



# BEST FOR ALL

We will set all students on a path to success.

**Daneshia Ward | SBE Workshop**

CCTE | July 2021



# BEST FOR ALL

We will set all students on a path to success.

## ACADEMICS

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ALL TENNESSEE STUDENTS WILL HAVE ACCESS TO A HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATION, NO MATTER WHERE THEY LIVE

## STUDENT READINESS

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TENNESSEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS WILL BE EQUIPPED TO SERVE THE ACADEMIC AND NON-ACADEMIC NEEDS OF ALL STUDENTS IN THEIR CAREER PATHWAYS

## EDUCATORS

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TENNESSEE WILL SET A NEW PATH FOR THE EDUCATION PROFESSION AND BE THE TOP STATE TO BECOME AND REMAIN A TEACHER AND LEADER FOR ALL

# Agenda

- Introduction
- School Counseling across Tennessee
- School Counselor Advisory Council
- School Counselor Regional Roundtables



# Introduction

## Danesha Ward

**Division:** College, Career & Technical Education

**Role:** Coordinator of College & Career Advising

### Key Initiatives:

- Career Awareness, Exploration and Advising
- ACT Prep for Students and Educators
- School Counselor Professional Development
- K-12 School Counseling Standards, Policy and Licensure
- Collaboration with Statewide Advising Programs

**Experience:** Former high school counselor, college counselor, and academic counselor in community college setting

**Education:** B.S. Psychology, University of Memphis; M.S. School Counseling, University of Memphis; Johns Hopkins University Ed.D. (in progress)



# School Counseling Across the State

## ▪ **Implementation of School Counseling Standards:**

- Overall, counselors can implement the School Counseling standards and spend 80% of their time in direct service to students, however, some districts are still requiring counselors to engage in responsibilities out of the realm of counseling such as:
  - Testing coordination
  - Substitute Teaching
  - Data Entry and Record Keeping

## ▪ **Recommendations from the Field:**

- Educate administrators on the role and responsibilities of school counselors.
- Ensure that school level administrators are aware of the resources that school counselors can provide to students.
- Inform administrators of school counseling policies and standards.



# School Counseling Across the State

## ▪ Four-Year Plans: Implementation and Use

- Four-year plans are being completed in 8<sup>th</sup> grade in most districts and updated either once or twice per year until the student enters 12<sup>th</sup> grade.
- The actual *use* of these plans is minimal.
- Student advising is not as in-depth as counselors would like.
  - Barrier: **TIME**

## ▪ Recommendations from the field:

- Start earlier: Plans are usually not completed until the spring semester of 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Building student's knowledge base for high school course planning in 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade would be beneficial.
- Train faculty in course planning/advising so that all teachers and counselors can engage in conversations regarding academic advisement.



# School Counseling Across the State

## ▪ Counselor Preparation and EPP Standards

- Many of the larger districts are providing their school counselors with professional development and in-services throughout the year.
  - Some smaller districts are not able to provide school counselor-specific PD, as they may not have a school counseling supervisor, or a supervisor that has been a school counselor.

## ▪ Recommendations from the field:

- Counselor educators from institutions in Tennessee have stated that the EPP standards do need updating.
  - Current EPP standards only require that programs are aligned to ASCA Counselor Competencies or CACREP standards.
  - ASCA has standards for [School Counselor Preparation Programs](#) that encompass not only the Counselor Competencies, but the ASCA National Model, Ethical Standards, and Mindsets and Behaviors.



# School Counselor Initiatives from TDOE





# Collaboration with Student and Family Supports

- The school counselor's role not only encompasses **academic development and college and career readiness**, but also focuses on **providing support** to students.
- The Coordinator of College and Career Advising collaborates and works closely with Kristi Steel, Director of Mental Health, (Student and Family Supports Division) to ensure that each domain (academic, college/career, and personal/social) of the school counseling model is addressed.
- The Director of Mental Health is also instrumental in participating in the School Counselor Advisory Council.



# School Counselor Advisory Council

- **Feedback for TDOE Initiatives:**

- School Counseling Policy and Standards
- College and Career Milestones
- Career Exploration Course Standards

- **Engagement with Other Agencies/Divisions/Offices**

- Student and Family Supports
- TN Dept. of Labor
- TN Dept. of Mental Health
- CTE
- Family Resource Centers
- Coordinated School Health

- **Regional Professional Development**

- Presenting on a topic of their choice/expertise
- Virtual or In-Person



# School Counselor Regional Roundtables

- Beginning in September 2021, TDOE will implement regional trainings for all school counselors.
  - Topics will include:
    - Student Supports
    - Career Exploration
    - College Advising
- Other Trainings Available to School Counselors include:
  - [Supporting Students Who Experience Trauma](#)
  - [Everyone Plays a Role – Connecting Systems of Support](#)
  - [Shifting Our Lens-Strategies for Building Relationships for ALL student champions](#)



# Thank You

