Dear Supporter,

As the legislative session continues, there are several important issues we will encounter during the 113th Tennessee General Assembly, and ways to stay informed and engaged. Here are some highlights:

**On Our Radar**

- **House Hearing Room I** | **House Education Administration Committee**
  - **Wednesday, March 1st, 12:00pm CT**
  - HB1114/SB0968, proposed by Rep. Fritts / Sen. Bowling, seeks to improve student success by raising the minimum passing rate on end-of-course benchmarks from 40% to 60%.

- **Senate Hearing Room I** | **Senate Finance, Ways, and Means Committee**
  - **Tuesday, February 28th, 8:30am CT**
  - HB2960/SB0673, proposed by Rep. Lafferty / Sen. Powers, aims to increase career and college access pathways in our state's rural communities.

- **House Chamber** | **House Floor Session**
  - **Monday, February 27th, 3:00pm CT**
  - HB2960/SB0673 will be considered on the House floor.

- **House Hearing Room II** | **House K-12 Subcommittee**
  - **Wednesday, March 1st, 10:30am CT**
  - HB2960/SB0673 will be heard in the House K-12 Subcommittee.

- **House Hearing Room II** | **House Education Instruction Subcommittee**
  - **Wednesday, March 1st, 1:30pm CT**
  - HB2960/SB0673 will be heard in the House Education Instruction Subcommittee.

- **Senate Chamber** | **Senate Education Committee**
  - **Wednesday, March 1st, 1:30pm CT**
  - HB2960/SB0673 will be considered by the Senate Education Committee.

**What's Happening**

- The Education Trust in Tennessee released its 2020-2021 and 2019-2020 school year reports, which provide data on Tennessee's education landscape and an overview of the proposed budget. The reports are available on the [Education Trust's website](https://educationtrusttennessee.org). To see all of the education-related legislation Ed Trust is tracking and other key information, please be sure to visit our website.

- The State of Tennessee, while the Comptroller's office highlights concerns around institutional scholarship practices and decision making among the public colleges and universities across the U.S. South. In a recent hearing, the State Comptroller Jason Mumpower joined a panel of advocates and local leaders, including Reggie Nash and the office of TN State Comptroller Jason Mumpower. The conversation, titled "TSU Crisis, Housing Concerns, and Financials of Tennessee State University Between the Institution's Administration -- Namely, President Glenda Glover -- and the Office of TN State Comptroller Jason Mumpower," was held Wednesday's House Education Administration Committee hosted a packed hearing room to hear from an influential roster of testimonies and public conversation.

- Questions and concerns around third- and fourth-grade retention legislative proposals, including bills that seek to increase access to high-quality, robust and career pathways, have been raised. The Education Trust in Tennessee's own assessment, survey, or analysis of predominantly Black students, which includes students who completed the HiSET® or GED® during the 2019-2020 or 2020-2021 school years of age by January 1 of the year, and who are at least 21 years old at the time of testing, has been released.

- The Sycamore Institute released "Investing in Student Success: How to Increase Career and College Access Pathways in Tennessee's Rural Communities," which assesses the funding gap for rural school districts and the impact it has for our students and school communities. It has for our students and school communities.

- The Education Trust in Tennessee and Mandy Register of the Sycamore Institute held a virtual event focusing on "Understanding the Tennessee Education Funding Formula with the Sycamore Institute." The event covered the history and evolution of the funding formula, barriers to equitable funding, and the significance of the current legislative session.

- The Sycamore Institute released the "2022 Tennessee Education Funding Formula Update," which offers data, research, and discussing the potential implications of the law in partnership with the Tennessee Education Trust. Retention conversations also continued in the public arena beyond the walls of the State Capitol.

**Noteworthy**

- The 2022 Tennessee Education Funding Formula Update offers data, research, and discussing the potential implications of the law in partnership with the Education Trust in Tennessee and Mandy Register of the Sycamore Institute.

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Thank you for your continued support and for taking action and staying engaged!