



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 BUDGET HEARING

Tennessee Education

Tennessee's strong commitment to improving PK-12 education:

- Early Literacy: 2023 3rd Grade ELA TCAP results showed **largest single year increase and highest proficiency rates since 2017**
- Remediation & Acceleration: Responded to pandemic and need for ongoing supports by providing recurring summer programming, **servicing over 100,000 students** this past summer
- School Choice: Launched **state's first Education Savings Account program** and increased access to public charter schools
- School Safety: Cross-agency and legislative efforts produced updated school safety requirements, and led to **funds to support an SRO in every public school** in addition to one-time funds to support school security enhancements
- K-12 & Workforce Alignment: Launched **Innovative School Models program with \$500M** to support districts creating stronger connections to high-demand, high-wage careers
- School Funding: Successful passage of **student-based TISA funding formula and historic investment of \$1B in state funding**

Education – Public School Security Grants

- State's largest LEA grant program for school safety
 - \$40M (2023 general session) and \$10M (2023 special session)
- Applications released earlier than in any prior year, providing access to funds before the start of school year
- Current status for \$40M:
 - Grant applications approved: 233
 - Grant funds approved: \$39.5M (99% of appropriated funds)
 - Grant applications denied: 0
- Top categories of use of funds:
 - Surveillance
 - Access control
 - Window film
 - Communications equipment



Education – Non-Public School Security Grants

- State's first school safety program for non-public schools
 - \$14M (2023 general session)
- Current status (grant process ongoing):
 - Intent to Apply forms: 378
 - Grant applications approved: 306
 - Grant funds approved: \$12.2M (87% of appropriated funds)
 - Grant applications denied: 0



Education – Innovative School Models

- Innovative School Models: **\$500M investment to every public middle and high school** to bolster CTE programming to better prepare students for state's highest-demand skills and careers
- Over first two years of implementation:
 - **3,900 students enrolled in 150+ courses** for college credit through expanded early postsecondary opportunities (EPSOs)
 - **6,300 industry credentials** earned
 - **6,600 students** in work-based learning opportunities at **150+ organizations**
 - Over **100 partnerships** established with local industry



Education – Education Savings Account (ESA) Program

- Provides eligible low-income students access to high-quality, non-public education
- Participation:

	2022-23	2023-24
Students with Approved ESAs	707	2,586
Participating Non-Public Schools	44	75

“My children love the school and the new opportunities they have to grow educationally and in an environment they love.”
~ Memphis mother of two ESA students

Education – Cost Increase Request

Cost Increases		State				Federal	Other	Total	Positions
		Recurring	NR						
1	TISA Funding	\$ 260,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 260,000,000	-		
2	Universal Reading Screener	\$ 2,500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,500,000	-		
3	College, Career & Technical Education AP Access for All	\$ 3,200,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,200,000	-		
4	Workforce Development	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000	3		
5	General Counsel Position	\$ 134,200	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 134,200	1		
6	Cybersecurity & District Support	\$ 4,775,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,775,000	1		
7	State Special School Teacher Raises	\$ 577,800	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 577,800	-		
8	TN Public Charter Schools Expansion & Growth	\$ 643,700	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,811,200	\$ 21,454,900	1		
Total Cost Increases		\$ 272,830,700	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,811,200	\$ 293,641,900	6		



THANK YOU