

Tennessee STEM Innovation Summit

Dr. Candice McQueen I Commissioner I May 8, 2018

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



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.

STEM is directly connected to our goals.

- The new unit starters for K-3 reading include science and social studies content
 - Provide an innovative and comprehensive way to build knowledge of science and social studies content while learning reading and language arts
 - Units include many components that build conceptual knowledge
- Students are more engaged, while building skill-based competencies
 - Teachers are going deeper and raising expectations
 - Students are retaining high-level vocabulary and scientific concepts



STEM is directly connected to our goals.

- CTE pathways are accessible to more students and we continue to expand options, including those connected to STEM
- In 2017, 76% of CTE programs directly align to regional labor market needs compared to 26% in 2015
 - Each of the 80 approved industry certifications is aligned to a specific program of study within one of the 16 approved career clusters
- STEM career cluster offers 5 programs of study with a certification in Solidworks Associate
 - Other career clusters are connected to STEM, like advanced manufacturing, which has increased 300% since 2015





Our STEM Strategy will support our continued success.

STEM Academic Modules

- Provides educators 4 complete sets of K-12 modules that set the standard and expectation as to how STEM can be naturally integrated into the classroom using state standards along with STEM strategies and applications
 - Agriculture
 - Manufacturing
 - Technology
 - Health Science
- Will release in summer 2018





STEM Micro-Credential Pilot

- Pilot for Tennessee STEM micro-credentials begins fall 2018
- The pilot serves to identify and recognize educators in their commitment to teaching STEM and integrating strategies that ultimately prepare students for success in the 21st century
- Educators will be able to earn five STEM micro-credentials highlighting five focus areas including:

1. Infrastructure	2. Curriculum & Instruction	3. Professional Development	
4. Achievement	5. STEM Community and Postsecondary Partnerships		

 Once an educator shows evidence of proficiency and earns all five STEM micro-credentials, they will receive the STEM Master Educator microcredential



Counselor STEM Handbook

- The department will release new counselor STEM handbook this summer
- Serve as a resource guide for school counselors in grades K-12 to increase student awareness and knowledge of STEMrelated careers
- Resources will be designed for specific grade bands and will have connections to counselor standards referenced throughout the handbook





TSIN partnership and support

TSIN Professional Development

Rural STEM Collaborative:

- Year-long cohort of educators from across
 Tennessee engaged in identifying issues
 surrounding STEM education
- Develop targeted solutions to address those needs at a classroom, school, or district level
- 43 educators in 24 counties were represented this year



TSIN Professional Development

Innovative Leaders Institute:

- Year-long training and mentoring experience for educators led by some of the top STEM leaders and innovative school leaders in our state
- Currently 123 graduates





Tennessee STEM School Designation

What we know?

Bringing Inclusive STEM High Schools to Scale: Policy Lessons from Three States

Students from inclusive STEM schools:

- Take more advanced math and science
- Have higher GPAs and test scores
- Identify more with science and engage in extracurriculars
- Have stronger STEM career interests
- Have higher aspirations for postsecondar

https://www.sri.com/sites/default/files/publications/inclusive stem-focused high schoolsstem education policy and opportunity structures.pdf

Bringing Inclusive STEM High Schools to Scale: Policy Lessons from Three States



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Tennessee STEM School Designation

- In order to be a national leader in STEM, we must
 - Integrate quality STEM opportunities
 - Develop critical thinking skills and provide new experiences for students
 - Identify and recognize schools committed to STEM
- The STEM Designation provides guidance, examples, and recognition for Tennessee schools
- This process is aligned to the STEM Strategic Plan and will continue to build on the existing work and expand new opportunities



2017-2018 Designation TimeLine





Designation Levels

 Accomplished implemented STEM Schools have demonstrated implementation of 90 percent of the STEM attributes in order to obtain STEM Designation



Elementary or Middle School		High School	
65-72 points	'Accomplished'	69-76 points	'Accomplished'
56-64 points	'On Target'	60-68 points	'On Target'
47-55 points	'Developing'	53-59 points	'Developing'
<_46 points	'Early'	≤52 points	'Early'

2018 Tennessee STEM School Designation

2018 STEM School Designated Recipients







Tennessee STEM School Designation Awards



TENNESSEE STEM SCHOOL DESIGNATION

Chattanooga Girls Leadership Academy



2018-2023













2018-2023









2018-2023



















































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