

Department of **Education**

Strategic Compensation Policy: Proposed Revisions

Martha Moore, Senior Director of Educator Effectiveness Tennessee Department of Education, Office of Preparation and Performance SBE Workshop, February 3, 2022

BESTALL We will set all students on a path to success.

ACADEMICS

ALL TENNESSEE STUDENTS WILL HAVE ACCESS TO A HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATION, NO MATTER WHERE THEY LIVE

STUDENT READINESS

TENNESSEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS WILL BE EQUIPPED TO SERVE THE ACADEMIC AND NON-ACADEMIC NEEDS OF ALL STUDENTS IN THEIR CAREER PATHWAYS

EDUCATORS

TENNESSEE WILL SET A NEW PATH FOR THE EDUCATION PROFESSION AND BE THE TOP STATE IN WHICH TO BECOME AND REMAIN A TEACHER AND LEADER FOR ALL

Relevant Statute and Policy



TCA 49-3-306

- Salary Schedules
- Alternative Salary Schedules
- Differentiated Pay Plans

SBE Policy 5.600 Strategic Compensation

- Differentiated Pay Plans
- Vacancy Data Collection
- Alternative Salary Schedules

State Salary Schedule Tennessee Code Annotated 49-3-306



- A state salary schedule must be:
 - established the commissioner and state board for each school year
 - applicable to all licensed personnel in every LEA
 - include an established base salary per school year
 - two hundred (200) days
 - beginning licensed personnel with a bachelor's degree and zero (0) years of experience
- Licensed personnel having more training and experience shall receive more than the established base per school year



State Salary Schedule Tennessee Code Annotated 49-3-306



Alternative salary schedules may be submitted for approval by districts annually and:

- must be approved by the commissioner and SBE (if approved valid for 3 years as per SBE policy 5.600)
- may not result in the reduction of the salary of a teacher employed by the LEA at the time of the adoption of the salary schedule
- allow districts to structure compensation differently than the traditional experience/degree lane pay schedule



Differentiated Pay Tennessee Code Annotated 49-3-306



An LEA shall develop, adopt and implement a differentiated pay plan:

- designed to meet the guidelines established by the State Board of Education
- to be reviewed annually
- to aid in staffing hard to staff subject areas and schools
- to aid in hiring and retaining highly qualified teachers



Strategic Compensation SBE Policy 5.600

Differentiated pay plans must pay on **at least one** of the following criteria:

Criteria	Examples
High needs subject areas/schools (hard to staff)	Schools with historically disadvantaged or low performing student populations, low teacher retention/high turnover, equity/effective teaching gaps, and/or subject area vacancies
Instructional roles and responsibilities	Duties in addition to classroom instruction to support effective educator practice such as teacher leader roles or those that provide support to populations with unique needs (dual enrollment coordinators, 504 plan coordinators)
Performance	Increased pay based on effectiveness data (typically TVAAS or level of overall effectiveness (LOE)); may be paid as a stipend or base pay increase (base pay changes require an alternative salary schedule submission/approval)



Vacancy Data Collection SBE Policy 5.600 (current)



Differentiated pay plan approval contingent upon:

- Evidence of previous year's implementation
- Evidence that plan meets criteria
- Submission of vacancy data within thirty (30) days of initial submission (currently this is due July 30)



Proposed Changes

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Change "educator" to "teacher" for specificity	• Differentiated pay plans target teacher pay. Districts may elect to provide stipends for leaders, but those are not considered differentiated pay plan criteria.
Allow for vacancy data informed changes to differentiated pay plans	 This allows districts to make updates to plans after the school year is underway, providing additional flexibility and responsiveness to current and changing needs.
Clarification regarding single criteria plans to ensure payouts (specifically hard to staff)	 This allows the department to support districts with effective development and implementation of strategic compensation and ensure compliance.
Move vacancy data collection timeline to October	 This allows districts to more accurately identify open positions that are negatively impacting student progress (vs. a July reporting date).
Removal of Tennessee Teacher Leader and Professional Learning Standards for clarity	• These policies no longer exist.
Department of	

Strategic Compensation SBE Policy 5.600 – Current Timeline





Strategic Compensation SBE Policy 5.600 – Proposed Timeline





Next steps



The department has:

- updated the method of collecting vacancy data to ensure accuracy and useability of data.
- removed the requirement for districts to submit permit/waiver information and is instead providing that information to the district for review/approval.
- convened a multi-division team to address the issues surrounding teacher vacancies and to develop targeted district supports.
- sought feedback from stakeholder groups.
- developed a communications plan to ensure districts understand the change in approach and the next steps the department will take place.



Questions?





Thank You

Martha.Moore@tn.gov



