridge City	Fresh Start	Christopher Scott	cscott@ortn.edu
Oak Ridge City	Secret City Academy	Christopher Scott	cscott@ortn.edu
Obion County	Obion County Central High School	Barry Kendall	jkendall2@ocboe.com
Obion County	South Fulton Middle/High School	Kimberly Jackson	kjackson@ocboe.com
Oneida SSD	Oneida Indian Academy	Heath Sexton	hsexton@oneidaschools.org
Overton County	Reach Academy	Danny McCoin	dmccoin@oc-sd.com
Paris SSD	Intervention Classroom	Chip Gray	chip.gray@parisssd.org
Paris SSD	Intervention Classroom	Jason Scarbrough	jason.scarbrough@parisssd.org
Perry County	Perry County Alternative School	Michael Rhodes	mrhodes@perrycountyschools.us
Pickett County	Pickett County High School	Darlene Capps	darlene.capps@pickettk12.net
Polk County	South Fulton High School	Cheryl Ogg	oggc@k12tn.net
Putnam County	White Plans Academy	Joe Matheney	matheneyj1@pcsstn.com
Rhea County	Crossroads Academy	Rusty Ray	rayr@rheacounty.org
Richard SSD	Richard Hardy Alternative Program	Beth Webb	bwebb@richardhardy.org
Roane County	Midtown Education Center	Chris Johnson	cbjohnson@roaneschools.com
Robertson County	Robertson County Alternative Program	Teno Geritano	teno.geritano@rcstn.net
Rogersville City	Rogersville City Alternative Program	Rhonda Winstead	winsteadr@rcschool.net
Rutherford County	Daniel McKee Alternative School	Diana Brown	brownd@rcschools.net
Rutherford County	Smyrna West Alternative School	Judy Sides	sidesj@rcschools.net
Scott County	Transitional Learning Center/Real School Tier II	Melissa Rector	melissa.rector@scottcounty.net

SCHOOL DISTRICT	ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL/ PROGRAM NAME	PRINCIPAL/ PROGRAM COORDINATOR	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Sequatchie County	Sequatchie County Alternative School	Darrin A. Long	along@sequatchie.k12.tn.us
Sevier County	Greenbriar Academy	Scott Sutton	scottsutton@sevier.org
Sevier County	Parkway Academy	Dr. Jeff Moore	jeffmoore@sevier.org
Sevier County*	Hardin High School	Scott Sutton	scottsutton@sevier.org
Shelby County	Adolescent Parenting Program	Melita N. Thomas	thomasmn@scsk12.org
Shelby County	Project S.T.A.N.D.	Dr. Tarol Clements	clementstp@scsk12.org
Shelby County	Project G.R.A.D.	Rochelle Griffin	griffinrj@scsk12.org
Shelby County	G.W. Carver College and Career Academy	Dr. James Suggs	suggsj@scsk12.org
Shelby County	Gordon Achievement Academy	Leviticus Pointer	pointerls@scsk12.org
Shelby County	Hope Academy	Roger Jones	jonesrf@scsk12.org
Shelby County	Ida B. Wells Academy	Shadrich Moore	mooresl@scsk12.org
Shelby County	MCS Prep - Northeast	Kenneth Dickerson	dickersonka@scsk12.org
Shelby County	MCS Prep - Northwest	Samuel Bachelor	bachelorsl@scsk12.org
Shelby County	Destination Learning Academy	Jacques Hall	halljh@scsk12.org
Shelby County	Airways Achievement Academy	Wanda Cooper	copperwh@scsk12.org
Shelby County	Newcomers International Center	Gabreila Toro	torog@scsk12.org
Shelby County	Pursuit Center	Toria Brown	browntt3@scsk12.org
Shelby County	W.I.N.	Kemba Edwards	edwardska@scsk12.org
Shelby County	Bartlett Elementary Intervention Program	Page Watson	pwatson@bartlettschools.org
Shelby County	Collierville Elementary Intervention Program	Louise Claney	lclaney@colliervilleschools.org
Shelby County	Lowrance Elementary Intervention Program	Kelvin Bates	kbates@scsk12.org
Shelby County Schools	Shelby County Schools	Valerie Matthews	matthewsvm@scsk12.org
Shelby County-Millington	Millington Municipal	Jill Church	jchurch@millingtonschools.org
Smith County	Smith County Alternative School	Scott Murray	scott.murray@smithcoedu.net
Stewart County	Alternative Learning Center	Jeannie Nolen	jeannienolen@stewartcountyschools.org
Sullivan County	Sullivan North High School	Steve Dixon	steve.dixon@sullivank12.net

SCHOOL DISTRICT	ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL/ PROGRAM NAME	PRINCIPAL/ PROGRAM COORDINATOR	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Sullivan County	Sullivan Central High School	Tammy Mays	tammy.mays@sullivank12.net
Sullivan County	Sullivan East High School	Tiffany Curtis	tiffany.curtis@sullivank12.net
Sumner County	R. T. Fisher Alternative School	David Hallman	david.hallman@sumnerschools.org
Sweetwater City	Sweetwater City Schools	Wendy Duncan	wendy.duncan@scstn.net
Tipton County	Alternative Learning Center	Steve Zurhellen	szurhellen@tipton-county.com
Trenton SSD	Trenton SSD Alternative School	Jason Driggers	jason.driggers@trentonssd.org
Trousdale County	Trousdale County Alternative Learning Center	J Brim McCall	jmccall@tcschools.org
Tullahoma City	Tullahoma Alternative School	Karen Browning	karen.browning@tcsedu.net
Unicoi County	Siam Learning Center	Mike Ensor	mikeensor@k12tn.net
Union County	Union Academy	Victor H. Price II	pricev@ucps.org
Union County	Elem/Middle Alternative Center	Laura Jones	laura.jones@ucps.org
Van Buren County	Van Buren County Schools Alternative Program	Kurt Powers	powersk@k12tn.net
Warren County	Warren Academy	Franklin Fisher	fisherf@warrenschoools.com
Washington County	Midway Alternative Learning Program	James. E. Murphy, Jr.	murphyj@wcde.org
Wayne County	Wayne County Alternative Education Program	Heather Warren	heather.warren@waynetn.net
Weakley County	Weakley County Alternative School	Joyce Hale	joyce.hale@wcsk12tn.net
West Carroll SSD	<i>See Carroll County</i>	<i>See Carroll County</i>	<i>See Carroll County</i>
White County	White County Alternative School/ Warrior Academy	Farrah Griffith (6-8); Greg Wilson (9-12); Bryan Haley	farrah.griffith@whitecoschools.net ; greg.wilson@whitecoschools.net ; bryan.haley@whitecoschools.net
Williamson County	Williamson County Schools ALC	Josiah Holland	josiah.holland@wcs.edu
Wilson County	Barry Tatum Academy	Shaun Caven	cavens@wcschools.com

Appendix C: Sample Comments from LEAs from the 2019-20 School Year

LEAs were asked to name the greatest challenge facing their alternative education school/program for the Tennessee General Assembly. Below are just a few sample comments from districts. The responses shed light on the challenges these schools/programs face in meeting the needs of students in an alternative setting. The primary need is related to lack of appropriate staffing, lack of funding, and mental health support.

What is the greatest challenge facing your alternative school/program?

- Lack of appropriate staffing
- Mental health support
- Lack of funding
- Lack of parental support
- Physical space
- Lack of motivation
- Transition services
- Substance abuse support
- Behavioral issues
- Transportation issues
- Attendance
- Separating students with varied ages and behavioral issues

Appendix D: History of Alternative Education in Tennessee

According to the comptroller's report on alternative education titled [Tennessee's Alternative Schools](#), one of the first alternative schools in our state originated in Dickson County in the late 1970s (Comptroller of the Treasury, 2005, p. 2). Former Juvenile Judge William D. Field, Sr. identified a true need for alternatives to student expulsion or suspension from school (Comptroller of the Treasury, 2005, p. 2). In 1984, the General Assembly passed a bill authorizing the establishment of alternative schools for those who were continually having disciplinary problems in their traditional school environment (Comptroller of the Treasury, 2005, p. 8). The legislature soon amended that bill in 1986 to *require* an alternative school for students in grades 7–12 in each district (T.C.A. § 49-6-3402).

The Education Improvement Act (EIA) was passed by the Tennessee General Assembly in 1992. This mandated that any LEA serving students in grades 7–12 have at least one alternative education program (Comptroller of the Treasury, 2005 p. 3). The state legislature later authorized LEAs to create alternative programs for grades 1–6.

In 1996, the General Assembly authorized the Tennessee Department of Education to establish a pilot alternative school program, one in each grand division (Comptroller of the Treasury, 2005, p. 8). The state legislature also mandated that the State Board of Education provide a curriculum for alternative schools focused on reforming students. In response, the board released *Alternative School Program Standards* in 2000 (Comptroller of the Treasury, 2005, p. 8-9). In 2004, the Senate passed [Joint Resolution 746](#) that required the Office of Education Accountability of the Comptroller's Office to conduct a study of alternative schools in Tennessee. That report was released in April 2005.

More recently (2006), the General Assembly amended T.C.A. § 49-6-3404 to require the establishment of an advisory council, referred to as the Governor's Advisory Council for Alternative Education. The advisory council is charged with the following responsibilities:

1. Consider any issue, problem, or matter related to alternative education presented to it by the governor, the commissioner, or the State Board of Education, and give advice thereon.
2. Study proposed plans for alternative education programs or curricula to determine if the plans or curricula should be adopted.
3. Study alternative education programs or curricula implemented in Tennessee school systems to determine the effectiveness of the programs or curricula, and alternative education programs or curricula implemented in other states to determine if the programs or curricula should be adopted in Tennessee schools.

4. Consider rules of governance of alternative schools, and make recommendations concerning rules of governance.
5. Make an annual report to the governor, the education committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives, the commissioner of education and the State Board of Education on the status of alternative education in Tennessee.

In 2007, Public Chapter Number 517 mandated a transition plan for students entering and leaving an alternative education setting and establishes greater accountability measures to include monitoring academic and behavioral progress of students. Public Chapter Number 211 required that the Advisory Council for Alternative Education study issues relating to the establishment of pilot alternative school programs. Finally, T.C.A. § 49-6-3402 required the Tennessee Department of Education to create a pilot project for the 2007-2008 school year in Davidson County.

With the release of the first annual [Alternative Education Report](#) in January 2008, the council acknowledged the need to examine the following question, “What do we really mean by alternative education?” Due to the complexity of alternative education in our state, the council proposed that the State Board of Education adopt a much broader definition that encompassed all alternative education programs in Tennessee. The council recommended that the board adopt a new, more contemporary definition of alternative education. The council proposed that the following definition of alternative education be adopted: **“A nontraditional academic program designed to meet the student's educational, behavioral, and social needs.”**

In August of 2008, the Governor’s Advisory Council for Alternative Education in conjunction with the State Board of Education released [Alternative Education Program Standards](#). The model standards address the following broad categories: mission and environment, governance, transitional planning, support services, parent and community engagement, staffing and professional development, individualized learner plans, life skills, curriculum and instruction, student assessment, and monitoring and program assessment. The standards replaced the previously adopted *Alternative School Program Standards* from 2000.

In February of 2009, the advisory council released *A Feasibility Study Related to the Establishment of Alternative Programs in Tennessee* with specific recommendations on how to drive quality by enriching funds for alternative education. Additionally, in February of 2009, the council hosted the first annual Student Discipline and Alternative Education Institute. Over 300 educators attended the first institute. In October 2009, the council joined with the National Alternative Education Association (NAEA) on the first ever southeastern regional summit on alternative education. At this conference, the council explored best practice, national trends, and allowed alternative educators an opportunity to collaborate with other practitioners outside of the state. The first summit was held in Rogers, Arkansas.

The council also published an executive brief in February 2010 entitled *Promoting High Quality Alternative Education: An Update from the Advisory Council*. In the brief, the council set forth several legislative recommendations/priorities which include the following: redefine alternative education, establish an *Exemplary Practices in Alternative Education Award*, investigate ways to enrich funding, and create a state-level position to support alternative teachers, students, and parents.