



Issue Brief – Teacher Salaries

Background

Boards of education are charged with governing school systems so that all students receive the best educational opportunities to graduate prepared to enter a postsecondary institution or the workforce. Under current law, school districts are required to meet student teacher ratios in each school building. The Basic Education Program (BEP), however, provides funding based on a district-wide student teacher ratio. As a result, some teachers are not included in the BEP calculations even though the district is required to hire them in order to be in compliance with the law. Providing additional funds for the total number of teachers that each individual school is required to employ in order to meet student teacher ratios will improve teacher salaries statewide and directly impact student achievement.

TSBA Position - SUPPORT

TSBA urges the Tennessee General Assembly to provide funding for the total number of teachers each individual school is required to employ to meet student teacher ratios under state law.