TN Department of Education

TN EDUCATION RESEARCH ALLIANCE

2019 TENNESSEE EDUCATOR SURVEY: WHAT IT IS AND WHY IT'S IMPORTANT

Since 2011, the Tennessee Department of Education and the Tennessee Education Research Alliance have partnered to produce the Tennessee Educator Survey. This annual survey provides all teachers, administrators, and certified staff the opportunity to tell us what is working and what improvements need to be made about education in Tennessee.

Tennessee has made tremendous strides in improving education for its nearly one million students thanks to the coordinated efforts of our teachers, school leaders, and policymakers. **We must continue moving forward and need YOUR input and insights.**

SURVEY QUICK FACTS

- *Open to all educators from **March 5-April 19***
- *Completely **confidential** – District and school leaders will not receive individual results*
- *Is **voluntary** – Though we strongly encourage participation, it isn't required*
- *Only takes about **20 minutes** to complete*
- *Offers opportunities to win **grants** for your school or classroom*

Survey feedback provides critical, actionable data that influences strategies and goals at the state, district, and school levels.

Survey Responses Influence Policy and Practice

The survey is open to **all teachers, administrators, and certified staff** in Tennessee.

Past surveys have resulted in changes like:

- *Incentive bonuses for teachers to remain in Priority schools*
- *Increased teacher collaboration time*
- *Opportunities for teachers to work with principals to address issues specific to their school*

Last year, nearly 40,000 Tennessee educators (58%) completed the survey and we hope even more will participate in 2019. Now is your chance to provide important feedback to Governor Bill Lee and Commissioner Penny Schwinn as they consider policies that will directly impact practices in classrooms across the state.

Survey Participation Ensures Access to Localized Data

Schools and districts with at least a 45% participation rate receive aggregate results so informed decisions can be made at these local levels. It's vital that eligible teachers, administrators, and staff participate so their schools have this critical information in hand.

This year's survey asks your opinions on:

- *School climate*
- *Educator evaluations*
- *Specific state initiatives*
- *Instructional practice*
- *Professional learning*

New this year, we've also added **special educator** and **interventionist** branches.

COMPLETE THE SURVEY AND HELP YOUR CLASSROOM

INDIVIDUAL CLASSROOM GRANTS

TASK	REWARD
Complete the survey – all teachers who participate are eligible.	**15** **$300** Classroom project grants via lottery (drawn weekly)

SCHOOL-WIDE GRANTS

TASK	REWARD
At least 66% school completion by April 3	**3** **$500** Grants via Lottery
At least 90% school completion by the end of the survey window (April 19)	**7** **$2000** Grants via Lottery

TENNESSEE EDUCATOR SURVEY BASICS

Am I required to complete the survey?	No, the Tennessee Educator Survey is voluntary, but all educators are encouraged to participate. A variety of individual and school-level rewards are offered for survey completion.
Will my administrator see my results?	No, survey results are confidential, and your administrator will not see your individual results. District and school leaders will only receive aggregate results.
When can I take the survey?	The survey window is **March 5 – April 19.**
How do I access the survey?	Educators will be sent personalized invitations via email to complete the survey. If you have trouble accessing the survey, check: **https://tdoe-edsurvey.azurewebsites.net/TeacherURLs/**
How long does it take?	The survey takes approximately **20 minutes** to complete, but can be saved and finished at a later time.
When can I see the results?	Results will be sent to school leaders and districts with a 45% or higher response rate in June. Results will also be available publicly on the **http://educatorsurvey.tnk12.gov** for schools and districts that meet the 45% response rate threshold in August.
Who do I ask for help if I am having issues accessing the survey?	Please reach out to **tned.research.alliance@vanderbilt.edu** with questions regarding this year's survey.

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For more information about the survey, please visit
https://peabody.vanderbilt.edu/TERA/Tennessee_Educator_Survey.php