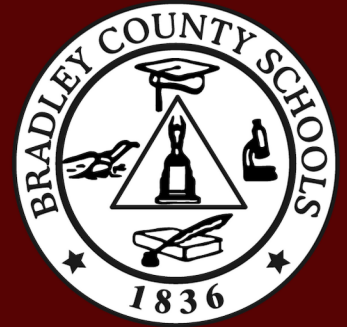




PRESS RELEASE

May 19, 2023



On Friday, May 19, 2023, the Tennessee Department of Education released RAW score data to districts across the state. RAW score data is traditionally used only to validate the accuracy of student tests between the TDOE and districts, not as a scoring metric. In conjunction with the new Third Grade Retention Law, RAW scores are now to be used as an initial indicator of those third grade students who are required to participate in either summer school programming, fourth-grade tutoring, or both according to requirements of the law. Upon Friday's release, our schools set about identifying which third grade students would participate in the state's ELA TCAP retake exam and those students that were exempt from the retention law based on state-identified qualifiers.

Our initial RAW score data, while not intended to generate proficiency information, is extremely promising. We are currently working with our schools to identify those students who meet exemption criteria status as established by the TDOE as well as students that will engage in the TCAP retake this week. From our initial assessment, we believe that our raw score success rate for third grade ELA improved substantially. While we await the business rules and accountability measures that are dictated by the TDOE, we are excited by the progress that our early raw numbers have illustrated. We hope to have a more clear picture of our student achievement rate once our student retakes are complete and proficiency levels are released later this week.