

# CODE Website: Achievement & Growth Scores FAQ

## (Without Observation or Effectiveness Scores)

June 25, 2014

As you know, the Tennessee Department of Education released teacher growth and achievement scores on the [TN Best Practices Center CODE system website](#) late Monday, June 23, 2014. The Office of Accountability has received several e-mails and phone calls with questions regarding the information available in CODE. In an effort to help teachers understand just what is included thus far in CODE, the Office of Accountability has put together a FAQ. If you have additional questions or need more clarity, please do not hesitate to contact us at [rea@knoxschools.org](mailto:rea@knoxschools.org) or by calling 865-594-1705, and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

### 1. “I checked my scores on the CODE website Monday morning and when I checked again later that afternoon, they had changed—why?”

The state Department of Education was updating the CODE website all last week and the final website update occurred late afternoon on Monday, June 23rd. CODE initially placed default school-wide values for teachers and then, if a teacher generated individual TVAAS, his/her report was updated to reflect his/her individual growth score. That is most likely the reason for the change in what you saw on the CODE website.

### 2. “In CODE, what is the difference between a Growth Score and an Individual Growth Score?”

Teachers who generate an individual growth score will see that value reported in two places: the **Individual Growth Score** field and the **Growth Score** field. Teachers who are non-tested or who do not generate an individual growth score will only have a Growth Score reported, which is based on the measure listed in the **Growth Measure** field. Please see the screen shots below for clarity.

#### Tested Teacher (with Individual TVAAS)

	2013-2014
Achievement Measure:	School-Wide TVAAS: School-Wide: Composite
Achievement Score:	1
Growth Measure:	School-Wide: Literacy and Numeracy
<u>Growth Score:</u>	1
<u>Individual Growth Score:</u>	1
Overall Observation Avg:	
Educator Effectiveness Score:	-

#### Non-tested Teacher (without Individual TVAAS)

	2013-2014
Achievement Measure:	School-Wide TVAAS: School-Wide: Literacy and Numeracy
Achievement Score:	1
Growth Measure:	School-Wide: Literacy and Numeracy
<u>Growth Score:</u>	1
Individual Growth Score:	
Overall Observation Avg:	
Educator Effectiveness Score:	-

### 3. “Why is there a School-Wide measure listed for my growth measure listed if I generate an individual TVAAS score?”

For teachers that generate individual TVAAS scores based on tested students, their growth measure is their individual TVAAS score. However, the CODE website does not list “Individual TVAAS” in the **Growth Measure** field. Instead, CODE populates that **Growth Measure** field with a default measure that would be used in the case a teacher does not generate individual TVAAS.

For example, for a 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher with 10+ students, the Growth Measure would be listed as “SAT 10: School-wide: Literacy and Numeracy,” even though that teacher’s growth score is his/her individual TVAAS score, not school-wide literacy and numeracy. However, had that 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher not had enough tested students, the Growth Score would default to “SAT 10: School-wide: Literacy and Numeracy” based on the school-wide value, and the Individual Growth Score field would be blank.

	2013-2014
Achievement Measure:	
Achievement Score:	
Growth Measure:	SAT 10: School-Wide: Literacy and Numeracy
Growth Score:	5
Individual Growth Score:	5
Overall Observation Avg:	
Educator Effectiveness Score:	-

### 4. “Why does a teacher in my school and grade-level have a different result for a school-wide measure than I do?”

Several teachers have discussed their results with fellow teachers and discovered discrepancies between scores they believed should be the same. There are a few reasons why scores may be different between teachers.

**Achievement Measure:** If two teachers pick the same achievement measure, then the achievement score will be the same *except* if a teacher’s individual TVAAS is 4 or 5 and higher than the achievement score. (Note: Achievement scores are based on one year of data.)

**Growth Measure:** If a teacher does not generate individual TVAAS scores, the given school-wide measure reflects a one-year composite for 2013-2014 and 2012-2013. However, in 2011-2012, school-wide measures were based on an up-to-three year composite, and thus, teachers with differences in years teaching at the school would have different school-wide growth measures for 2011-2012.

## 5. “Why is my Achievement Score blank?”

If you selected an achievement measure that requires a manual calculation of certain data (such as Grade-level Achievement or Graduation Rate, for example), your **Achievement Score** will be blank because that data has not yet been fully calculated. We anticipate those calculations and scores to be updated in late July.

2013-2014	
Achievement Measure:	
Achievement Score:	
Growth Measure:	SAT 10: School-Wide: Literacy and Numeracy
Growth Score:	5
Individual Growth Score:	5
Overall Observation Avg:	
Educator Effectiveness Score:	-

## 6. “There is a difference in the language used in the CODE website from my selection, why is that?”

There are a few slight wording differences between The [KCS Growth and Achievement Matrix](#) and the CODE website. For example, the KCS Growth and Achievement Matrix (and Selection Tool teachers used to mark their selections) uses “Math,” whereas the CODE website uses “Numeracy” to represent that same math value. Similarly, the KCS Matrix uses “School-wide Overall TVAAS Composite” and the CODE website uses “School-Wide TVAAS: School-Wide: Composite” to represent the same measure. Please feel free to contact the REA Department if you need any clarification on a measure name.

## 7. “When will my Overall Observation Avg be uploaded to CODE?”

Observation data has been submitted to CODE and we anticipate it will be viewable in CODE in early July.

## 8. “When will I be able to see how students in my class performed?”

The state has reported that individual student performance will be available on the [TVAAS website](#) on **June 30, 2014**. You will be able to look at student pattern reports and see how each student performed compared to what was predicted for them.

## 9. “Why is my level in the TVAAS website different than the score I see in CODE?”

Depending on which report you are viewing in the TVAAS website, information reflects individual years of data as well as composites, while the growth scores in CODE reflect an (up to) 3 year composite.

**TVAAS Website**

Teacher Growth Measures and Standard Errors				
Year	Growth Measure	Standard Error	Index	Level
2011	5.2	1.6	3.24	Level 5
2012	3.1	1.7	1.83	Level 4
2013	0.5	1.8	0.25	Level 3
Multi-Yr Trend	2.9	0.9	3.14	Level 5

These represent data for that individual year listed. The Multi-Yr Trend is the composite you see reflected in the CODE website.

**CODE Website**

2013-2014	
<b>Achievement Measure:</b>	
<b>Achievement Score:</b>	
<b>Growth Measure:</b>	School-Wide: Literacy and Numeracy
<b>Growth Score:</b>	5
<b>Individual Growth Score:</b>	5
<b>Overall Observation Avg:</b>	
<b>Educator Effectiveness Score:</b>	-

This reflects an (up to) 3 year average.

## 10. I calculated my own growth score or overall effectiveness score, does it sound correct? What if it's wrong in CODE?

The data in CODE is not sufficient to calculate a growth score. Once student performance data is released in TVAAS (June 30<sup>th</sup>), teachers will be better able to understand their growth score. The overall effectiveness score is comprised of 50%-60% observation average, 25%-35% growth score, and 15% achievement score (it differs for tested and non-tested teachers). The observation data is not yet in CODE. Therefore, the data in CODE at the moment is not sufficient to calculate your growth or effectiveness score. Additionally, the growth and achievement scores in CODE are accurate.

## 11. “What happens if I get a 1?”

To be clear, the only scores currently available in CODE are achievement (15%) and growth (25-35%) scores, not your summative score—which is comprised of achievement, growth, plus the observation average. Your summative score (the final field in CODE, **Educator Effectiveness Score**) has not yet been calculated or posted in CODE.

	2013-2014
<b>Achievement Measure:</b>	
<b>Achievement Score:</b>	
<b>Growth Measure:</b>	School-Wide: Literacy and Numeracy
<b>Growth Score:</b>	5
<b>Individual Growth Score:</b>	5
<b>Overall Observation Avg:</b>	
<b>Educator Effectiveness Score:</b>	-

Tennessee Department of Education guidelines require that any teacher with a Level 1 summative score (**Educator Effectiveness Score** in CODE) or a Level 1 TVAAS Evaluation Composite (**Individual Growth Score** in CODE) to receive four observations, regardless of licensure status. Otherwise, principals will determine what additional support those teachers may be provided to refine instructional practice and improve student outcomes.

## 12. When will I find out how my school did overall?

District-wide accountability data will be available the week of July 28, 2014 and school-wide achievement will be available the week of August 18, 2014.