



2022 Legislative Agenda

TSBA firmly believes in the success of Tennessee's public schools and the opportunities they have provided and continue to provide to children. The Association acknowledges the challenges that public schools face as well as the need for continued improvement, and its member boards of education are dedicated to reaching the goal of every child achieving his or her highest potential. We believe we can help accomplish this goal by focusing our legislative efforts on the following areas:

Local Control of Schools

- TSBA believes that local boards of education are the best equipped and informed to make decisions to address the needs and challenges of their local schools. TSBA opposes any efforts to diminish or impede upon this local control.

Use of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Funds

- TSBA urges the General Assembly to allow local boards of education to use TANF funds for recurring costs related to funding positions that support social services.

Use of Benchmark Scores

- TSBA urges the General Assembly to allow school districts, schools, teachers, and students the option to utilize benchmark assessments to measure growth and proficiency.

Options for Third-Grade Retention

- TSBA urges the General Assembly to allow school districts to make retention decisions for third-grade students based upon school district data which demonstrates an understanding of ELA.

Teacher Evaluations

- TSBA urges the General Assembly to require the State Board of Education to create a teacher evaluation system that would allow the use of benchmark assessments as a component in teacher evaluations.



Removing Time Limits on State Mandated Assessments

- TSBA urges the General Assembly to remove time limits on state mandated assessments.

Waiver from Summer School Requirement

- TSBA urges the General Assembly to allow school districts that use an extended calendar to receive a waiver from the summer school requirement.

Teaching Incentives

- TSBA urges the General Assembly to provide incentives for individuals wishing to enter the teaching profession and pay for the Praxis tests for teacher candidates.

Open Enrollment

- TSBA urges the General Assembly to rescind or amend Public Chapter 479 to require each local Board of Education to develop a policy to govern transfers within their school district.

Use of the ACT/SAT Suite of Tests

- TSBA urges the General Assembly and the Tennessee Department of Education to allow school districts the opportunity to select either the TCAP testing program provided by the State of Tennessee or the suite of standardized assessments available from either ACT or SAT for all public high school students.

The Tennessee School Boards Association will actively support legislation relative to these and other issues as determined by its Resolutions and Position Statements.