



County Commission to vote on KCS Fiscal Year Budget 2014 May 28



On Tuesday, May 28 the Knox County Commission will vote on the Knox County Schools fiscal year 2014 budget, which was unanimously approved by the Board of Education on April 9. The \$419.87 million budget represents a 3.3% increase over the current budget, and is designed to sustain critical instructional efforts and support several key educational strategies that will help accelerate the solid academic progress the Knox County Schools have been making.

The Knox County Schools FY14 budget focuses on additional, targeted investment in four key priorities:

- Enhancing Educator Compensation (“teachers”)

Combined pay increase of 2.5% for teachers, increase of 1% for classified employees, \$1.27 million to support strategic compensation (APEX), middle and high school principals moved to year-round contracts, step increases for certified (licensed educators) and classified (custodians, instructional aides, secretaries, etc.) personnel
- Sustaining Instructional Improvement Initiatives (“teaching”)

Continuing support for critical educational initiatives: early literacy efforts, teacher supports and professional development, teacher leadership roles such as instructional coaches and lead teachers, magnet and community schools, interventions and tutorial services, and academic enrichment for students.
- Facilitating Personalized Learning Supported by Technology (“technology”)

Instructional technology can allow teachers to better personalize and differentiate their instruction, and enables educators to continuously and seamlessly adapt their teaching to meet the unique needs of their students. The Knox County Schools has begun a 1:1 technology effort (one technology device for each one student, and each

one teacher) at 11 schools across the school system through the School Technology Challenge competition.

- Bolstering Student Safety Efforts (“safety”)
Implementation a foundational level of school security resources at every school, including a current-generation video camera system, a school access control strategy, and an armed, uniformed School Resource Officer or School Security Officer at each school.

Summer Transfer Window Opens May 28 for KCS Students

The Knox County Schools [summer transfer window](#) will open on Tuesday, May 28 at 8 a.m. and conclude Friday, July 12, 2013 at 4 p.m. The summer transfer window is an opportunity for parents and/or legal guardians of students that meet the following criteria:

- 2013-14 kindergarten students
- Students new to the Knox County Schools (i.e. coming from private school, home school, out of county or out of state)
- Students who have had a change in family circumstances such as custody or guardianship since Feb. 18, 2013
- Students with a change of address since Feb. 18, 2013
- Students seeking a transfer to a “magnet” program where space is available
Proof of one of the above circumstances must be provided with the transfer application (with the exception of kindergarten students). An example of proof documentation can be a lease agreement, closing statements for the purchase of new home, court documents, and/or end of year report cards from a private school. The child’s name and birth date is required on the proof being supplied and must be submitted with the application.

There are three ways to apply for a transfer during the summer window:

1. In person, by completing a transfer application form available at 912 S. Gay Street. The Transfer Office is in Suite 103
2. By downloading an application form on the Internet from transfers.knoxschools.org and faxing to 865-594-1504 or mailing to: Supervisor of Enrollment, P. O. Box 2188, Knoxville, TN 37901
3. Current Knox County School students may [apply on-line](#) by using their parent portal log in (NOTE: the on-line application will not be available June 10-14 due to maintenance)

Please note that out-of-county transfer requests will only be considered after all Knox County students have been approved. The Knox County Schools will use a “lottery-style” process to determine transfer placements.

For more information, visit transfers.knoxschools.org online or knoxschools.org for Board of Education Policy JBCD.

Rising seventh grade parents: Knox County Schools, Knox County Health Department remind parents of State-required immunizations

As families enjoy summer break, the [Knox County Schools](http://knoxschools.org) and the [Knox County Health Department](http://kchd.org) (KCHD) would like to remind parents to get their children's state-required immunizations. In Tennessee, students entering seventh grade are required to have the Tdap (tetanus-diphtheria-pertussis) vaccine and two doses of the varicella (chickenpox) vaccine. Parents must provide their school with an immunization certificate, proving their child has received the required vaccinations, before the first day of school.

“Pertussis, or whooping cough, can be very serious for those most at risk, like infants,” said KCHD Director Dr. Martha Buchanan. “The Tdap booster protects seventh graders and their infant siblings at home who may be too young for immunization.”

While immunizations are required for students entering kindergarten and seventh grade, noncompliance is highest among rising sixth graders: approximately 50 percent of Knox County students enrolled in seventh grade last year either did not have the required immunizations or had not submitted the immunization certificate to their school by the first day of school.

Tennessee’s vaccine requirements follow recommendations from the national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Both immunizations and the immunization certificates are available at pediatrician offices or at any KCHD location.

KCHD [clinic locations](#) are:

- Preventive Health Clinic, 140 Dameron Avenue (main KCHD facility); 215-5071
Hours: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Teague Clinic, 405 Dante School Road; 215-5500
Hours: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- West Clinic, 1028 Old Cedar Bluff; 215-5950
Hours: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Note: All KCHD locations open at 12:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month.

Summer Reading Opportunities

Kick-off summer vacation with a plan to keep your student reading each day. Reading is the key to learning and this commitment will give students an early

start to a successful upcoming school year. Reading just 20 minutes each day improves listening skills and increases academic performance. Helpful tips to keep students of all ages engaged in summer reading activities (source: PBS.org):

- Be a reader and writer yourself
- Read aloud to your reader
- Connect reading choices to summer activities
- Allow your child to choose books for summer reading
- Help your child select books at a comfortable level
- Encourage your child not to limit summer reading to books but explore magazines and newspapers also
- Read a book and watch the video together
- Encourage your child to write letters or keep a journal

In addition, the Knox County Public Library offers a summer reading program that encourages readers of all ages to read or be read to. When participants reach their reading goals, they will earn a Prize Pack valued at over \$200. Teens and adults enrolled in the summer program will also earn the chance to win an eReader. Registration is available online at knoxlib.org or at any Knox County Public Library facility.

Remember to keep a log of the time your student spends reading this summer and show your teachers when school starts this fall.

Knox County Seniors eligible for \$127,132,908 in scholarships

Approximately two out of three Knox County High School seniors are eligible for scholarships. The overall value of these scholarships equates to \$127,132,908. The [Tennessee HOPE Scholarship](#) is funded through the Tennessee Lottery. It requires students have a minimum of a 21 ACT score and a minimum 3.0 grade point average (GPA). This scholarship awards up to \$6,000 depending on the student's postsecondary school selection. Out of 3,814 Knox County seniors, 1,840 qualified to receive the Tennessee HOPE Scholarship.

[Project GRAD](#) awarded 138 seniors with scholarships, which provides each up to \$4,000. Students must remain in good standing with classified credit hours as a full-time student and maintain above a 2.0 GPA. This scholarship is disbursed in \$500 increments over multiple years.

A total of 889 seniors were awarded with an overall value of \$35,504,500 in [Tennessee Achieves Scholarships](#). This scholarship is a \$3,000 per year value for students that go to a two year school (like Pellissippi State, Roane State and/or Walters State), attend meetings and maintain 12 college hours with a 2.0 GPA each semester.

2013 Barney Thompson Scholarships awarded

The Knox County Schools recently hosted its annual Partners in Education Barney Thompson Scholarships at the Knoxville Area Association of Realtors office.

The following 14 high school students were awarded \$500 scholarships:

Shadia Prater, Austin-East High School
Alexandra Nelson, Bearden High School
Amy Bodin-Henderson, Carter High School
Ryan Haaland, Central High School
Jordon Jellicorse, Farragut High School
Cierra Hutchinson, Fulton High School
Lakin Householder, Gibbs High School
Beatriz Satizabal, Halls High School
Mary Higginbotham, Hardin Valley Academy
Nihada Hebib, Karns High School
Jala Jackson, Dr. Paul L. Kelley Volunteer Academy
Naomi Solaiza, Powell High School
Gabe Harris, South-Doyle High School
Shantyra Delaney, West High School

Thompson worked as teacher and coach at the former South High School in the 1970s before becoming the executive director of the Knoxville Area Association of Realtors. He continued to be a long-time supporter of the Knox County Schools through his role as treasurer of the Partners in Education Advisory Board, and his memory lives on through this scholarship fund targeted to high school seniors pursuing college.

The Barney Thompson Scholarship is funded through the Knoxville Area Association of Realtors, donations from individual realtors, contributions from private donors and a portion of the proceeds from Dine Out For Education.

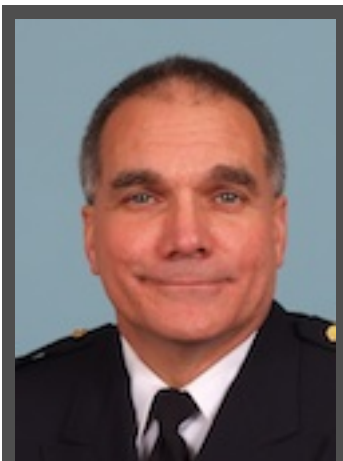


Pictured left to right standing: Dr. Jim McIntyre, Superintendent of the Knox County

Schools; Ryan Haaland, Central High; Jordon Jellicorse, Farragut High; Cierra Hutchinson, Fulton High; Lakin Householder, Gibbs High; Mary Higginbotham, Hardin Valley Academy; Jala Jackson, Dr. Paul L. Kelley Volunteer Academy; Naomi Solaiza, Powell High; Gabe Harris, South-Doyle High; LaRue Thompson, Barney Thompson's wife. Pictured left to right sitting: Amy Bodin-Henderson, Carter High; Shadia Prater, Austin-East Magnet High; Nihada Hebib, Karns High; Beatriz Satizabal, Halls High; Shantyra Delaney, West High; and Alexandra Nelson, Bearden High. Barney Thompson



Gus Paidousis joins KCS as Security Chief



Gus Paidousis
KCS Chief of Security

*photo courtesy of
Knoxville Police Dept.*

Dr. Jim McIntyre, Superintendent of the Knox County Schools recently appointed Gus Paidousis as the Knox County Schools Chief of [Security](#). Previously, Paidousis served as the Deputy Chief of the Criminal Investigation Division for the Knoxville Police Department (KPD). “Knox County Sheriff J.J. Jones and Knoxville Police Chief David Rausch provided exceptional insight and expertise as we assessed the candidates for this very important position within our school system,” said Dr. McIntyre. “I appreciate their support and assistance.” Paidousis is a veteran of over 30 years of service with the KPD, and he has served in many positions of great responsibility with the department. Since 2002, Paidousis has also served as deputy chief of the patrol division and deputy chief of the support services division of the KPD. He was involved in the development of the department’s School Resource Officer program and assisted in the selection and assignment of the KPD’s first SROs. Paidousis holds an Associate of Applied Science degree in Law Enforcement and a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice. Both degrees were conferred by East Tennessee State University. He has also completed study at the prestigious FBI National Academy at Quantico, Virginia.



Take me out to the ball game . . .
 Over 6,000 Knox County Schools fourth grade students, teachers and chaperones recently celebrated Safe Kids & Health Awareness Day, sponsored by the Tennessee Smokies and its corporate partners. This annual event, organized by Partners In Education and Coordinated School Health, promotes health and wellness activities, presents an anti-drug message and treats

attendees to lunch and a ballgame at Smokies Stadium.

West Valley Middle School receives Walgreens Wellness Award for eWellness
 Knox County Schools Partners In Education Supervisor Scott Bacon is pictured with officials from Walgreens as they presented West Valley Middle School with the 2013 Walgreens Staff Wellness Award for their outstanding participation in eWellness.



Important dates and information to remember:

Central Office Hours for Summer

The Knox County Schools' Central Office is open during the summer months. Please call (865) 594-1800 for assistance.

School Office Hours for Summer

Knox County elementary and middle school offices will be available through Friday, June 14, 2013. Offices will reopen on Monday, July 15 to prepare for the upcoming school year. Beginning May 29, high school offices will be available on Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. to assist students and parents. (This is separate from Summer School and Summer Bridge programs that will be held as scheduled.)

Please note that all Knox County Schools, including the Central Office, will be closed on Monday, May 27, 2013 in observance of Memorial Day and Thursday, July 4, 2013 for Independence Day.

Summer Transfer Window – Tuesday, May 28, 2013 through Friday, July 12, 2013. Visit transfers.knoxschools.org or call (865) 594-1502 for more information.

Orientation Day for Knox County Middle and High School Students – Friday, August 9

Students who will enter grades 6 and 9 in the fall are invited to participate in an orientation day on Friday, Aug. 9, 2013 from 8:30 a.m. to noon at their zoned middle or high school. Details for orientation will be sent out later this summer.

First Day of School for Students – Monday, August 12

Monday, Aug. 12 is a half day for Knox County Schools. The 2013-2014 School Year Calendar is available at knoxschools.org in both English and Spanish.

The Original Knox County Schools Coupon Book Kicks Off 25th Anniversary – Thursday, Sept. 5

The Knox County Schools will officially kick off its 25th annual coupon book sale campaign on Thursday, Sept. 5 to help provide funds to meet school needs identified by parents, teachers and school administrators. Students sold 153,642 coupon books during the 2012 campaign representing a profit of \$1,355,122.44. Since 1989, over 3.2 million coupon books have been sold, raising over \$27.5 million for Knox County students.

9th Annual Parent Conference "Discovering Treasures of Success" – Saturday, Oct. 12

The Knox County Schools will present "Discovering Treasures of Success" at its 9th Annual Parent Conference at Central High School located at 5321 Jacksboro Pike on Saturday, Oct. 12 from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Lunch and child care will be provided along with a variety of free materials to all parents and caregivers of Knox County Schools' students. Parents will have the opportunity to attend multiple workshops on topics identified through input from parents throughout the Knox County Schools, such as homework help, resources for English language learners, special needs advocacy, college prep, and more! Exhibitors at the event will include a variety of local non-profit organizations, community-wide educational resources, along with colleges, universities and institutes.

Registration for the free conference will officially open in August. More details will be available as the 2013-2014 school year begins. Visit knoxschools.org or call (865) 594-1192 for more information.