

# SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS, PROSPEROUS COMMUNITIES



Today's students have big dreams. Dreams to be scientists, teachers, doctors, engineers. Dreams to work with computers or in a skilled trade. Dreams to be leaders for the state of Tennessee and the nation.

Schools across Tennessee are working hard to help students realize these dreams. But achieving these goals is not just about individual success. **When today's students succeed, we all benefit.**

That's why it is important for schools, businesses, and communities to work together to provide opportunities for students to receive a high-quality education that will prepare them to be successful in their career and contribute to the local economy and community.

**"MAKING EDUCATION MORE RELEVANT TO TODAY'S MARKETPLACE IS CRITICAL TO OUR STATE ATTRACTING THE JOBS OF THE FUTURE..."**

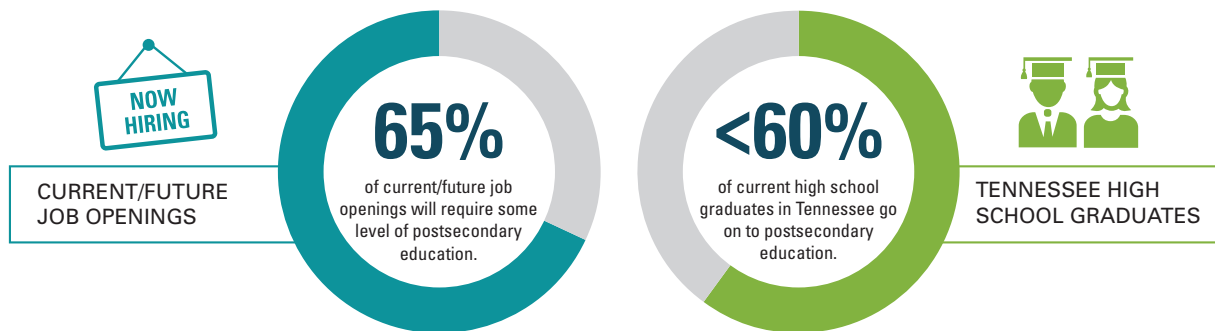
— Governor Haslam, 2014 Pathways to Prosperity National Convening

## SOARING EXPECTATIONS AND QUALIFICATIONS: WHAT'S NEEDED TO SUCCEED

A high school diploma is no longer enough for students to be competitive in today's economy. Through initiatives like Drive to 55 and Pathways to Prosperity, the state of Tennessee is making a commitment and investment to:

- Increase the number of citizens with college degrees
- Offer pathways to earn industry credentials
- Provide opportunities to acquire trade and career skills while in high school

Schools are working to build on this momentum and make sure that students are not just prepared for any career—but they are prepared to be successful in careers that are emerging in the state of Tennessee, including automotive manufacturing, advanced manufacturing, and energy. Preparing students for these industries will help continue bringing jobs to the state and helping regions and communities be strong, vibrant places to live and work.




(Source: Pathways Tennessee, Pathways 101 Foundational Presentation, 2015)

## INNOVATION FOR TENNESSEE STUDENT SUCCESS

A growing number of schools and districts right here in Tennessee are already innovating around ways to help students get a jump-start on their futures by earning college credit and necessary credentials while in high school, and exploring career pathways for growing industries like STEM and advanced manufacturing. Schools in these districts know that a one-size-fits-all education will no longer work. Instead, students in these schools are engaged in personalized learning that is linked to the local and regional economy. And this work is being done through collaborations with other schools and districts, businesses, and community organizations.

## IMPACT FOR STUDENTS

Five school districts—**Chester County, Decatur County, Henderson County, Fentress County, and Marion County**—have recently joined other districts throughout Tennessee in creating multiple innovative options for students to earn postsecondary credits and industry credentials while still in high school.

**50%**  
INCREASE 

To date, in three participating pilot districts, there has been a 50 percent increase in the number of students working toward an industry certification in advanced manufacturing and receiving college credit.

**“BY BUILDING ON THE STRENGTH OF EXISTING PROGRAMS AND CREATING MULTIPLE OPTIONS FOR STUDENTS TO ENTER THE JOB PIPELINE, TENNESSEE CAN CONTINUE ITS CURRENT ECONOMIC GROWTH AND HELP ALL OF OUR CITIZENS BE SUCCESSFUL.”**

— Dr. Mark Griffith, Director of Schools,  
Marion County Schools

## GET INVOLVED AND MOVE YOUR COMMUNITY FORWARD

Battelle for Kids is proud to work with partners and support districts throughout Tennessee that are willing to engage in these innovative practices aligned to Drive to 55 and Pathways to Prosperity to help students be successful. We look forward to developing future partnerships among districts, businesses, and communities to support student success and community prosperity.

To learn more about this work and how we can support schools and communities, contact Joe T. Wood at [jwood@bfk.org](mailto:jwood@bfk.org) or Ralph Barnett at [rbarnett@bfk.org](mailto:rbarnett@bfk.org).

## DID YOU KNOW?

### OPPORTUNITIES AROUND IN TENNESSEE

Manufacturing is a top driver of Tennessee’s economy, providing more than \$41 billion in total economic output and employing more than 300,000 workers.

— *Tennessee Manufacturer’s Association*



Tennessee is home to 4 major automotive assembly plants and more than 900 automotive suppliers, employing more than 111,000 workers in 80 of 95 counties.

— *Tennessee Automotive Manufacturer’s Association*



### STEM MAKES IT HAPPEN

**STEM jobs are growing, and we need to fill them:**

By 2018, projected that STEM jobs will increase 17%, compared to 10% job growth in other occupations

— *Battelle Ed*

  
**17%**  
INCREASE

STEM jobs pay on average 70% more than jobs in other industries

— *Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2007*

  
**70%**  
MORE

More than 12 million Americans work in manufacturing jobs

— *National Association of Manufacturers*

  
**MORE THAN 12M**