

AGENDA
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Old Supreme Court Chamber
State Capitol
Nashville, TN
January 13, 2010
11:00 a.m.

Welcome

I. Resolution

11:00 a.m.

- A. *Race to the Top Resolution*
Resolution in support of the development of a new teacher and principal evaluation process that includes student achievement data as a component of the evaluation.

II. Adjournment

MEETING DATES FOR 2010:

January 29, 2010
April 16, 2010
August 6, 2010
October 29, 2010

State Board of Education
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Race to the Top Resolution

The Background:

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, signed into law by President Obama on February 17, 2009, provides \$4.35 billion for the Race to the Top Fund, a competitive grant program designed to encourage and reward states that are creating the conditions for education innovation and reform; achieving significant improvement in student outcomes, including making substantial gains in student achievement, closing achievement gaps, improving high school graduation rates and ensuring student preparation for success in college and careers; and implementing ambitious plans in four core education reform areas.

The Race to the Top Fund competition will reward states that have demonstrated success in raising student achievement and have the best plans to accelerate their reforms in the future, and those states that are rewarded will serve as models to promote the best reform ideas across the country.

Article XI, Section 12 of the Tennessee Constitution states, “The State of Tennessee recognizes the inherent value of education and encourages its support”, and “[t]he General Assembly shall provide for the maintenance, support and eligibility standards of a system of free public schools.”

In 2008, the State Board of Education, responding to directives by the Governor and the General Assembly, adopted more rigorous high school graduation requirements with the specific goal of giving Tennessee children and young adults the skills they need to reach career and college readiness. A significant part of moving students to these levels involves having the most effective teachers and school leaders possible and developing an evaluation mechanism that supports and recognizes the best Tennessee educators and moves all teachers and leaders through a fair and meaningful evaluation process.

The Master Plan Connection:

This item supports the Board’s *Master Plan* by providing for effective teachers and leaders for all students.

Recommendation:

The SBE staff recommends approval of the resolution.



STATE OF TENNESSEE
RESOLUTION
BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

WHEREAS, in 2008, the State Board of Education, responding to directives by the Governor and the General Assembly, adopted more rigorous high school graduation requirements with the specific goal of giving Tennessee's children the skills necessary to reach career and college readiness; and

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee's leadership in national education reform initiatives, including the American Diploma Project; and its nationally known commitment to gathering educational data for the purposes of promoting education improvement have demonstrated the Volunteer State's commitment to national education reform; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned developments have placed Tennessee in a unique position to accelerate education improvement and compete for unprecedented levels of public education funding from the federal government; and

WHEREAS, the State Board of Education's *Master Plan* outlines the conditions necessary for making substantial gains in student achievement, closing achievement gaps, improving high school graduation rates and ensuring student preparation for success in college and careers; and

WHEREAS, the development of a new teacher and principal evaluation process that includes student achievement data as a significant component of the evaluation is critical to helping effective teachers and school leaders fulfill the State Board of Education's mission to "prepare all students for successful post-secondary work, education and citizenship"; and

WHEREAS, the Race to the Top competition, a component of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, requires states seeking funding to have an evaluation process for teachers and principals that includes student achievement data as a substantial component; and receipt of Race to the Top funds will better position Tennessee to successfully develop and implement such an evaluation process.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF TENNESSEE supports and endorses the development of a new teacher and principal evaluation process that includes objective student achievement data as a significant component of the evaluation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the objective achievement data consist of multiple measures including but not limited to value-added data, and that the total measure of student achievement count no less than fifty percent, with the value-added data, where available, comprising no less than thirty-five percent of a teacher's or principal's evaluation.

RESOLVED, this the 13th day of January, 2010.

BY: _____
Carolyn Pearre
Acting Chair

ATTEST: _____
Dr. Gary L. Nixon
Executive Director