

Hawkins County Schools Community Connection

January/
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2010

Tennessee Education Innovation Plan

Tennesseans will be facing several changes in the field of education due to recent legislative action. Governor Bredesen, in a special session of the 106th General Assembly, signed into law legislation that will enhance Tennessee's chances to receive Race to the Top funding. According to Governor Bredesen, the two bills, *Tennessee First to the Top Act of 2010* and *Complete College Tennessee Act of 2010*, "move Tennessee public education forward in a dramatic and positive direction."

Among the changes brought forth by The *Tennessee First to the Top Act*, it establishes an "Achievement School District" which allows the Department of Education to intervene with schools that are determined to be failing. It also contains changes in the evaluation process for teachers and principals and will require evaluations to be conducted yearly. In addition, it will now be possible to use student data to determine tenure status for teachers.

Among the changes in the *Complete College Tennessee Act* include, facilitate cooperation between Tennessee colleges and universities, base funding on higher degree completion rates and establish a statewide transfer policy so that students moving from a community college to a four-year university will not lose credits.

Governor Bredesen commented on the two new laws by stating, "Together, they represent an important step forward in our ongoing effort to make public education Tennessee's highest priority." *Race to the Top* is a competitive grant which will provide \$4.35 billion to reward schools for innovative educational programs.

[Read complete story](#)



The mission for the Hawkins County School System, in partnership with all stakeholders, is to Educate and Graduate Each Student.

HAWKINS COUNTY CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Career and Technical Education is a new phrase for many people in our community. However, it is simply a new, updated version of vocational education. CTE (vocational) has long been an important facet of education in Hawkins County Schools. CTE provides many students with the opportunity to become "work ready" by the time they graduate from high school which falls in line with the State Department of Education's CTE Vision for 2020.

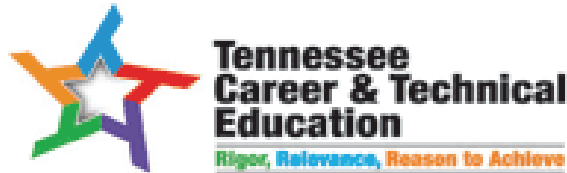
The CTE 2020 Vision statement states that we are:

To provide Tennessee students the opportunity to partici-

Health Care: On The Move

Through a partnership with the Rural Health Services Consortium, Hawkins County Schools has now opened two School Based Health Clinics located at Cherokee High School and Volunteer High School. Staffed with a Nurse Practitioner, a Registered Nurse, and a receptionist, these clinics will provide medical care to students, staff,

To provide Tennessee students the opportunity to participate in a rigorous and relevant career and technical education program that leads to academic and technical achievement and successful employment in a global economy.



Our goal in Hawkins County Schools coincides with the State Vision. Currently, we offer students the opportunity to participate in the following CTE Pathways:

- Environmental & Natural Resources
- Horticulture Production
- Landscape Design & Turf Management
- Power Structures & Technical Systems
- Plant Systems
- Business Analysis
- Early Childhood Development
- Food & Beverage
- Family & Community Services
- Automotive Technology
- Construction Carpentry
- Construction Electrical
- Construction Welding
- Cosmetology
- Culinary Arts
- Design & Pre-Construction
- Graphic Communications
- Engineering Technology
- Information Technology

and families. A third clinic, in the form of a mobile unit, will travel throughout Hawkins County visiting our five middle schools during the spring semester of 2010.



By offering these many diverse pathways, we hope to give students the opportunity to discover areas of interest and expand their horizons. Hawkins County Schools plan to continue to build and improve CTE programs in our system and to continually strive to meet the ideals outlined in the CTE Motto.

CTE Motto **Rigor, Relevance, and Reason to Achieve**

- Access to challenging career and technical studies aligned with industry standards
- High expectations
- Rigorous programs of study leading to high-skill, high-wage, and high-demand occupations
- Appropriate levels of literacy, numeracy, and science in career and technical programs as identified by the Tennessee Diploma Project
- Planned Seamless transitions from secondary to post-secondary
- Explore career opportunities and identify skills necessary for success

For more information, view [TN Department of Education, CTE Website](#)