

TENNESSEE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION	
SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING	2.101

Schools will develop a comprehensive school-wide plan¹ to provide for continuous student growth and improvement by meeting the following requirements:

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING

1. School improvement planning is an inclusive process involving all programs and constituents within the school. All school improvement plans - Title I, Technology, Safe and Drug Free, Education Edge, Special Education, Vocational Education and others - will be combined into one improvement plan, using one process.
2. School improvement planning is a continuous process. Beginning in the year 2000, all state approved schools - public schools and Category I non-public schools – will submit updated school improvement plans every two (2) years for review by the Department of Education. Revised school improvement plans will show revisions in bold print.
3. Schools involved in initial and continuing accreditation site visits with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools during the year of state review will be exempted from the state review and will be reviewed by the SACS visiting team.
4. Schools will link their improvement plans to the local school board's five-year strategic plan, State Board of Education's Master Plan, and the State's performance goals. Both school plans and school system plans will be used for accountability purposes.
5. The school improvement plan will address the Early Childhood Education Policy, the Middle Grades Policy and the High School Policy adopted by the Board of Education.

THE TENNESSEE SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING PROCESS

1. For state approval, school systems will use the Tennessee School Improvement Planning Process (TSIPP) or another strategic school

¹ Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-1-601; SBE Rule 0520-1-3-.03(16).

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improvement planning process with prior approval by the Commissioner of Education. All plans must include the components of TSIPP.

2. For state approval purposes and accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, schools may use the Tennessee School Improvement Planning Process in conjunction with the National Study of School Evaluation School Improvement Process if schools meet SACS Standards and State Board of Education rules and if they use a SACS facilitator.
3. Schools and school systems which are on probation will use the Tennessee School Improvement Planning Process as a mechanism for school improvement.

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF PLANNING

1. Goals - The plan will include a goals, strategies for achieving them and measures of success. Schools will use student performance data and the results of needs assessments administered to appropriate constituencies in establishing goals. Schools may develop rubrics to measure success.
2. Focus on Students - School improvement plans will focus on student learning.
3. Effectiveness - The school improvement planning process will examine current teaching, learning and organizational practices to determine effectiveness.
4. Best Practices - The school improvement planning process will include an examination of current research best practices.
5. Professional Development - The school improvement plan will include a plan for professional development focusing on the needs of the individual school and designed to assist educators in using best practices to meet the goals in the plan.

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6. Technology - The school improvement plan will emphasize effective use of technology for instruction, planning, professional development, and data management.

7. Parent and Community Involvement - School improvement planning teams will include parent and community members.