



## **BATTELLE FOR KIDS IS COMMITTED TO IMPLEMENTING SUSTAINABLE EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENT ACROSS TENNESSEE.**

Battelle for Kids is partnering with the Tennessee Department of Education (TDE) and educators throughout the state to support and build upon existing educational-improvement initiatives to provide the best opportunities for every student as part of First to the Top. Our goal is to provide K–12 educators with the resources, data, training and support they need to ensure college- and career-readiness for every child.

### **Our work in Tennessee will align with key components of district Scopes of Work by:**

- Creating awareness and a sense of urgency in building the case for change
- Empowering K–12 public school teachers, administrators and other instructional staff to use value-added information to improve teaching and learning
- Providing teachers with methods and strategies to implement formative instructional practices daily in their classrooms
- Supporting district leaders in using value-added information and achievement data to meet established performance goals
- Providing tools such as the Tennessee•Focus process to use with Professional Learning Communities and support the current school improvement planning process

### **In addition, Battelle for Kids, TDE and other Tennessee education organizations will build support for:**

- Researching and sharing the practices of highly effective educators
- Building capacity among rural and urban educators statewide to use data to guide decision making, formative instructional practices and coaching techniques
- Building successful strategic compensation models

**Battelle  
for Kids**

**Bringing clarity to  
school improvement**

#### **About Battelle for Kids**

Battelle for Kids is a national, not-for-profit organization that provides strategic counsel and innovative solutions for today's educational-improvement challenges. Our team of education, technology, communications and business professionals specializes in creating strategies that improve teaching effectiveness and student progress; inform instructional practice in real time; recognize and reward teaching excellence; and align goals and maximize impact in schools. For nearly a decade, Battelle for Kids has partnered with educators to build their capacity to implement educational-improvement initiatives, including the use of value-added analysis, in districts within Ohio, New York, Pennsylvania, Texas, Louisiana, Massachusetts and Tennessee.

Battelle for Kids is partnering with the Tennessee Department of Education to expand the use of value-added analysis and formative instructional practices as well as other educational-improvement strategies to increase student progress and achievement statewide as part of First to the Top. For more information, visit the **Tennessee Student Progress Portal** at [www.BattelleforKids.org/Tennessee](http://www.BattelleforKids.org/Tennessee).

# Battelle for Kids will provide professional development in support of Tennessee's First to the Top priorities and goals to:

## EMPOWER TEACHERS TO USE VALUE-ADDED INFORMATION

SAS® TVAAS® provides the most robust student progress data currently available. Battelle for Kids will build educators' capacity to maximize the use of SAS® TVAAS® value-added information and make an explicit and actionable link between this world-class data system and the educational-improvement process.

## IMPLEMENT FORMATIVE INSTRUCTIONAL PRACTICES

To enhance the pre-existing benchmark assessments used in various districts, Battelle for Kids will provide support to deepen teachers' understanding of formative instructional practices and build understanding of balanced assessment systems. This work will focus on classroom practices to continually assess where students are in meeting benchmarks. Support will include formative instruction online courses and face-to-face training.

## RESEARCH AND SHARE THE PRACTICES OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE EDUCATORS

Battelle for Kids will work with like-minded institutions to identify highly effective teachers and principals. Battelle for Kids will provide professional development resources, such as white papers and online courses, to help replicate these best practices across the state.

## SUPPORT RURAL AND URBAN EDUCATORS

Battelle for Kids will train educators to work in rural and urban schools identified by TDE. These educators will coach others in the use of value-added and achievement data along with formative instructional practices for educational improvement.

## BUILD SUPPORT FOR SUCCESSFUL STRATEGIC COMPENSATION MODELS

Battelle for Kids will assist districts in researching, developing, implementing and enhancing strategic compensation/performance-pay programs. We will reference research-based models as we partner with schools to successfully incorporate strategically-aligned performance incentives. A series of online courses will be available in the future.

## Specialized Training and Resources to Support This Work

### VALUE-ADDED ONLINE COURSES

Designed for educators to work independently or with a professional learning team, these courses offer the flexibility educators need—any-time, any-place and any-pace learning. Educators will have access to role-based learning paths for teachers, as well as building- and district-level leaders, for a differentiated experience. Courses make explicit the link between value-added reports and practical application for school improvement.

### FORMATIVE INSTRUCTION ONLINE COURSES

Designed for teachers of all grade levels and subjects, these courses will build educators' capacity to implement effective formative instructional practices in their classrooms. Like face-to-face professional development, these courses encourage collaborative learning as the best way to move this work forward.

### BFK•LEARN™ SOLUTION

The BFK•Learn™ solution is an online learning management system available in the Tennessee Student Progress Portal. The BFK•Learn solution helps teachers keep track of their learning, and district and building administrators can manage their staff's learning experiences.

### TENNESSEE•FOCUS PROCESS

The Tennessee•Focus process is an online planning tool that enables teacher teams to analyze their achievement and value-added information together. The Tennessee•Focus process guides teams to address root causes for their strengths and areas of challenge.

### UNDERSTANDING AND USING VALUE-ADDED ANALYSIS: A TOOLKIT FOR EDUCATORS

This toolkit includes a DVD, guides for specific users and other materials to build educators' capacity to use their TVAAS® data to inform instruction.

### A VIEW TO THE TOP MAP

*A View to the Top: Exploring the Changing Trends that Are Impacting Our Children's Future* map is an interactive discussion tool that will engage Tennessee educators, school board members, legislators, professional organizations and other community stakeholders in understanding the First to the Top plan and their roles in its success.

For more information and to access the online resources mentioned above, visit the Tennessee Student Progress Portal at [www.BattelleforKids.org/Tennessee](http://www.BattelleforKids.org/Tennessee).

