



Department of
Education

Non-Public Schools

Diana Burton

Senior Manager of NPS Programs | Division of Choice

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Agenda

- 1 Current Snapshot of NPS
- 2 Authorizers & Approval Processes
- 3 Reporting and Monitoring
- 4 NPS Advisory Council



Non-Public School Programs

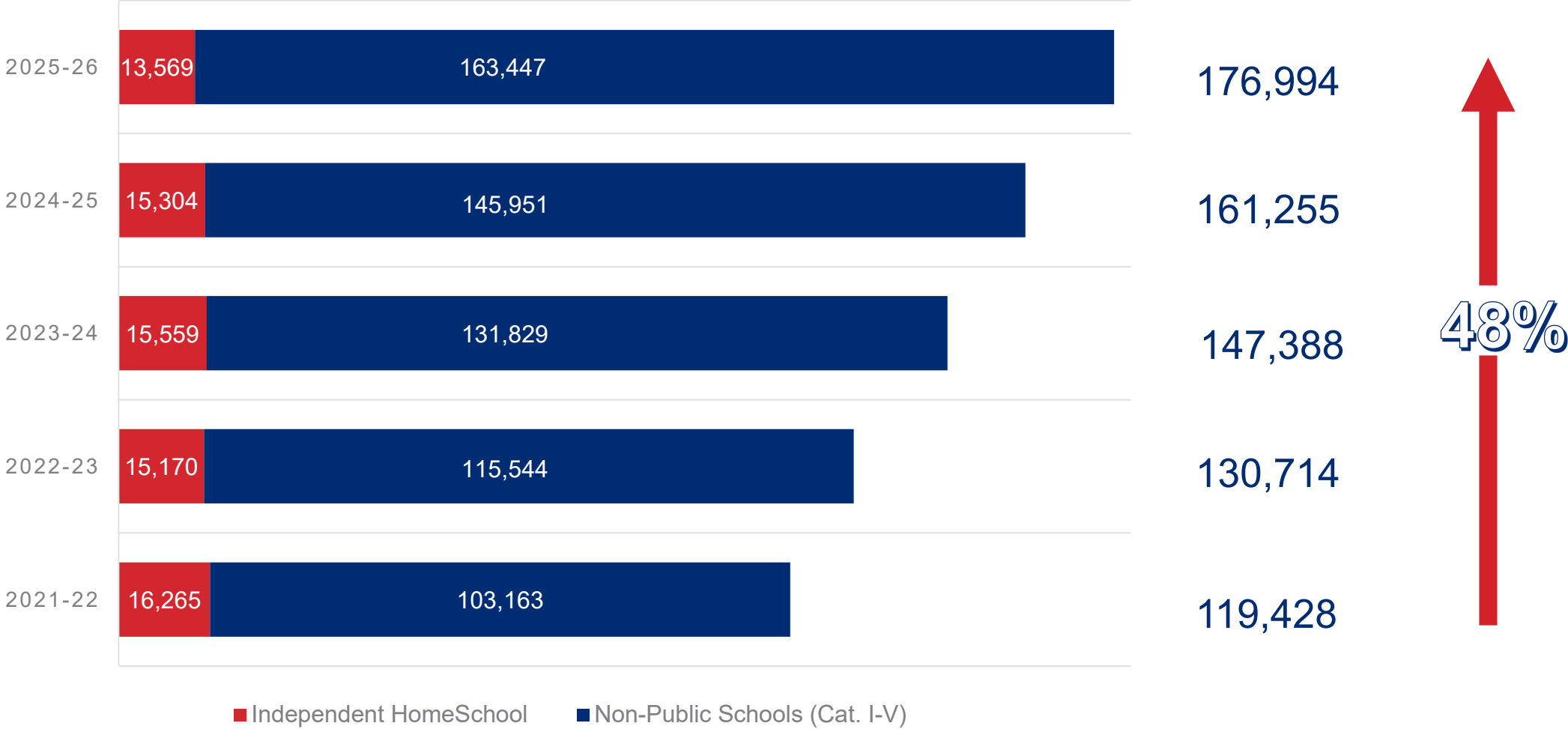
Category	Authorizer	# of Schools
I	Tennessee Department of Education	42
I-SP	Tennessee Department of Education	50
II, III	Accreditation Agency	369
IV	Church-Related Membership Agency or SBE	212
V	Tennessee Department of Education	42
IHS	Local Education Agency	N/A
TOTAL	→	715

I-SP = Category I-Special Purpose

IHS = Independent Home School

SBE = State Board of Education

Non-Public & Home School Enrollment



Approval Processes

TN Department of Education

Categories I, I-SP, V

- Submit application between Jan. 5 – May 15
- Pre-approval conference
- Submission of documents and permits
- Site visit and interview
- Final approval

Accreditation Agencies

Categories II, III

- Usually start in another category first
- Candidacy period lasting 12-36 months (generally)
- Assurances or other process to confirm compliance with SBE approval rules
- Notification to department of category change and accreditation

Membership Agencies & State Board

Category IV

- Follow membership agency or SBE process for application and approval
- Agencies & SBE each have their own deadlines; some allow new members at any time of the year
- Notification to department of new member school and approval

The NPS program team assists with SFMO inspection requests for all categories.

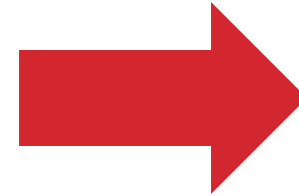
Monitoring



Cat. I/I-SP, V, IV - SBE

Tier 1: Annual Reporting

- Participation by 100% of approved non-public schools in these categories
- Submission of online reporting through ePlan in fall and spring
- Required for ongoing approval



Tier 2: Monitoring

- Participation by specified non-public schools in these categories
- Submission of additional documentation
- Participation in virtual or in-person site visit

Fall Report



Cat. I/I-SP, V, IV - SBE

Tier 1

Sept. 1 – Oct. 15

- School Directory Information
- Enrollment and Attendance Data
- Facility Annual Inspection Reports: Food Safety and Fire Safety
- School Handbook/Policies
- Staff Roster
- Teacher Credentials
- Assurances
- Attestation of Accuracy



Handbook Policies



Cat. I/I-SP, V, IV - SBE

Tier 1

Cat. I/I-SP

Hours of operation
Enrollment
Attendance
Immunization/Health
Criminal history record
checks
Assessment
Graduation requirements
Student records retention
Promotion and retention
Progress report
Class size

Cat. V

Hours of operation
Enrollment
Attendance
Immunization/Health
Criminal history record
checks
Assessment

Cat. IV-SBE

Hours of operation
Enrollment
Attendance
Immunization/Health
Criminal history record
checks

Spring Report



Cat. I/I-SP, V, IV - SBE

Tier 1

March 1 – April 15

- Directory Changes (if applicable)
- Completed NPS Calendar Template
- Published Version of School Calendar (for upcoming year)
- Assurances
- Attestation of Accuracy



Reporting Results



Cat. I/I-SP, V, IV - SBE

Tier 1

There are three possible results for each required section or item:

- ● ● ● ● **Finding(s) of Non-Compliance:** Compliance concerns of required components
- ● ● ● ● **Corrections Needed:** Modifications necessary to complete the review
- ● ● ● ● **Met Requirements:** Satisfactory compliance of reviewed components





Monitoring



Cat. I/I-SP, V, IV - SBE

Tier 2

Who?

Up to five non-public schools

Why?

Demonstrate a need for further support through scoring process

How?

Fall/Spring reports

Additional documentation submission

In-person or virtual site visit, to include interviews

Monitoring



Cat. II, III, IV

- Cat. II, III, and IV schools are monitored by their authorizing agency.
 - Annual assurances and/or membership renewal
 - Re-accreditation on a regular schedule
 - Address reports of potential non-compliance
- Agencies submit a fall report to the department through ePlan which contains:
 - Agency Directory Information
 - List of Approved Non-Public Schools
 - Links to Agency Website: member schools and accreditation policies
 - Receipt Certification of Notice of Applicable SBE Rules and Laws



NPS Advisory Council

- 9-member council appointed by the Commissioner
- 3-year term with new members appointed if someone resigns
- Meets bi-annually in April and October
- Advises the department on policies related to non-public school administration





NPS Advisory Council

Name	Entity
Matthew Bullington	Middle Tennessee Home Education Association
Shana Druffner	Catholic Diocese of Nashville, Office of Catholic Schools
Jennifer Osland	National Business Officers Association: Business Leadership for Independent Schools
Don Holwerda	EduSource
Debbie Landers	Tennessee Association of Nonpublic Academic Schools (TANAS)
Randy Scallions	Tennessee Association of Christian Schools (TACS)
Dr. Patrick Schuermann	Independent School Leadership Master's Program at Vanderbilt University
Kim Thompson	Georgia-Cumberland Conference of Seventh-day Adventist (SDA)
Sarah Wilson	Tennessee Association of Independent Schools (TAIS)





Thank you!

Q&A

Contact:

Diana Burton, Senior Manager of Non-Public School Programs
Diana.Burton@tn.gov; (865) 253-0901

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