

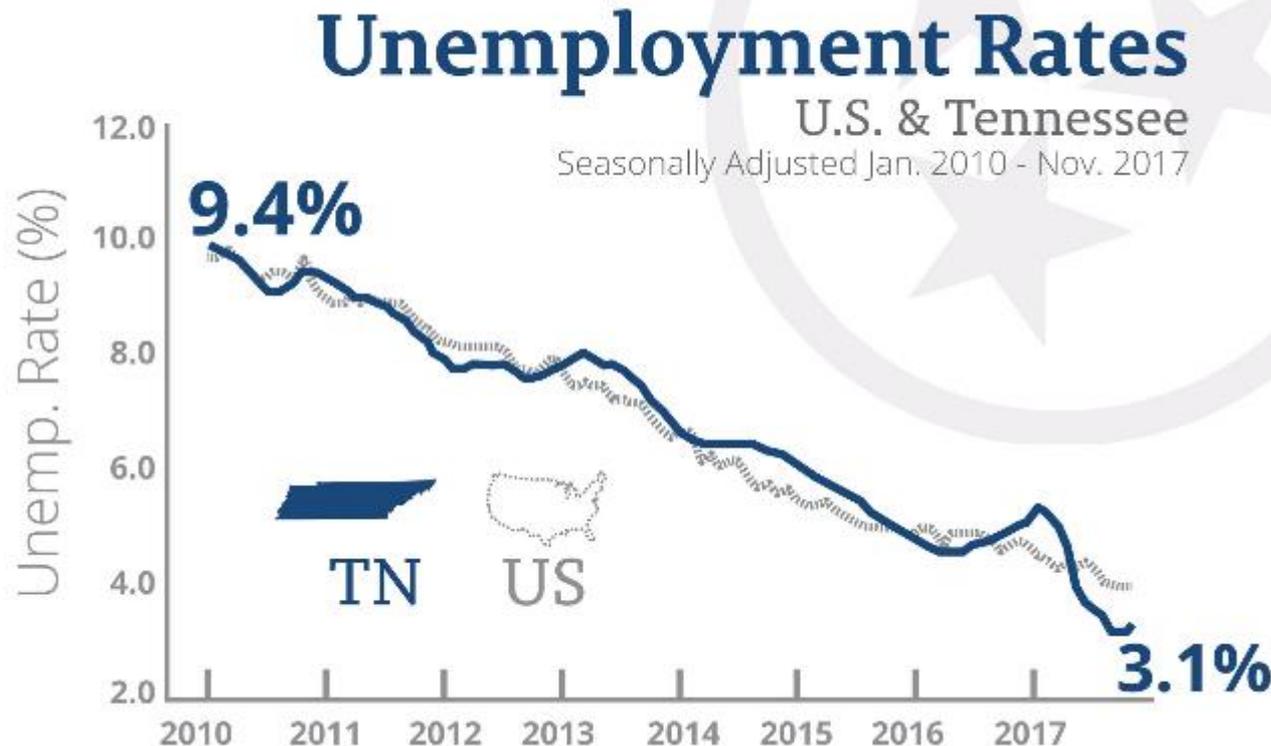


# **Tennessee Succeeds and Student Transportation**

**TAPT Conference**

# Our State is Showing Historic Success

- We have **incredible economic strength**
  - Record low unemployment rate
  - #1 in small business job growth



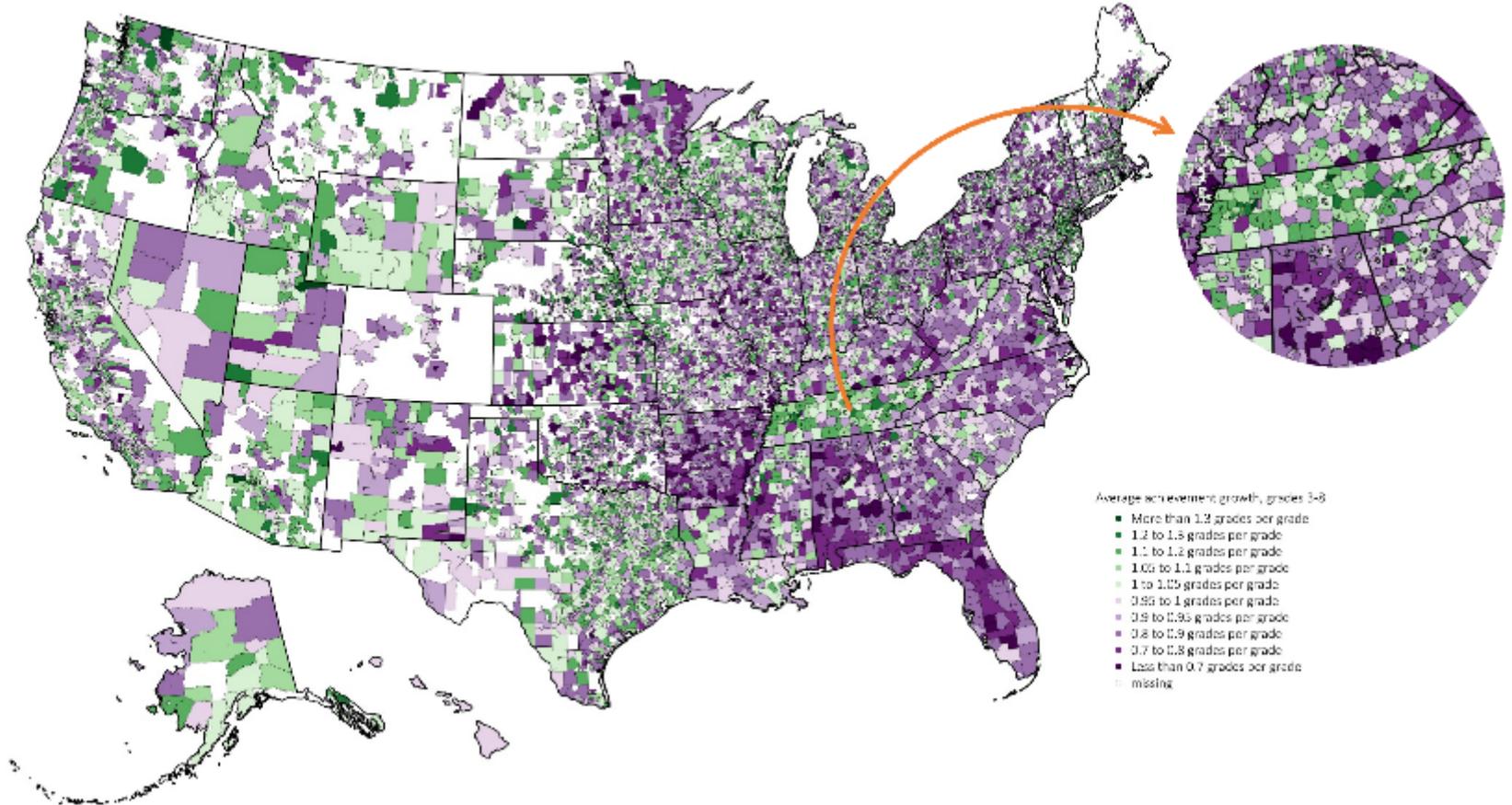
# Our State is Showing Historic Success

- And we believe **education is the reason why**
  - Record high graduation rate
  - Record high ACT composite
  - Nationally recognized strength in career and technical education and aligned pathways to workforce
  - First in the nation to remove financial barriers with Tennessee Promise
  - Community college freshmen requiring remediation is down by 14.4 percentage points since 2011
  - **More students going onto college – and being successful when they get there**



# Tennessee's Progress Literally Stands Out

Average Test Score Growth Rates (Math and Reading Averaged), US Public School Districts, 2009-2015



# Rigor of State Proficiency Standards, 2017

No. 11 Tennessee

Overall grade (2017)

**A** A- B+ B B- C+ C C- D+ D D- F

Difference in percent proficient on state exam and NAEP\*

**-2.60**

Math (2017)

4th graders

A A- **B+** B B- C+ C C- D+ D D- F

8th graders

A A- **B+** B B- C+ C C- D+ D D- F

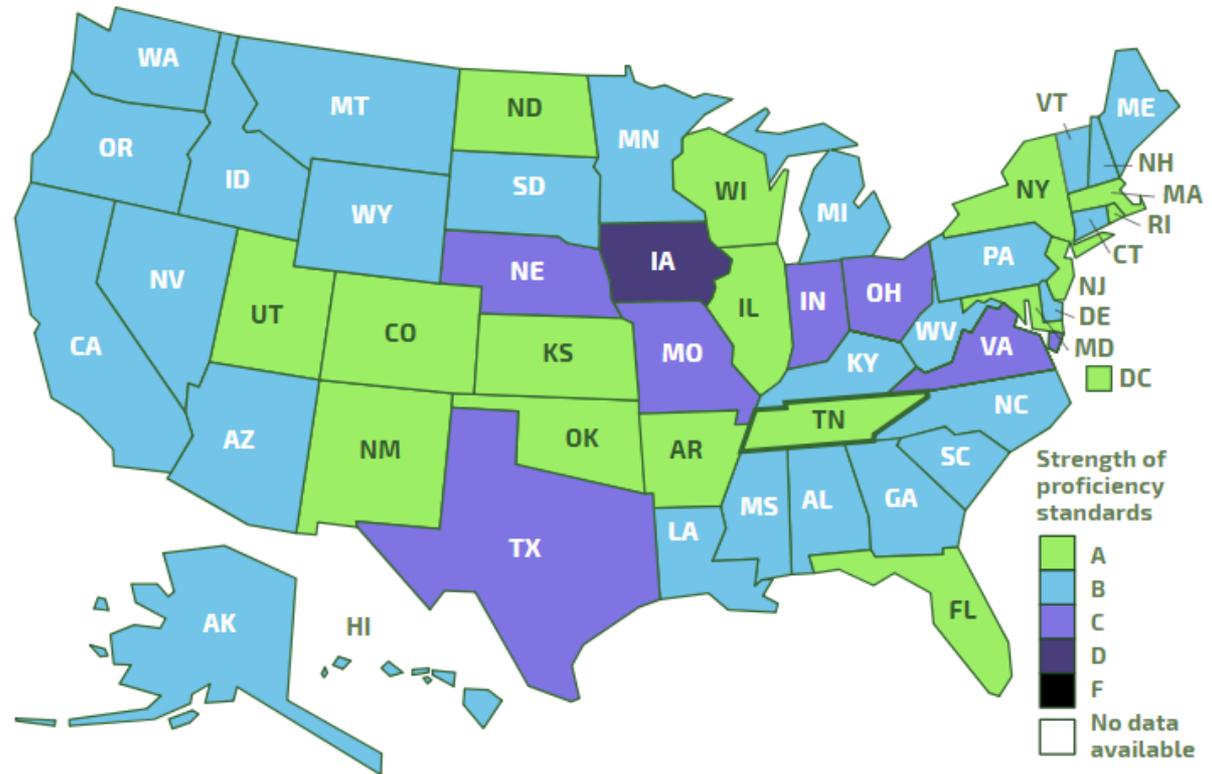
Reading (2017)

4th graders

**A** A- B+ B B- C+ C C- D+ D D- F

8th graders

**A** A- B+ B B- C+ C C- D+ D D- F



# Tennessee moves from F to A



**Candice McQueen** @McQueenCandice · 1h



Incredibly proud to see a decade of work is paying off! In new study from @EducationNext, TN is the top state to close the "honesty gap" & we stand out from other states as our higher standards has gone hand in hand with gains in student achievement. Gone from an "F" to an "A"!

## Many States with Low Grades in 2009 Make Dramatic Improvements by 2017 (Table 2)

*In total, four of five states with F grades in 2009 achieved a C+ or higher in 2017, and nine of 24 states with D- to D+ grades in 2009 received A grades in 2017. Minnesota, Iowa, and Missouri made the least amount of progress between 2009 and 2017—with the rigor of Missouri's standards actually declining.*

IMPROVEMENT RANK	STATE	STATE GRADES BY YEAR			CHANGE IN DIFFERENCE BETWEEN STATE AND NAEP (2009 - 2017)
		2009	2015	2017	
1	Tennessee	F	B-	A	60.81
2	Georgia	F	B+	B+	48.95
3	Illinois	D-	A	A	48.49
4	Kansas	D	A	A	47.84

# We've Made Progress Toward Our Goals

## Goal 1

**Tennessee will rank in the top half of states on NAEP by 2019**

*In 2015, we moved into the top 25 on three exams – an incredible jump from just a few years ago, when we were in the bottom 10.*

## Goal 2

**75 percent of third graders will be proficient in reading by 2025**

*We have a range of work underway through the Read to be Ready campaign and our aligned initiatives to strengthen early literacy.*

## Goal 3

**The average ACT composite in Tennessee will be 21 by 2020**

*Our class of 2016 has already increased the average to 20.1, with more students taking the exam.*

## Goal 4

**Most of the class of 2020 graduates will earn a postsecondary certificate, diploma, or degree**

*We've been nationally recognized for our work to increase access to college and strengthen career & technical education.*



**TN**



**School Transportation  
in Tennessee**

®

# Transportation in Tennessee

- Tennessee schools systems transport about **700,000 students** each school day
- Over **8,700 bus routes** exist across the state's school districts and charter schools
- In an effort to increase safety for student transportation, **PC 289** focused on strengthening qualification and training requirements for Tennessee **transportation supervisors and school bus drivers.**

# Public Chapter 289 Requirements

- Each LEA and charter school must appoint a **transportation supervisor** responsible for the “monitoring and oversight of transportation services”
- Each supervisor must complete the **management training program** developed by the departments of safety and education
- By August 15, 2018, each LEA or charter school must submit to the department the name of the transportation supervisor and verification that they have completed training

# Public Chapter 289 Requirements

- **School boards** must adopt transportation policies that include:
  - Procedures for safety complaints to be reported by students, parents, teachers, staff, and the community
  - Procedures for supervisors to investigate any complaint of safety violation or concern
  - Requirements that each bus is equipped with a phone number (on rear bumper) for reporting complaints
  - Policy or procedures for collection and maintenance of relevant records
- The transportation supervisor is responsible for implementing the transportation safety policy.

# Public Chapter 289 Requirements

- **New bus drivers** must complete a school bus driving training program prior to transporting students that, at a minimum, addresses:
  - student management;
  - distracted driving;
  - school and district policy;
  - driving techniques;
  - evacuations;
  - loading and unloading;
  - mirror usage; and
  - state and federal law.

# Public Chapter 289 Requirements

- The age for applicants for the Class S endorsement has been **increased to 25 years of age.**
- Additionally requires all applicants to have at least **5 consecutive years of unrestricted driving experience**

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**Where are we with  
implementation?**

# Our Progress towards Implementation

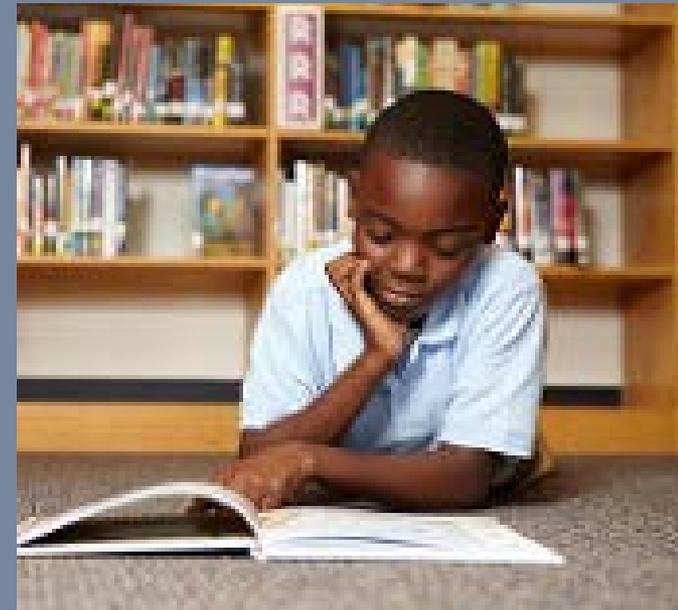
- Hired a TDOE transportation monitor to oversee monitoring and resource development, including new website
- Conducted **statewide transportation supervisor training** for all districts and charters on PC289 requirements last winter
- Developed a **monitoring system** for district and charter compliance addressing all state and federal laws regarding student transportation services with **55 visits completed** to date
- Continue to conduct **Student Transportation Management Training Programs** for supervisors in all CORE regions
- This week, we will release applications for the **School Bus Seat Restraint Grant Program**

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**Why this matters?**



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**Questions?**



***Districts and schools in Tennessee will exemplify excellence and equity such that all students are equipped with the knowledge and skills to successfully embark on their chosen path in life.***

**Excellence | Optimism | Judgment | Courage | Teamwork**