
State Identified Priority Schools

The Background:

In accordance with T.C.A. § 49-1-602, the Commissioner of Education must present to the State Board of Education a list of all schools to be placed in Priority school status. A Priority school list must be identified, at a minimum, every three years. The last Priority list was identified for 2015.

Priority School Criteria

The Priority school calculation is based on a two year success rate for high schools and a one year success rate for K-8 schools that incorporates Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP) data from the 2015-16 and 2016-17 school years only. Pursuant to Public Chapters 881 and 1026 of 2018, no school is identified as a Priority school using 2017-18 TNReady data.

Schools identified as **Priority** are schools that:

- a. Ranked in the bottom 5 percent of their grade pool (i.e., K-8 or high school) based on data from 2015-16 and 2016-17 **AND**
 - b. Did **not** earn school-wide TVAAS composite levels of 4 or 5 in both 2016-17 **and** 2017-18
- OR**
- Have a graduation rate of less than 67 percent for the 2017-18 school year. Schools that are identified as Priority may not be identified as Reward.

Priority schools are eligible for yearly exit if they meet one or more of the following criteria:

- a. The school's success rate exceeds the 15th percentile for most recent year, or
- b. The school's success rate exceeds the 10th percentile for two most recent years, or
- c. The school earns a TVAAS level 4 or 5 in all accountability content areas for two consecutive years.

The Recommendation:

The Department of Education recommends adoption of this item on final reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.