

Getting Data Right:

Strengthening District Systems for Funding Accuracy

Caryn Burkholder

Director

Operational Data Strategy

Scan the QR to
Access SSC 77
RESOURCES



DISCLAIMER

Generative AI Tools

The **State of Tennessee does not currently permit the use of Generative AI tools**, such as Otter, in meetings hosted on state resources. Meetings with contractors, vendors, and subrecipients are not public meetings and may involve discussion of protected state data.

Generative AI tools are not adequately regulated and are designed to train on data that is collected and may misrepresent data or release protected data to the general public.

While the State supports your desire to maintain documentation of the meeting and what you learn, **please respect our decision to safeguard information** and do not attempt to use tools such as these. If you choose to use a tool such as this, the State will block that tool from the meeting.



Agenda

- Understand the TISA timeline
- Build a Routine for Reviewing Data
- Ask the Right Questions
- Identify and Investigate Discrepancies
- Putting It Into Practice



TISA

Tennessee Investment in Student Achievement

2026-27 TISA Guide

Tennessee Department of Education



© Tennessee Department of Education



Understand the TISA Timeline

DECEMBER

- Reporting Period 1-3 Data Pulled
- **Student data sent to LEAs for review, includes prior year comparisons**

JANUARY

- Reporting Period 1-4 Data Pulled
- Student data sent to LEAs for review

FEBRUARY

- Reporting Period 1-5 Data Pulled
- **Preliminary TISA estimates released**

MARCH

- Reporting Period 1-6 Data Pulled
- Preliminary TISA estimates released

Understand the TISA Timeline *(continued)*

APRIL



- Reporting Period 1-7 Data Pulled
- **Preliminary TISA estimates released (fiscal capacity updated)**

MAY



- Reporting Period 1-8 Data Pulled
- Preliminary TISA estimates released

JUNE



- Reporting Period 1-9 Data Pulled

JULY



- **Final TISA allocations released**



Make TISA Data Review a Routine

Set Up

- Establish Roles and Responsibilities
- Establish Your Review Process

Review

- Review the Big Picture
- Dig into Unexpected Changes
- Validate Across Departments

Follow Up

- Correct and Verify
- Ask for Help Early

The goal is a process, not a one-time review.

TISA Data Reconciliation

	STATE SOURCE(S)	DISTRICT SOURCE(S)	DISTRICT EXPERTS	STATE SUPPORTS
Base ADM	TNShare Report SWORD TISA Projections	SIS ADM Reports SIS Schedule Audit	SIS Specialists Enrollment Specialists Attendance Specialists	TISA Guide TEDS.Onboarding@tnedu.gov TNEDU.Funding@tn.gov
ED ADM	TNShare Report SWORD TISA Projections	SIS Program Detail School Nutrition Imports Process Documentation	SIS Specialists School Nutrition Directors	ED Guidance School.Nutrition@tn.gov TNEDU.Funding@tn.gov
Special Pops ADM	TNShare Report SWORD TISA Projections	SIS Program Lists TNPULSE Reports	SIS Specialists Special Pops Supervisors	ZenDesk (TNPULSE) TNEDU.Funding@tn.gov
CTE ADM	TNShare Report SWORD TISA Projections	SIS CTE Report	SIS Specialists CTE Directors	CTE Course Matrix CTE Programs Guide TNEDU.Funding@tn.gov

Ask the Questions Behind the Numbers

Scenario: Your district's English Learner ADM decreased significantly compared to last school year.

What changed?

Where did it change?

Does the underlying data explain it?

Can we explain the change?

Handout: Questions to Ask When Validating TISA Data



When the Data Does Not Match Expectations



Move from identifying the difference to understanding the cause and determining what to do next.





Questions

Tnedu.funding@tn.gov

Caryn.Burkholder@tn.gov

Permission is granted to use and copy these materials for non-commercial educational purposes with attribution credit to the "Tennessee Department of Education". If you wish to use the materials for reasons other than non-commercial educational purposes, please contact the office of general counsel at (615) 741-2921.