



TACIR

The Tennessee Advisory Commission
on Intergovernmental Relations



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Commission Members

FROM: Cliff Lippard *Cliff*
Executive Director

DATE: 7 January 2021

SUBJECT: Commission and Staff Updates

Commission Update

Commission staff have completed an updated analysis measuring the effect of the Basic Education Program on equity in education spending through school year 2017-18—20 years after full funding. This, the sixth such TACIR analysis since the BEP was implemented, shows that overall, spending equity improved as the new formula was phased in (fiscal years 1992-93 to 1997-98), with the increase in state revenue making up for differences in local revenue, and continued to improve through full funding. But despite early gains in education equity, the equalizing effect of state revenue has been too small to offset differences at the local level for at least the last 15 years. We will publish a staff report of the analysis later this month.

Staff Update

Research Manager David Lewis will achieve 30 years of service to the State of Tennessee next month. Please join me in congratulating David on this impressive milestone. And on a personal note, I will be celebrating 25 years of state service later this month. I cannot imagine a more rewarding career nor working with more distinguished colleagues.