Parent Notification

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Each year, the Tennessee Department of Education examines schools' performance across several indicators to provide an overall picture of how schools are serving the needs of all students. The Department of Education included the following indicators in its analysis of school accountability:

- Student achievement
- Student growth
- English learner proficiency exam (ELPA)
- Chronic absenteeism
- Ready graduate (high school only)
- Graduation rate (high school only)

More information on each of these indicators, along with the data used to define them, can be found in the 2025-2026 Federal Accountability Protocol. Under the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the department is required to use school accountability results to identify schools with the lowest performance across student groups (e.g., individual racial/ethnic groups, students with disabilities, economically disadvantaged students, and English learners). These schools will receive additional support from the department.

We are writing to inform you that Sullivan East Middle School has been identified for TSI/ATSI, as required by ESSA and the U.S. Department of Education, during the 2025-26 school year. This federal designation will be retained until the school exits or a new designation list is released.

Our school, in collaboration with the district and the Tennessee Department of Education, is focused on boosting student achievement. Key strategies include scheduling professional learning meetings for teachers, conducting data meetings at the district and school level to interpret student performance and progress, and implementing common formative assessments. We ask for your partnership in these efforts by participating in parent-teacher meetings, motivating your student to strive for their best, and ensuring they attend school consistently.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sheri Nelson