

2025 Tennessee Principals Conference

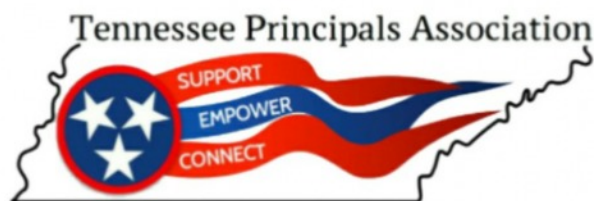
Conference Schedule and Guide



BOOTS ON THE GROUND: LEADING WHERE IT MATTERS MOST

*Our mission is to support, empower,
and connect Tennessee Principals.*

www.tnprin.org



President's Welcome

Welcome to the **2025 Tennessee Principals Association Conference** in Franklin, Tennessee. This is a gathering designed for courageous, hands-on leaders who show up every day for their students, staff, and communities. Our theme, ***"BOOTS on the Ground: Leading Where It Matters Most,"*** reflects the heart of principalship in Tennessee: visible, present, and purpose-driven leadership.

The 2025 conference is built around **BOOTS**, a framework that captures the essential work we do:

Bravery in Leadership: Standing tall in complex times and making decisions that put students first.

Ownership of Outcomes: Owning the culture, climate, and results in our buildings—because every child's success matters.

Optimizing Instruction: Using data, coaching, and collaboration to lift the quality of teaching and learning in every classroom.

Team Empowerment: Growing teacher leaders, strengthening PLCs, and cultivating collective efficacy.

Strategic Vision: Setting a clear direction with measurable goals and sustaining the momentum to get there.

Across keynotes, breakout sessions, and networking events, you'll find practical tools, proven strategies, and inspiring stories from leaders across the Volunteer State. Whether you're refining instruction, strengthening your culture and operations, swapping ideas with principals from rural, suburban, and urban contexts, leaving with real partners, not just business cards, or supporting staff wellness, there is a session, a colleague, and a next step here for you.

Thank you to our presenters, partners, sponsors, and the incredible planning team whose "boots on the ground" made this experience possible. And thank you, principals, for the daily, often unseen work of principalship, greeting buses and students, coaching teachers, supporting families, celebrating wins, and addressing challenges with grace and grit. Your leadership changes trajectories.



May these days in Franklin recharge your spirit, sharpen your practice, and renew our shared commitment to every student in every school.

With gratitude and pride,

Dr. Darla Young-Berry, President
Tennessee Principals Association



Conference Leadership Team



Dr. Darla Young-Berry



Dr. Stacy Edwards



Dr. Janice Irvin



Dr. Brian Partin



Mrs. Shay Siler

Helpful Hints to Help MAXIMIZE Your Conference Experience

- Attend as many sessions as possible! TPA secures National level speakers for YOU!
- Spend time in the Exhibit Hall. The latest educational RESOURCES and PRODUCTS will be available for you to see. Be sure to THANK our VENDORS for their support! Monday is the only day for Exhibits – with dedicated Exhibit Hall time built into the schedule.
- Be sure to participate in the Exhibit Hall Scavenger Hunt! Prizes Await!
- DOOR PRIZES will be available throughout the conference! YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN! Prizes include: CASH \$\$\$, gift cards, vendor gifts, and MORE!
- NETWORK, NETWORK, NETWORK! Reach out and meet a colleague from across the state. Connections and relationships are a vital part of our organization!
- Get INVOLVED!
 - Would you like to be a Membership Ambassador?
 - Would you like to do a breakout session at the conference next year?
 - Would you like to publish an article in TN Principal Update?
 - Would you like to serve on the TPA Board of Directors?

If you answer YES to any of these questions, please seek out a TPA Board Member and have a conversation. You matter!
- Set aside money in your school budget next year to attend the 2026 Tennessee Principals Conference
- Take time to laugh during the conference! It's healthy!
- HAVE FUN and LEARN A LOT!
- Let us know if you need anything . . . this conference is for YOU! ***Thank you for being here!***

NOTE: TASL information will be available at the conclusion of the Awards Luncheon on Tuesday. TASL credit can only be obtained by FULL conference participation (must be present to be awarded credit).

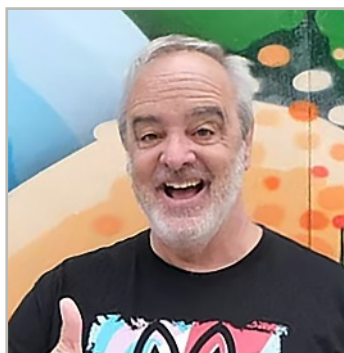
Keynote Speakers

Dr. Todd Whitaker – Speaker, Author



Dr. Todd Whitaker is one of the nation's leading authorities on teacher and principal effectiveness, staff morale, teacher leadership, and school culture and climate. Todd has written over 65 books including the national best seller, *What Great Teachers Do Differently*. Other titles include *What Great Principals Do Differently*, *Shifting the Monkey*, *School Culture Rewired*, *Your First Year*, *Dealing With Difficult Parents*, *Motivating & Inspiring Teachers*, and *How To Get All Teachers To Become Like The Best Teachers*.

Gerry Brooks – Speaker, Author



Gerry Brooks has been an educator for 20 years, beginning as a third-grade teacher in Palm Bay, FL. He earned his master's in administration and has been an elementary principal for 12 years. Originally using humorous videos to encourage his staff, Gerry has become a national encourager for teachers through social media and speaking events. He is a voice for teachers, but his passion is leading others to be responsible for their own personal climate and culture in the workplace. His book, "Go See the Principal," outlines strategies for taking on this responsibility. Gerry and his wife, Kelly, have 3 adult children and live in Lexington, KY.

Dr. Adrienne Battle - MNPS Superintendent



Dr. Adrienne Battle was named superintendent of Metro Nashville Public Schools in 2019. With more than 150 schools, 81,000 students, 11,000 employees, and a budget of more than \$1.2 billion, MNPS is one of the nation's largest school districts and one of Nashville's largest employers.

Dr. Battle, a Nashville native, has spent almost her entire career with MNPS. She is a graduate of the district's John Overton High School, Missouri State University, and Tennessee State University, where she earned her master's, education specialist, and doctorate degrees in Educational Administration and Supervision.



BOBBIE SOLLEY CENTER *for*
**Excellence
in Teaching**

REACHING · EMPOWERING · TRANSFORMING

 FREED-HARDEMAN UNIVERSITY

FREE Professional Development Resources For Educators

The Bobbie Solley Center for Excellence in Teaching (BSCET) at Freed-Hardeman University is supported by input from experienced professionals who are working in the field of education. The center's mission is to develop teacher and school leaders committed to making a positive impact on student learning and fostering high student academic achievement for diverse student populations. Currently, the center provides relevant, high-quality professional development opportunities for educators free of charge. These sessions are facilitated by educators across Tennessee and beyond.

For a complete list of upcoming sessions, scan the QR code or visit:

fhu.edu/bscet



GRADUATE EDUCATION

Do you want to better serve your school? Freed-Hardeman University's selection of online graduate programs meets a broad range of school needs, with master's and post-master's programs in curriculum and instruction, literacy, special education and administration and supervision, as well as initial teacher licensure and a variety of endorsement areas.

DEGREES OFFERED:

Doctor of Education in Instructional Leadership
Education Specialist in Instructional Leadership
Master of Education in Instructional Leadership
Master of Education in Literacy (emphasis in ESL)
Master of Education in Curriculum & Instruction
Master of Arts in Teaching
Master of Arts in Teaching in Special Education



FREED-HARDEMAN
UNIVERSITY

fhu.edu/GradEducation

TPA Board of Directors



Picture Not
Available

Open
Position:
District 6



Our Membership Directors want to hear from you.

Scan the QR code to learn more about the benefits of a TPA membership. See page 14 for the TPA Membership District Map and contact information for Membership Directors.

Join today!

Board Directory

Row 1:

Darla Young-Berry	President
Patrick Certion	President-Elect
Jesse Goins	Vice President
Deeanne Miree	Past President
Shay Siler	NAESP State Representative
Terrence Brittenum	Secretary

Row 2:

Holly Flora	Treasurer
Stacy Edwards	Associate Director
Brian Partin	Executive Director
Shannon Cotton	Membership Director, Dist-1
Tracey Bell	Membership Director, Dist-2 / 3
Shelley Archuleta-Smith	Membership Director, Dist-4

Row 3:

Fred Hewitt	Membership Director, Dist-4
David Golden	Membership Director, Dist-5
- OPEN -	Membership Director, Dist-6
Ruth Pohlman	Membership Director, Dist-7
Ashley Aldridge-Wilson	Membership Director, Dist-7
Suzanne Parham	Membership Director, Dist-8

Row 4:

Luke Douthat	Membership Director, Dist-9
Heather Wolf	Dir. Of Advocacy (Fed./State) *
Stacy Edwards	Higher Learning *
Amanda Binkley	Editor / Private School *
Janice Irvin	Exhibit Hall Coordinator *
Anne Marie Gleason	NAESP President-Elect
	* Special Board Appointment

Get Involved!

*Would you like to be a
Membership Ambassador?*

*Would you like to do a
breakout session at the
conference next year?*

*Would you like to
Publish an article in
TN Principal Update?*

*Would you like to
Serve on the TPA
Board of Directors?*



INTERESTED?

Please seek out
a TPA Board
Member to
get started!

Schedule of Events

Sunday, November 16, 2025

4:00 pm - 6:00pm	Vendor Hall Set Up & Registration Open
6:00 pm	TPA Board Meeting
7:00 pm	TPA Board Dinner

Monday, November 17, 2025

7:00 am - 8:00 am	Registration and Breakfast
7:30 am - 8:00 am	Vendor Hall Opens
8:00 am - 8:45 am	Breakout Session #1: Azalea / Iris / Magnolia / Chestnut Rooms
8:45 am - 9:00 am	Vendor Hall Break
9:00 am - 10:15 am	Welcome & General Session #1 - Dr. Todd Whitaker
10:15 am - 10:30 am	Dedicated Vendor Hall Break* Time <i>Break Sponsored by Freed-Hardeman University</i>
10:30 am - 11:30 am	General Session #2 - Dr. Todd Whitaker
11:30 am - 11:45 am	Vendor Hall Break
11:45 am - 12:30 pm	Breakout Session #2: Azalea / Iris / Magnolia Rooms
12:30 pm - 1:45 pm	Lunch and Vendor Hall Time
1:45 pm - 2:30 pm	Breakout Session #3: Azalea / Iris / Magnolia / Chestnut Rooms
2:30 pm - 3:00 pm	Break & Vendor Hall
3:00 pm - 4:15 pm	General Session #3 - National Distinguished Principals' Boom Session
4:15 pm - 4:45 pm	Final Vendor Hall Giveaways
4:45 pm - 5:30 pm	Wrap Up Day #1
5:30 pm	Hotel Guest Evening Reception

Tuesday, November 18, 2025

7:30 am - 8:30 am	Breakfast
8:30 am - 9:30 am	General Session #4 (Crucial Conversations Presentation & TPA Business Meeting)
9:30 am - 9:45 am	Break / Checkout
9:45 am - 11:30 am	General Session # 5 - Mr. Gerry Brooks
11:30 am - 11:45 am	Break / Checkout
11:45 am - 1:00 pm	Awards Luncheon: Keynote Speaker, Dr. Adrienne Battle <i>Entertainment by the DuPont Hadley Middle School Steel Drum Band</i>
1:00 pm	TASL Verification & Departure

Breakout Session 1

8:00 am - 8:45 am (4 Sessions)

Title: From Chaos to Clarity: A Principal's Guide to Resilience (E, M, H)

Location: Azalea

Presenter: Mrs. Sharonda Rose (Rivercrest Elementary, Bartlett City Schools)

Moderator: Mrs. Shay Siler

Description: Come rediscover your joy as a school leader! As principals, we often pour into everyone else and forget to refill our own cups. This powerful and engaging session will provide proven, practical strategies to prevent burnout while caring for both yourself and your staff. Through hands-on activities, reflection, and real-life examples, you'll explore ways to create balance between your personal life and career. Participants will leave with ready-to-implement ideas for supporting staff well-being, along with soul-nourishing practices to foster a healthier, more sustainable work environment. Walk away refreshed, inspired, and equipped to keep every cup (yours included) full.

Title: Bridges and Breakthroughs - The Shift from Educated Employee to Effective Educator (E, M, H)

Location: Iris

Presenters: Dr. Trenton Watson, Dr. Shannon Cotton, Ms. Zonja Glover, Dr. Renee Meeks, Mr. Eric Brent (Westwood High School, Memphis Shelby County Schools)

Moderator: Dr. Deeanne Miree

Description: This session will seek to enlighten educators on the path of making the appropriate shifts in the schools from educated employee to effective educator. This presentation will outline the resources necessary to move the needle in any school at any level. Five distinct components drive this process, and these components help bridge the gap in the learning and culture of the building.

Title: Anyone Can Count the Seeds in an Apple, but Only the Principal Can Count the Apples in a Seed (E, M, H)

Location: Magnolia

Presenter: Dr. Reginald R. Williams, Sr. (Overton High School, Shelby County Schools)

Moderator: Mr. David Golden

Description: "Tipping Points"—A book by Malcolm Gladwell discusses how an epidemic could spread quickly across a city, state, or even country. This epidemic can be a negative or positive influence. See how the principal Williams put Malcolm Gladwell's book to use at a school he inherited in 2006, 2015, and 2019. Putting parameters in place to address those "Tipping Points" allowed all three schools to receive state and regional recognitions. School officials must know how to de-escalate situations, not escalate them. The seed in the apple has cultivated eleven of his leadership team members to receive their own schools under his leadership.

continued -

Breakout Session 1

8:00 am - 8:45 am *(continued)*

Title: Recess: What is Your Responsibility as the Principal When it Comes to Equipment? (E, M)

Location: Chestnut (General Ballroom)

Presenter: Jessica Etheredge, Recreational Concepts (Cookeville, TN)

Moderator: Dr. Ashley Aldridge Wilson

Description: We all know there is Tennessee State Law requiring a minimum number of unstructured recess minutes for all elementary (40 min. a day) and middle school (90 min. per week) students. What are you as the Principal liable for during this time? What are the safety requirements of a playground that you need to know as the principal? We often rely on the maintenance department to assess and maintain the playground areas (I know I did as a principal), but we all know if something happens on that playground, who is responsible? You! What are the rules and regulations you need to be aware of so you can make sure your playground is safe for students!

Now that your playground is safe, how does it impact the social-emotional side of students? How does your playground increase inclusiveness and belonging for all students? What does the data show us that students want and how do we help you meet their needs? These are all things we will cover in our session as well as some simple games to take back to make you a recess LEGEND!

“Recess Time...it makes kids smarter”



Breakout Session 2

11:45 am - 12:30 pm (3 Sessions)

Title: Navigating Privacy in the Age of AI: Essentials for Building Administrators (E, M, H)

Location: Azalea

Presenter: Jill Pierce, Executive Director - Tennessee Educational Technology Association

Moderator: Mrs. Suzanne Parham

Description: As artificial intelligence becomes increasingly integrated into educational environments, understanding how it intersects with student privacy is more important than ever. This session equips building administrators with the knowledge and tools to uphold **FERPA compliance** while responsibly leveraging AI technologies. Participants will explore real-world scenarios, best practices, and emerging challenges to ensure student data remains protected in a rapidly evolving digital landscape.

Title: From Vision to Distinction: Building a Resilient School Culture That Drives Growth

Location: Iris

Presenters: Dr. Kyle Loudermilk and Dr. Shanna Smith (John Sevier Middle School, Kingsport City Schools)

Moderator: Mrs. Tracey Bell

Description: In today's complex educational landscape, building a truly resilient school is more critical than ever. This session will share the blueprint used by John Sevier Middle School to transform its culture, culminating in the prestigious 2025 Resilient School Distinction Award from East Tennessee State University. We will walk attendees through the specific, multi-step process that embedded our core values (accountability, kindness, perseverance, respect, and community) into every aspect of school life. This is not just a story of a single award; it is a case study on how a deliberate focus on culture directly contributes to student success, including Sevier's achievement of two consecutive years of Level 5 Growth from the Tennessee Department of Education.

Title: Strategies for Working With and Among Difficult People (E, M, H)

Location: Magnolia

Presenter: Dr. Reginald R. Williams, Sr. (Overton High School, Shelby County Schools)

Moderator: Dr. Amanda Binkley

Description: In all organizations, leadership teams and CEOs should keep their lawns manicured, shrubbery trimmed, large trees pruned, grass well cut, and weeds kept to a minimum. This should be done so you can easily spot the snakes. The same analogy applies to your job, a business, in your church organization, or even your family. We cannot fire everybody or replace all difficult people, but there are strategies you can put in place that keep these individuals from sabotaging your organization.

Breakout Session 3

1:45 pm - 2:30 pm (4 Sessions)

Title: Strong Leaders. Smart Schedules. Successful Schools. (E, M)

Location: Azalea

Presenter: Mr. Joel Barnes (Blythe-Bower Elementary School, Cleveland City Schools)

Moderator: Mrs. Ruth Pohlman

Description: Time is the most valuable resource in education—and how we schedule it can determine the difference between surviving and thriving. This session will explore practical and innovative ways to maximize scheduling so that students receive purposeful, targeted instruction every day. Participants will learn how intentional structures—such as master scheduling, long-term planning, and weekly PLC scheduling—can elevate collaboration, sharpen instructional focus, and increase academic rigor. By reimagining how we align time with priorities, educators can create systems that not only support teachers but also accelerate student growth.

Title: Resilient Schools: From ACEs to PCEs Creating Reset Rooms and Decreasing Chronic Absenteeism in Secondary Settings (M, H)

Location: Iris

Presenters: Dr. Ginger Christian (ETSU, Johnson City, TN) and Dr. Kyle Loudermilk (Kingsport, TN)

Moderator: Dr. Stacy Edwards

Description: Resilient school leaders recognize that training all school personnel, from custodians and bus drivers to teachers and principals, maximizes opportunities for mitigating the effects of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) while advancing Positive School Experiences (PCEs). In this session, learn how secondary schools expand trauma-informed practices and strengthen positive school cultures, while taking steps to implement school-wide practices to decrease chronic absenteeism. Reset spaces provide opportunities to calm and self-regulate when experiencing “fight, flight, or freeze” moments. The use of a schoolwide reset room allows a 15- to 20-minute time to reset, replay, and restore students back to class. Presenters will spotlight Resilient Model Schools of Distinction, exciting academic gains, reset room data, and provide guidance for implementation steps.

Title: Supporting and Retaining New Teachers: Strategies for Success in a Diverse Classroom (E, M, H)

Location: Magnolia

Presenter: Dr. Shenise Wilson Anderson (Pleasant View School, Bartlett, TN)

Moderator: Mrs. Shelley Archuleta Smith

Description: This session explores strategies to support and retain new teachers, including those new to the country. Participants will learn practical approaches for onboarding, mentoring, classroom support, and building community. Attendees will leave with tools to help new teachers thrive, prevent burnout, and strengthen school culture.

Breakout Session 3

1:45 pm - 2:30 pm *(continued)*

Title: The Power of Listening to Build (E, M, H)

Presenter: Dr. Terrence D. Brittenum (Memphis Shelby County Schools)

Location: Chestnut (General Ballroom)

Moderator: Dr. Jesse Goins

Description: In this session, participants will understand the power of active listening to foster trust and positive working relationships, facilitating school turnaround.

- Know what active listening looks like in practice.
- Understand how active listening helps to facilitate a culture of trust.
- Utilize effective listening skills to assist with building a strong school staff, fostering increased levels of student achievement.

Known as a school turnaround leader, Dr. Terrence Brittenum has served as an educator and administrator in optional, traditional, and urban school settings.

Dr. Brittenum is a proud native of Memphis. He began his educational career with the legacy Memphis City Schools and has faithfully served the Memphis school community for over 27 years, holding various leadership roles within the district.

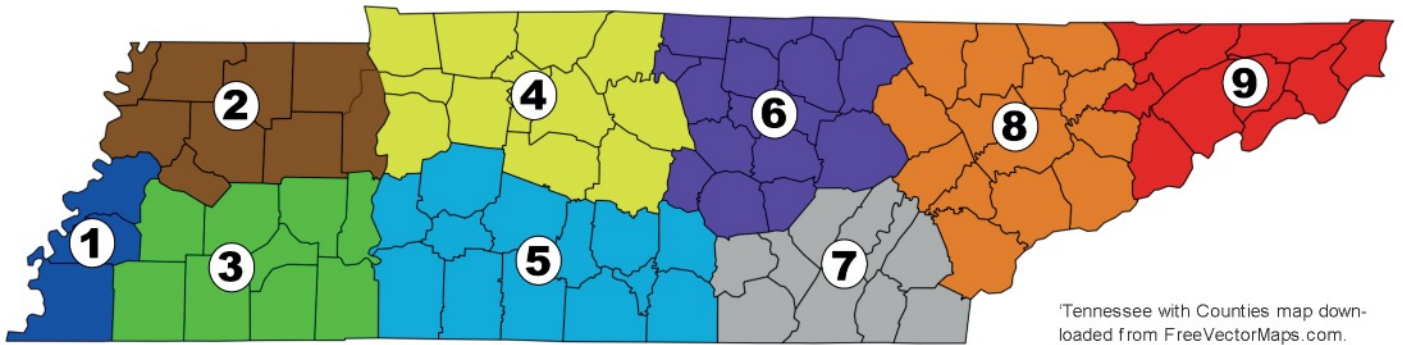
As a Fisher Fellow with the KIPP Foundation, Dr. Brittenum received specialized charter school leadership training through the University of California at Berkeley's Haas School of Business. His tenure as principal was marked by significant achievements, including the successful merger of two underperforming, rival schools. Under his leadership, A. Maceo Walker Middle School was removed from Tennessee's Priority Schools list and earned the prestigious Reward School designation from the Tennessee Department of Education. In 2022, Dr. Brittenum was named Memphis-Shelby County Schools Principal of the Year.

Dr. Brittenum holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Memphis, a Master of Science degree in Leadership from the University of Mississippi, and a Doctor of Education degree in Leadership and Policy Studies from the University of Memphis. He also holds a Tennessee Superintendent's Endorsement.

Through active listening, setting high expectations, strategic thinking, and building positive relationships, Dr. Brittenum worked diligently to create a sense of belonging where each person felt heard, understood, and supported. Moreover, Dr. Brittenum brings a strong track record in education with a shared commitment to academic excellence and equity.

Dr. Terrence Brittenum currently serves as the Regional Superintendent for the Northwest Region, where his focus is on empowering schools, engaging families, and making sure every student has the support and opportunities needed to succeed in school and in life. His mantra is Rigor + Relationships = **RESULTS!**

TPA Membership Districts



Our Membership Directors want to hear from you. Join today!

D-1	Shannon Cotton	cottonse@scsk12.org
D-2	Tracey Bell	tracey.bell@wcsk12tn.net
D-3	Tracey Bell	tracey.bell@wcsk12tn.net
D-4	Shelley Archuleta-Smith	roseann.smith@mnps.org
D-4	Fred Hewitt	frederick.hewitt@mnps.org
D-5	David Golden	dgolden@lcdoe.org

D-6	Open Position	
D-7	Ruth Pohlman	pohlman_r@hcde.org
D-7	Ashley Aldridge Wilson	wilson_ashley@hcde.org
D-8	Suzanne Parham	suzanne.parham@knoxschools.org
D-9	Luke Douthat	douthatl@btcs.org

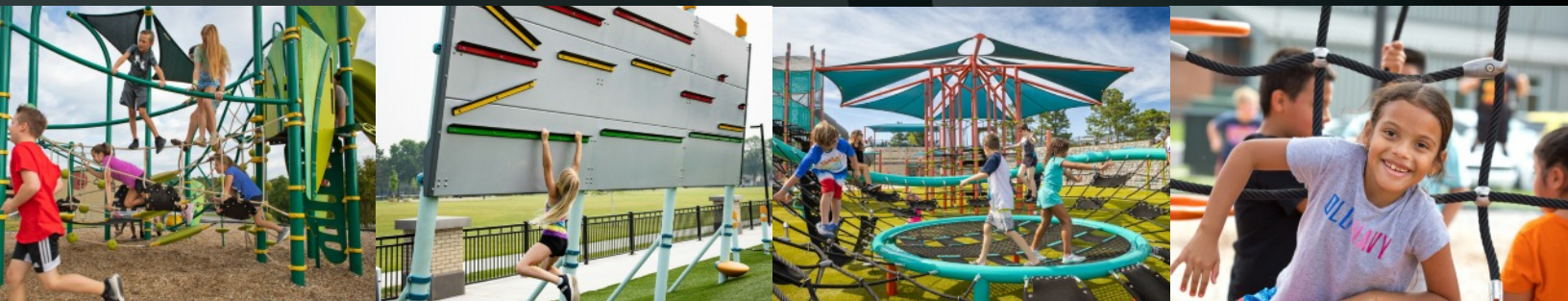


Happily Serving The Schools of Tennessee

From Playground Equipment, Workout Equipment, Splashpads, Artificial Turf, and Site Amenities, Recreational Concepts is here to help fulfill your needs! Proudly Based in Cookeville, TN we serve all of Tennessee.

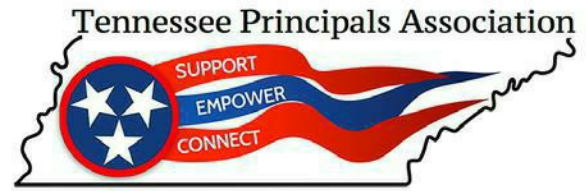
580 S. Jefferson Ave, Suite C, Cookeville, TN 38501 • (931) 303-0227

www.rec-concepts.com



Tennessee Principals Association: K-8 Membership Enrollment Form

The **only** association focusing on Principals and the Principalship! Two ways to join: 1) Complete and return this form, or 2) Enroll online at www.tnprin.org.



Name _____ Position _____

School _____ System _____

Enrollment Date _____ ☐ Elementary ☐ Middle ☐ Secondary ☐ New Principal ☐ New Member

Phone _____ Fax _____

Email _____ Facebook _____

Twitter _____ Linked In _____

School Address _____

Street

City - State - Zip

County

Preferred

Mailing Address _____

Street

City - State - Zip

County

Join with Other Colleagues! Networking • Conferences • Legal Benefits (\$2 Million Liability)
Publications (State/National) • Advocacy (State/National) • Research • and more!

TPA / NAESP Membership Dues - (Check One)

- ☐ \$499.00 Active "A" (Line Administrators)
☐ \$549.00 Institutional/Active "B" (Line Administrators)
☐ \$454.00 Active Assistant Principal "AAP" (Assistant Principals)
☐ \$214.00 Aspiring Principal "G" (Teachers, Counselors)
☐ \$324.00 Associate "P" (Professors, Central Office)
☐ \$229.00 Emeritus "E" (Retired, Voting Privileges, Insurance Coverage)



TPA / Secondary Membership - Grades 9-12 Only

- ☐ \$225.00 Active Individual
 - Requires membership in national association, excludes legal benefits

Payment Method

- ☐ Check (payable to TPA) ☐ Purchase Order (attach copy)
☐ Credit Card > ☐ AMEX ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard

Mail form and payment to:

**Tennessee Principals
Association**
 P.O. Box 3623
 Johnson City, TN 37602

Questions? Email
membership@tnprin.org

Credit Card Number

Exp. Date

CVV

Name on Card

Corporate Sponsors



Thanks For Your Support!
TPA Appreciates You!

Exhibit Hall

ACT Education Corp. • American Book Company • Benchmark Education • BrainPOP • Camcor
Capturing Kids' Hearts • Carson Dellosa Education • Centerstone • Clarvida • Class Solver
Edlastics • Franklin Covey Education • Freed-Hardeman University
Great Expectations • iCube @ Tennessee Tech University • Inter-State Studios • LEGO Education
Lexia Learning • Lightspeed Technologies • Meg Languages • Nightlock Lockdown
Orange Sky Travel • PCS, Inc. • PIVOT: School Improvement Leaders • Playworld Preferred, Inc.
Possip • Presentation Solutions, Inc. • Progress Learning • Recreational Concepts
Renaissance • Securly, Inc. • Tennessee History for Kids • The College System of Tennessee
The Kirkland Group • ThriveWay • Trevecca Nazarene University • YONDR - Phone-Free Spaces



SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT LEADERS

We help the most effective school
leaders drive results for every learner.

What We Offer:

- Leadership Cohorts
- One on One Coaching
- Leadership Workshops and PD Series

Sign up for our
newsletter and
receive **FREE**
resources



STRONG LEADERS. STRONG SCHOOLS.



 www.pivotleaders.org

 partnerships@pivotleaders.org

2025 TPA Awards & Recognitions

Recognizing Leadership Across Tennessee

2025 National Distinguished Principal
Elementary School Level
Mr. Patrick Certion

2025 National Distinguished Principal
Middle School Level
Dr. Fred Hewitt

Ernest Bentley, Jr. Excellence in Leadership
Past President Recognition
Dr. Deeanne Miree

2025 Robert Frazier Meritorious Service
*Given to a member who has gone above and beyond
the call of duty in supporting and promoting TPA*

2025 TPA Longevity Award
Given to a person who has been a longtime TPA member

2025 Friend of Education
*Given to a person outside of the Association who has gone above and
beyond the call of duty to support and promote education*

2025 Dr. Nancy Flatt Meador IMPACT Award
*Given to an individual who has made a significant impact
on the principalship and education in TN*

2026 Calendar of Events

January 3, 2026	Applications Due for National Outstanding Assistant Principal
January 17, 2026	Nominations Due for National Distinguished Principal
February 8-11, 2026	National School Leaders Advocacy Conference (Washington, DC)
February 18-19, 2026	NAESP Virtual Leadership Immersion Leadership Mentor Training
March 12, 2026	Mentor Re-Certification Training (register at naesp.org)
April or May 2026	State Executive Directors Meeting (location TBD) – <i>by invitation</i>
May 13-14, 2026	NAESP Virtual Leadership Immersion Institute Training
June 5-7, 2026	2025-26 TPA Board Summer Planning Meeting (Nashville, TN)
July 13-15, 2026	NAESP Principals Conference (Disney's Coronado Springs)



National School Leaders Conference™

⚡ Powered by **naesp**

THE MAGIC AWAITS



DISNEY'S CORONADO SPRINGS RESORT

ORLANDO, FL | JULY 13-15, 2026

THE 2026 NATIONAL SCHOOL LEADERS
CONFERENCE IS YOUR TICKET TO THREE
DAYS OF LEARNING, LAUGHTER, AND
LEADERSHIP. FROM DYNAMIC SESSIONS
TO MAGICAL MOMENTS, NAESP IS THE
GO TO SOURCE FOR PRINCIPALS AT ANY
CAREER STAGE.



STAY TUNED FOR REGISTRATION DETAILS AT [NAESP.ORG/EVENTS/](https://naesp.org/events/)

Reserved for Inter-State Ad