



## TEA BREAKS DOWN K-12 FUNDING NUMBERS; THE TALE OF THREE QUARTERS

As the snow and ice melted across Tennessee, the state's record-breaking revenue increased even more while the state continued to woefully underfund our public schools. TEA broke down the state's K-12 funding numbers per school district, revealing figures the state never wanted to share. As it turns out, the amount of public education funding increases over the last 10 years equals 75 cents per pupil per day. That's right: three quarters is all we got! While we triple-check the numbers before sharing them with Tennessee lawmakers, directors of schools and policymakers, we ask you to check the link below for the [updated version of TEA's school funding video and links](#) to every school district's funding figures, which will be published over the next few days.



As TEA fights for increases to the state's public education budget in the General Assembly, we ask you to share a post or a video highlighting how your classroom and school are affected by the lack of funding, and tag TEA on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#). Our state must get out of the bottom five in the nation, reach the Southeast average and [#BeatBama](#) in public education funding! It's a very attainable goal considering [Tennessee's record-breaking revenue figures](#). Our state's revenue surplus in January alone was \$380.1 million, bringing year-to-date revenue surplus for six months to \$1.1 billion.

[Join TEA President Beth Brown's Legislative Briefing Monday, March 1](#), at 5 pm CST. Members who have registered for a previous briefing do not have to re-register.

## HELP ASPIRING EDUCATORS BY APPLYING FOR TEA SCHOLARSHIPS BY MARCH 1

TEA is proud of its legacy of helping generations of Tennessee educators achieve their dreams through the TEA Don Sahli-Kathy Woodall Scholarship Fund. [You can find scholarship information and applications here](#) or by [emailing Jeanette DeMain](#). All applications are due March 1.

## REGISTRATION CLOSSES TONIGHT FOR NEA ESP CONFERENCE: ATTEND FREE OF CHARGE

[The 2021 NEA Education Support Professionals Conference](#) registration closes tonight! Hurry to register for the conference, which will be held virtually March 19-21, with a special ESP of the Year celebration on Friday, March 26.

Conference participation is offered FREE of charge to TEA-NEA members! Once you register, you'll be able to view all conference sessions for 90 days after the conference. Contact [espconference@nea.org](mailto:espconference@nea.org) with any questions.

### **GRRRREAT THINGS HAPPEN WHEN YOU READ**

Check out [TEA's take](#) on the [Read Across America](#) celebration and have fun reading with your students!

The theme for Read Across Tennessee this year is "[Grrreat Things Happen When You Read](#)," featuring Ruffy the Reading Dog. The annual celebration falls on Tuesday, March 2. [Click here](#) to download the poster, bookmarks and coloring sheets.

### **100% ONLINE PDP FROM [RENEW A TEACHING LICENSE](#)**

[Renew a Teaching License by Professional Learning Board](#) provides 100% online professional learning for teachers in Tennessee. All courses are related to improving educator effectiveness to help Tennessee teachers complete continuing education requirements.

All Renew a Teaching License courses come with a [FREE PD tracker!](#) You can start at your convenience. [Sign up today!](#) Please contact Deborah Bonner at [dbonner@tnea.org](mailto:dbonner@tnea.org) for a 20% discount code.

### **[TEA DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR AWARDS](#) OPEN FOR SUBMISSIONS**

The Distinguished Educator Award Program (DEAP), a TEA tradition since 1982, honors public education professionals who inspire students, parents, colleagues, and the community through their talents, leadership, and community service.

All nominees must be TEA members who have not previously received a DEAP award in the category for which they are nominated. Applications will be scored using a rubric that can be found with the [online application](#). [Applications must be completed and submitted](#) no later than April 30, 2021.

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