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State Identified Reward Schools

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**The Background:**

In accordance with Tennessee’s accountability system, the Tennessee Department of Education is charged with presenting to the State Board of Education a listing of reward schools.

Reward Schools are made up of the top five percent of schools in the state in each grade pool based on performance—as measured by overall student achievement levels—and the top five percent for year-over-year progress—as measured by growth in student achievement. These 10 percent of schools receive recognition for their success.

To identify Reward schools for **performance**, the most recent year of data will be used for the following subjects: 3-8 Math, 3-8 Reading/Language Arts, 3-8 Science, Algebra I or Integrated Math I, Geometry or Integrated II, Algebra II or Integrated Math III, English I, English II, English III, Biology I, Chemistry, and Graduation Rate.

A reward success rate is calculated for each school using the following formulas:

$$K8 \text{ success rate} = \frac{\# \text{ On Track or Mastered (Math + ELA + Science + Algebra I + Geometry + Algebra II + Integrated Math I + Integrated Math II + Integrated Math III + English I + English II + English III + Biology I + Chemistry)}}{\# \text{ Valid Tests (Math + ELA + Science + Algebra I + Geometry + Algebra II + Integrated Math I + Integrated Math II + Integrated Math III + English I + English II + English III + Biology I + Chemistry)}}$$
$$K12 \text{ success rate} = \frac{\# \text{ On Track or Mastered (Math + ELA + Science + Algebra I + Geometry + Algebra II + Integrated Math I + Integrated Math II + Integrated Math III + English I + English II + English III + Biology I + Chemistry) + Graduate Count}}{\# \text{ Valid Tests (Math + ELA + Science + Algebra I + Geometry + Algebra II + Integrated Math I + Integrated Math II + Integrated Math III + English I + English II + English III + Biology I + Chemistry) + Graduation Cohort}}$$

To identify Reward schools for **progress** the top five percent of schools in each grade pool are selected based on their one-year school level composite for TVAAS.

There are some reward exemptions. Schools cannot be identified as reward schools and must be excluded if:

1. The gap between any of the gap groups listed below is in the top 25 percent of all gaps for a given gap group.
  - Black/Hispanic/Native American vs. All Students

- Economically Disadvantaged vs. Non-Economically Disadvantaged
- English Learners vs. Non-English Learners
- Students with Disabilities vs. Non-Students with Disabilities

2. The school is identified as a Priority or Focus School and did not meet exit criteria.

**The Fiscal Analysis Impact:**

T.C.A. § 49-1-212 requires that the Department prepare a fiscal analysis of any policy, rule or regulation proposed to the State Board of Education. This item has no financial impact on an LEA.

**The Recommendation:**

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

**Attachment will be given out  
at the Workshop**