

Meeting Takeaways and Recommendations

Education Foundations Subcommittee

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Date:	December 8, 2021	Time:	11:30 am – 12:30 pm
Location:	Microsoft TEAMS - Click here to join the meeting		
Chair:	Dan Challener		
Members in Attendance:	Dan Challener Chris Letsos Katie Cour Amanda Waddell Lisa Trail Scott Bacon Lynn Voelz Stan Harville Senator Richard Briggs Representative David Hawk		
	*Member names in bold indicate those present for this meeting.		

2. DIRECTIONS

Topic

Tennessee Funding Review Engagement

Please list specific resources that you would like to see incorporated into the funding formula. (In other words, what resources do you think are most important so that the cost of those resources can be included. It does not mean a district **MUST** spend money in a certain way, only that they would be funded to do so). Please indicate whether each resource is a:

- **Must Have:** Those resources required as a result of federal and/or state law, for safety, or similar.
- **Should Have:** Those resources that may not be mandatory but are essential to ensure the student or student group receives access to a quality education.
- **Nice to Have:** Those resources that are not mandatory and not essential, but (1) may provide a clear and added benefit to students and (2) have a clear return on the investment related to student achievement and future success.
- **Long Shot:** All other resource ideas.

For each resource, please assign a cost to the resource, if you have it. Subcommittees may assign those amounts, but please also know that resource values will also be reviewed with additional input submitted by LEAs, national experts, and research.

Public Feedback Comments

	Subcommittee Comments
Base	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • • • • • • •
Weights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • • • • • •
Direct Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • •

Tennessee Funding Review Engagement

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • • • •
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • • • • • •
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • • • • • •

Resource Feedback

MUST HAVE

Additions to the subcommittee’s brainstormed list (located in *the Initial Notes and Resource Recommendations (uncategorized)* section) from meeting #2:

- Virtual education or digital classrooms
- Instructional and/or behavioral coaches should be split to two items
- Professional development: Training for culture competency and cultural responsiveness
- Equitable early gifted testing
- Equitable field trip experiences
- Healthier and higher quality meals
- Updated media centers and libraries
- Prioritize supports and materials to ensure reading on grade level by grade 3
- High quality materials for all areas
- Funded PK
- Summer programming
- Reading coaches for all but at least underperforming schools

Tennessee Funding Review Engagement

Base

- Subcommittee agrees with the following statewide trends:
 - Nurses (either at every school OR at the nationally recommended ratio)
 - Counselors (either at every school OR at the nationally recommended ratio)
 - School Psychologists (at the nationally recommended ratio)
 - Teacher Salaries and Benefits
 - Flexibility for Facility Funding and/or Deferred Maintenance
- The subcommittee will continue to discuss their brainstormed list to add to the base.

Weights

- Agree with the following statewide trends:
 - Economically Disadvantaged and Concentration of Poverty
 - Students with Disabilities (with tiers based on the cost to provide services)
 - English Learners (rec. to include tiers based on English proficiency)
 - Rural
 - Sparsity

Needs/Questions/Concerns:

Clarity on charter enrollment and fast growing is needed before agreement on whether these should be weights can be determined.

Concern about districts receiving the funds the following the year rather than current.

Request for information on using prior performance of students as a weight.

SHOULD HAVE

NICE TO HAVE

LONG SHOT



4. FINAL THOUGHTS

“Overall Feedback Received” slide – In general, the subcommittee is in agreement but would want further details to fully understand the intention of each statement.

Subcommittee members are hearing lots of feedback from stakeholders that public generated funds should stay within the public school systems.

The formula must properly invest in areas that are mandated by the state.