



Welcome to The Educator, Memphis Education Fund's one-stop shop for all education news. You can expect to discover updates on our latest initiatives, education-related advice, ideas and tools for parents, and more!

Vice-Chair Sheleah Harris Resigns

On Tuesday, June 13, the Memphis-Shelby County Schools Board held committee meetings and a special called meeting. At the special called meeting, the Board discussed superintendent qualifications and rubric categories to evaluate candidates. Board Vice-Chair Sheleah Harris resigned as representative for district 5 at Tuesday's special called meeting. A replacement will be appointed by the Shelby County Commission.





MSCS Superintendent Search Update

On Tuesday, June 27, Memphis-Shelby County Schools Board held its monthly Business Meeting. During this meeting, the Board voted to renew Interim Superintendent Toni Williams' contract until Summer 2024. Board members also agreed that moving forward, Superintendent Toni Williams would not be considered as a Superintendent search finalist.

During an hour-long discussion with search firm Hazard, Young, Attea and Associates (HYA) on Wednesday, June 28, the Memphis-Shelby County Schools Board reached a consensus on several key decisions regarding the superintendent search, including welcoming new candidates to apply. The Board confirmed its earlier decision to invite new candidates to the search pool and agreed on a revised timeline, giving national and local candidates a generous window to apply. The revised timeline and ideal superintendent qualities can be viewed in full on the [MSCS Newsroom Page](#).



3rd Grade Retention

In 2021, the Tennessee General Assembly passed the Tennessee Literacy Success Act and the Tennessee Learning Loss Remediation and Student Acceleration Act. This law applied to the 2022-2023 school year. However, Governor Bill Lee

amended the bill, and those amendments will apply to the 2023-2024 school year. The amended bill permits students who score “approaching” on the TCAP to be promoted to the 4th grade as long as summer school and tutoring is in place for the student. The amended bill also allows schools and school districts to help parents with paperwork to appeal the retention of their 3rd graders.

Third Grade 2023 TCAP Scores

Memphis-Shelby County Schools released the Third Grade 2023 TCAP Scores on May 24, 2023.

- 42% of 3rd graders scored *Below* Proficiency
- 34% of 3rd graders scored *Approaching* Proficiency
- 23.6% of 3rd graders scored *Proficient*

This leaves 76% of MSCS third-graders at risk of repeating the grade.

Across the state, 40% of third graders scored *Proficient*, 35% of third graders were *Approaching* proficiency, and 25% were *Below* proficiency, leaving 60% of third graders across the state at risk of repeating the grade.

Tennessee Investment in Student Achievement

The Tennessee Investment in Student Achievement, also known as TISA, is set to go into effect for the 2023-2024 school year. This law will replace the current Basic Education Program (BEP). TISA will shift school funding from resource-based to student-based. TISA will provide base funding to every student and then add additional funding to students with special learning needs, small districts, and students with economic disadvantages. These state funds will be distributed to each school district.

The Tennessee Alliance for Equity and Education takes a closer look at TISA in their Dollars and Sense Learning Series. This TISA breakdown can be found at <https://thealliancetn.org/dollars-and-sense/tisa-evaluation/>



Parent Resources

July Summer Camps

Although we are halfway through the summer, there are still opportunities to enroll in summer camps.

The YMCA offers week-long summer camps every week, ending August 4th. Registration is weekly and ends at 6pm the Thursday before the selected week of camp. Register at <https://www.ycamemphis.org/>

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