



Exemplary Districts and Community Partnerships



INTRODUCTION

To address learning gaps and accelerate student achievement across the state of Tennessee, the department launched the **TN Accelerating Literacy and Learning Corps (TN ALL Corps)**, *a grant opportunity to empower school districts across the state to implement or strengthen robust tutoring programs for students.*

There are currently 87 districts across Tennessee participating in TN ALL Corps, representing over 200,000 students served between 2021 and 2024. Using a research-based model, each participating district has committed to following a high-dosage, low-ratio tutoring model to accelerate student achievement. High-dosage, low-ratio tutoring consists of intensive tutoring that occurs in very small groups (1:3 in grades 1-5 / 1:4 ratios in grades 6-8) two to three times per week, to help students accelerate their learning in an individualized manner within the subjects of literacy or math.

Learn more about TN ALL Corps at tn.gov/top-links/tn-all-corps.



NISWONGER



FOUNDATION

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The Niswonger Foundation, in Northeast Tennessee, continues to find ways to remain involved in public education in Tennessee. Nearly two-thirds of their total budget supports tutor hours, including instructional delivery, training, and planning. Staff members include literacy and mathematics curriculum specialists, a software solutions specialist, and a finance director. Two communications and data specialists also commit most of their time to linking district partners, site coordinators, and tutors to pertinent and relevant information. These specialists gather information and statistics regarding student enrollment and attendance, benchmark assessments, progress monitoring results, district-administered assessment results, and stakeholder survey results. There is also a trauma-informed care specialist that serves tutors by helping them understand how trauma affects behavior in students and how to respond appropriately to trauma-induced behaviors. Joining the project's team is a family outreach/engagement specialist who develops opportunities for family members to be involved in the tutoring process with their child.

Besides the many staffing needs, a significant amount of funding is designated to provide "take home" resources for families. Literacy students will receive six books each year. For students receiving tutoring in math, grade-level manipulatives are provided allowing for practice at home. Both the books and the math manipulatives are for students to keep.



"The Niswonger Foundation is proud to partner with the Tennessee Department of Education in this tremendously important work. We are definitely seeing the power and importance of uniting in this challenge to ensure that every student has the opportunity to be successful in English language arts and mathematics. Our children deserve nothing less."

- DR. NANCY DISHNER
President and CEO,
Niswonger Foundation