Hamilton County Board of Education

Evaluation Model for the Director of Hamilton County Schools

Tennessee law requires the Hamilton County Board of Education to assign to the Director of Schools the day-to-day responsibility of operating the system within the approved budget and consistent with law and policy. Consequently, the selection and evaluation of the Director is one of the most important functions the Board of Education performs.

In order to fulfill its statutory obligations, and so the Director may have clear guidance regarding the Board's evaluation of his/her performance, the Board of Education, in consultation with the Director, has developed this Evaluation Model for the 2025-2026 school year. The foundation of this Evaluation Model is the Board's Strategic Plan, including corresponding annual goals; the laws of the State of Tennessee; and the Board's contract with the Director.

This Model will consist of three parts:

- The Director's self-evaluation.
 - The Director will evaluate his/her own performance as well as the performance of the system using the criteria set forth below.
 - The Director will submit his/her self-evaluation to the Chair of the Board within 30 days of receipt of the State's annual assessment data of Hamilton County Schools.
- The Board's evaluation of the Director's performance.
 - The Board will evaluate the Director and the system using the criteria set forth below, the Director's self-evaluation, and the State's assessment data.
 - Each Board member will complete his or her evaluation within 30 days of receipt of the Director's self-evaluation and submit it to the Board secretary and the Board attorney.
- The Director's written response to the Board's evaluation.

The Director and the Board will use the following Rating Scale:

- 1 = Significantly below expectations
- 2 = Below expectations
- 3 = At expectations
- 4 = Above expectations
- 5 = Significantly above expectations

Strategic Planning Rubric

Strategic Flanning Rubric							
Sources of Evidence	Level 1: Significantly Below Expectations	Level 2: Below Expectations	Level 3: At Expectations	Level 4: Above Expectations	Level 5: Significantly Above Expectations		
Agendas from district leadership and principal professional development. District and school level goals for professional development related to student achievement, gap closure, college-career readiness, and growth. District and School Improvement Plans that operationalize Opportunity 2030	Builds limited or no capacity for: Developing administrators' understanding of state adopted standards and instructional practice. Demonstrating fidelity to state and district approved standards and curriculum. Studying, analyzing, and evaluating approved curriculum resources. Establishing a system for monitoring student achievement. Establishing collective accountability when making needed adjustments to build administrator capacity.	Exceeds Level 1 rubric but does not meet Level 3 rubric.	Builds capacity among administrators for: • Developing an accurate understanding of state adopted standards and instructional practice. • Demonstrating fidelity to state and district approved standards and curriculum. • Studying, analyzing, and evaluating approved curriculum resources and instructional programs. • Establishing a system for monitoring student achievement. • Establishing collective accountability when making needed adjustments to improve instruction.	Exceeds Level 3 rubric but does not meet Level 5 rubric.	In addition to Level 3 descriptors: Communicates Opportunity 2030 to all staff. Ensures the Board's vision, mission, and goals shape the educational programs, plans, and activities. Actively monitors, evaluates, advises, and regularly updates the Board on Opportunity 2030		

Strategic Planning	Score	Comments
Develop and implement Opportunity 2030 in collaboration with the school board to address key performance indicators on a yearly basis.	4	
Initiates communication and facilitates cooperation and collaboration among staff regarding Opportunity 2030.	5	
Keeps the Board and community informed of progress towards goals set in Opportunity 2030.	4	
Ensures the vision shapes the educational programs, plans, and activities of the district.	4	
Uses assessment data related to student learning to effectuate the Board's strategic plan.	4	
Leads the Board in recasting or reframing the vision as necessary based upon available data.	3	

TOTAL SCORE:	24	

Student Assessment/Performance Rubric

Student Achievement/Performance	Score	Comments
District Wide Value-Added will meet or exceed the State expectations each year.	3	
The percentage of students scoring below the 25 th percentile will decrease by 2% each year.	3	
Collaborates with administrators to analyze and use multiple forms of data throughout the year to establish specific goals and strategies targeting student achievement and growth.	5	
Develops, monitors, and assesses district and school improvement plans, including the regular review and analysis of district test scores by school and sub-groups.	5	
Leads administrators to develop and execute interventions that address all student learning needs based on multiple sources of data.	4	
Applies and communicates qualitative and quantitative findings to identify strengths and weaknesses in programs and practices in order to ensure continuous improvement.	3	
Establishes systems for principals to regularly receive feedback on goal achievement and to assess ongoing school improvement efforts.	4	
Encourages various staffing patterns, student grouping plans, class scheduling plans, school organizational structures, and facilities design processes to support various teaching strategies and desired student outcomes.	4	
Increase Graduation Rate with a goal of reaching 90% within the next 4 years.	5	Based on the Data achievement

duation Rate with a goal of reaching 90% within the ne	xt 4	5	Based on the
TOTAL SCORE:	36		

School Leadership Rubric

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	rces of	Level 1: Significantly Below Expectations	Level 2: Below	Level 3: At Expectations	Level 4: Above Expectations	Level 5: Significantly Above Expectations
Evi	dence	Below Empressions	Expectations	zeverevita zapectations		TINO (C Emperonical
team magendas School summan principa in deter staffing placeme Summan level us effective and tead Sample student events a school. Nature, frequen complation concern	s and notes. level ry of al use of data mining needs and ent. ry of school e of teacher eness data cher leaders. s of staff and recognition at each extent, and cy of ints or is voiced ubordinates chain of	Limited or no assignment of administrators based on student learning needs, demonstrated effectiveness, and Board and district goals. Limited or no opportunities to extend impact of highperforming teachers. Clear criteria for recognition and celebration of schools and student performance and growth. Shows limited or no use of the evaluation process and does not meet with administrators. Repeated complaints or concerns being raised within chain of command, to include the Board.	Exceeds Level 1 rubric but does not meet Level 3 rubric.	 Assigns administrators based on student learning needs, demonstrated effectiveness, and Board and district goals. Provides opportunities to extend impact of high performing teachers and administrators. Creates and implements clear criteria for recognition of schools and students. Ensures administrators provide structured feedback and use the evaluation process for professional learning and growth. Uses evaluation data to determine trends. 	Exceeds Level 3 rubric but does not meet Level 5 rubric.	Engages with administrators to review multiple data sources. Creates a coherent system to extend impact of administrators. Supports school rituals, traditions, and initiatives. Builds and sustains a focused on continuous improvement. Creates a district-wide plan for professional learning aligned to the Board's vision for professional learning and growth.

School Leadership	Score	Comments
Develop competent leadership at the district level and school level through intentional leadership pipelines.	3	There are development programs in place, however concerns of the selection process of the leadership pipelines.
Leverages administrators' strengths to engage all students in meaningful, relevant learning opportunities while ensuring employees are accountable for job responsibilities.	4	
Knowledgeable about the curriculum and establishes clear expectations for administrators.	4	
Supports professional learning activities for teachers and administrators.	5	
Uses administrator evaluation data to inform, assess, and adjust professional learning, goals, and plans.	4	
Demonstrates use of system and staff evaluation data for personnel policies, decision-making, promotion of career growth, and professional development.	4	
Offers professional development that is focused on student learning consistent with the school district's vision, mission, and goals.	4	

TOTAL SCORE:	28

Community Relationship Rubric

Community Relationship Rublic							
£	Level 1: Significantly	Level 2:		Level 4: Above	Level 5: Significantly		
Sources of	Below Expectations	Below	Level 3: At Expectations	Expectations	Above Expectations		
Evidence	P	Expectations	P	F	P		
• Examples of school	Shows limited or no	• Exceeds	Welcomes and engages all	• Exceeds Level 3	In addition to Level 3		
district level	evidence of:	Level 1 rubric	families.	rubric but does	requirements:		
website, newsletters,	Welcoming and	but does not	 Offers opportunities for 	not meet Level 5	Establishes a two-way		
and surveys if	engaging families.	meet Level 3	families to participate in	rubric.	communication		
available.	Offering timely,	rubric.	school initiatives when		process for families		
 Examples of 	relevant, and accessible		applicable.		that provides		
meeting agendas	communication.		 Provides district staff with 		information about		
and schedules for	 Providing district staff 		sufficient resources needed		student progress and		
parental	with sufficient resources		to communicate regularly		learning.		
involvement and	needed to communicate		with families.		 Supports family and 		
community	regularly with families.		 Creates flexible scheduling 		community		
engagement.	 Creating flexible 		for meetings, gatherings,		partnerships that are		
 Samples of school 	scheduling for meetings,		and celebrations in		visible and sustainable.		
partnerships and	gatherings, and		response to parent needs.		Assesses potential		
partnership	celebrations in response		 Conducts an accurate 		community partners		
activities.	to parent needs.		assessment of community		and secures additional		
• Samples of meetings	Assessing community		partners and resources.		resources that support		
and conversations	partners and resources.		 Ensures accepted resources 		the district.		
with community	 Allocating fiscal, 		support the Board's vision,		Highlights usage of		
partners and	human, technological,		mission, and goals.		resources and shares		
educators.	and physical resources		 Allocates fiscal, human, 		district accomplishments		
Donations and	or allocates these with		technological, and physical		by regularly		
contributions to	misalignment to the		resources to align with the		communicating with		
each school or the	Board's vision, mission,		Board's vision, mission,		community partners.		
district.	and goals.		and goals.				

Community Relationships	Score	Comments
Identifies multiple points of view for problem solving situations and involves stakeholders in decisions affecting the district.	3	
Strategically utilizes community resources and established partnerships to support the Board's vision, mission, and goals.	5	

TOTAL SCORE:	8
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Business and Finance Rubric

Dusiness and Pinance Rubite						
C	Level 1: Significantly	Level 2:		Level 4: Above	Level 5: Significantly	
Sources of	Below Expectations	Below	Level 3: At Expectations	Expectations	Above Expectations	
Evidence	P	Expectations	,	1	P	
Samples of	Rarely or never	Exceeds	Establishes,	Exceeds Level 3	In addition to Level 3	
compliance with all	establishes,	Level 1	communicates, and	rubric but does	descriptors:	
financial audits	communicates, and	rubric but	enforces administrative	not meet Level 5	Leads administrators	
including local,	enforces administrative	does not	procedures by:	rubric.	and staff in frequent	
state, and federal.	procedures by:	meet Level 3	 Aligning them with 		reviews of	
• Provide samples of	 Aligning them with 	rubric.	Board policy, state law,		administrative	
both student and	Board policy, state law,		and federal		procedures to vet	
employee	and federal		requirements.		effectiveness and	
handbooks.	requirements.		 Communicating 		ensure the effective	
 Provide samples of 	 Communicating 		established		and efficient operation	
meeting with	established		administrative		of the school district.	
certified and	administrative		procedures.		 Leads administrators 	
noncertified staff on	procedures.		 Ensuring administrators 		in frequent reviews of	
compliance with all	o Ensuring		are accountable to the		fiscal resource	
Board policies and	administrators are		administrative		allocation to support	
operating	accountable to the		procedures.		the effective and	
procedures.	administrative		Performs timely, accurate,		efficient operation of	
 Provide sample 	procedures.		and transparent budgetary		the district.	
administrative	Rarely or never performs		responsibilities by:			
procedures aligned	all budgetary		Allocating resources in			
with Board policy,	responsibilities by:		alignment with district			
state law, and	o Allocating resources in		priorities to increase			
federal	alignment with district		student achievement.			
requirements.	priorities to increase		Ensuring that delegated			
Board work session	student achievement.		budgetary responsibilities			
reports and agenda	• Ensuring that delegated		are performed within all			
documents showing	budgetary responsibilities		appropriate district, state,			
budgeting aligned	are performed within all		and federal guidelines.			
with priorities.	appropriate district, state,					
	and federal guidelines.			l		

Business and Finance	Score	Comments
Budget will be presented on time and in a transparent manner to both the board and community	4	
Steps will be articulated and implemented to ensure school leaders are resourced to address unique needs of every school.	4	
Demonstrates budget management including financial forecasting, planning, cashflow management, account auditing, and monitoring and oversees the district's fiduciary responsibilities.	4	
Provides accurate and timely reports to the Board on the financial condition of the school system.	4	
Meets and works collaboratively with the Board and appropriate staff to determine budget priorities, including alignment with strategy and the effective allocation of resources.	3	

TOTAL SCORE:	19	

Board Relationship Rubric

Board Relationship Rubric					
Sources of Evidence	Level 1: Significantly Below	Level 2: Below Expectations	Level 3: At Expectations	Level 4: Above Expectations	Level 5: Significantly Above Expectations
	Expectations				
Provides supporting documentation for each section of the director's evaluation instrument. Samples of administrative procedures that adhere with Board policy.	Inconsistently uses feedback from the Board to improve and demonstrates little evidence of growth. Unprepared or disengaged with the Board and professional learning opportunities. Engages in the evaluation process without evidence of focus on continuous improvement. Self-reflections do not match the expectations of the Board of the director's evaluation instrument. Inconsistently contributes to school district growth by failing to assist and mentor administrators.	Exceeds Level 1 rubric but does not meet Level 3 rubric.	Uses feedback from the Board to implement personal and professional improvement strategies. Prepared and engaged with the Board and professional learning opportunities. Engages in the evaluation process with evidence of focus on improvement. Contributes to the school district by assisting others, including at least two of the following. Collaborative planning with administrators and staff to execute Board policies and decisions. Actively participating in professional learning. Building capacity for aspiring administrators.	Exceeds Level 3 rubric but does not meet Level 5 rubric.	 Uses feedback from the Board to significantly improve performance. Consistently prepared and highly engaged with the Board and in professional learning opportunities. Engages in the evaluation process and seeks out feedback, matching the expectations of the Board and director's evaluation instrument. Actively and consistently contributes to the school district by assisting and/or mentoring others, including: Collaborative planning with administrators and staff to execute Board policies and decisions. Actively leading professional learning. Leading data-driven professional learning opportunities. Building capacity for aspiring administrators.

Board Relationship	Score	Comments
Keeps board members informed on issues, needs, and operation of the school system.	4	
Follows through on initiatives and strategies communicated to the Board of Education	5	
Seeks and accepts constructive criticism of work from the Board	3	
Interprets and executes the intent of Board policy through the development of administrative procedures	4	
Maintains/improves relations with the Board by consistent and appropriate interpersonal/professional interactions while making appropriate recommendations based on thorough analysis and study.	4	

TOTAL SCORE:	20

Staff and Personnel Relationship Rubric

Stan and reisonner Kerationship Kubi ic					
Sources of	Level 1:	Level 2:	Level 3: At	Level 4: Above	Level 5: Significantly
Evidence	Significantly Below	Below	Expectations	Expectations	Above Expectations
	Expectations	Expectations	-	-	-
 Samples of district level plan for recruiting both professional and noncertified staff. Samples of school level data regarding induction, support, retention, and growth of staff. Samples of school level plans to increase the rates of high-performing educators and increase retention rates. 	 Rarely or never inducts, supports, retains, and grows administrators by designing and implementing an induction program for new administrators and staff. Rarely or never develops strategies for: Retaining highperforming educators and administrators. Fostering leadership skills in the most effective educators and administrators based on student outcomes. Utilizing a variety of methods to support the development of administrators. 	• Exceeds Level 1 rubric but does not meet Level 3 rubric.	 Designs and implements an induction program for new administrators and staff. Develops strategies for: Retaining highperforming educators. Fostering leadership skills in the most effective educators and administrators based on student outcomes. Utilizing a variety of methods to support the development of all administrators and staff. 	Exceeds Level Tubric but does not meet Level 5 rubric.	Engages with the district leadership team to: Design and implement an induction program for new educators. Develop strategies for retaining high-performing educators. Develop strategies for fostering leadership skills in the most effective educators and administrators based on student outcomes. Supports the development of all administrators utilizing a variety of methods.

Staff and Personnel Relationships	Score	Comments
95% of Certified Positions will be staffed by the 10 th day of each year.	5	Based on the data
90% of new teachers will be retained each year.	3	Based on the data
Employee retention rates will exceed 85% each school year.	5	Based on the data
Collaborates with administrators to induct, support, retain, and grow effective educators based on evidence of student outcomes.	4	This process may be taking place, however there are concerns regarding retainment of teachers in some District 4 schools, therefore unsure about the effectiveness of the support.
Develops appropriate structures to address staff morale based on district analysis.	3	This is an area of concern based on observation and conversations with staff.
Provides shared leadership and decision-making opportunities for staff that promotes a climate of collaboration and collegiality.	3	Improvement is needed in this area. Based on my observation, Leadership

		tends to lead from the prospective of Power & Control, not shared decision making.
Identifies and applies appropriate policies, criteria and processes for the recruitment, selection, induction, compensation, and separation of personnel.	4	
Evaluates the organizational structure of the district and reorganizes as necessary to achieve maximum effectiveness.	3	

TOTAL SCORE:	30

Integrity, Fairness, and Ethics Rubric

integrity, rairiess, and Etines Rubite					
Sources of Evidence	Level 1:	Level 2:	Level 3: At	Level 4: Above	Level 5: Significantly
	Significantly	Below	Expectations	Expectations	Above Expectations
	Below	Expectations			
	Expectations	•			
 Provide samples of meetings and engagement with various stakeholders throughout the community. Examples of meeting with teachers, staff, student groups, etc. outside of formal observations or staff meetings. Examples of procedures that relate to communication plan for both certified and noncertified staff. 	Does not engage or limits engagement of stakeholder groups and does not seek input or feedback on district improvement. Does not communicate expected values and beliefs to all staff. Does not design or implement structures that increase shared ownership in district success. Fails to establish high expectations for administrators' individual responsibility for district success.	• Exceeds Level 1 rubric but does not meet Level 3 rubric.	 Develops structures to encourage all stakeholders to provide input and feedback in district improvement decisions. Communicates basic values and beliefs to all staff. Models a commitment to the possibility of success for all students. Designs and/or implements structures to increase shared ownership in district success. Clearly and consistently communicates high expectations for administrators' individual responsibility for district success. 	• Exceeds Level 3 rubric but does not meet Level 5 rubric.	 Develops capacity of administrators to implement structures for engaging all stakeholders to provide input and feedback in district improvement decisions. Clearly communicates basic values and beliefs to all staff. Enacts procedures that reflect a district-wide commitment to student success. Clearly and consistently communicates administrators' individual responsibility for district success. Establishes a culture where all administrators address low expectations about student potential.

Integrity, Fairness, and Ethics	Score	Comments
Includes a varied set of administrators, educators, and stakeholders in district and school improvement decisions.	3	What is the effectiveness of these councils? Are they just there for name's sake? Are we duplicating boards & councils?
Models and communicates expectations for individual and shared ownership of student, educator, school, and district success.	4	
Expects and emphasizes that all staff demonstrate integrity and exercise ethical behavior throughout the district.	3	
Treats people fairly, equally, and with dignity and respect.	3	This is an area of concern, based on observation and actions.

TOTAL SCORE:	13

Facilities and Safety Rubric

Tachices and Safety Rubite					
Sources of Evidence	Level 1:	Level 2:	Level 3: At	Level 4: Above	Level 5: Significantly
	Significantly	Below	Expectations	Expectations	Above Expectations
	Below	Expectations		-	•
	Expectations	•			
 Examples of school safety plans and/or school climate surveys. Annual school level reporting of attendance rates and discipline referrals, including suspension and expulsion rates. School district/county audits. Examples of administrative procedures addressing finance and facilities. 	Expectations for resource allocation are not clearly aligned with the school district vision, mission, and goals. District policies are not:	• Exceeds Level 1 rubric but does not meet Level 3 rubric.	 Expectations for resource allocation are aligned with school district vision, mission, and goals. District policies are: Clearly communicated Implemented consistently and fairly Related to students' safety Establishes practices that support: Analyzing behavioral data to assess interventions and discipline effectiveness. Use of data to adjust routines to maximize learning and decrease distractions. Sufficient evidence that ensures administrators are adhering to expectations established in Board policy. 	• Exceeds Level 3 rubric but does not meet Level 5 rubric.	In addition to Level 3 requirements ensures administrators: • Help set expectations for the learning environment and facilities that aligned with the school district vision, mission, and goals. • Review behavioral and discipline data to assess the effectiveness of interventions, adjusting when needed to ensure a safe learning environment.

Facilities/Safety	Score	Comments
Fosters a safe, respectful, and orderly learning environment for all.	4	
Demonstrates knowledge of school facilities and develops a process that builds public support for facility needs, including capital improvements.	5	
Ensures the maintenance of school property and the safety of personnel and property.	3	

TOTAL SCORE:	12

District Management Rubric

District Wanagement Rubble					
Sources of Evidence	Level 1:	Level 2:	Level 3: At	Level 4: Above	Level 5: Significantly
	Significantly	Below	Expectations	Expectations	Above Expectations
	Below	Expectations			
	Expectations				
Director of Schools self-evaluation. District's instructional and student supports plan along with professional development plans. Summary as to what degree the district and schools met previous year's performance targets. Artifacts of the district's performance aligned to state standards and accountability model. Nature, extent, and frequency of concerns voiced by the Board regarding management level personnel	Rarely or never improves self-practice by: • Using feedback from sources to reflect on personal leadership practices and does not make any necessary changes for improvement. • Engaging in professional learning: • Aligned to student, educator, and self-need. • Focused on developing an understanding of performance expectations associated with state standards. • Implementing new, relevant learning from feedback and professional learning opportunities	• Exceeds Level 1 rubric but does not meet Level 3 rubric.	Uses feedback from a variety of sources to reflect on personal leadership practices and make any necessary changes for improvement. Engages in professional learning aligned to student, educator, and self-need. Develops an understanding of performance expectations associated with Tennessee Instructional Leader Standards. Implements new, relevant learning from feedback and professional learning opportunities with evidence of improvement.	• Exceeds Level 3 rubric but does not meet Level 5 rubric.	In addition to Level 3 descriptors: • Actively seeks feedback from a variety of sources to reflect on personal leadership practices and makes any necessary changes for improvement. • Connects personal leadership practices to student achievement and administrator and educator performance by sharing his/her performance evaluation results with district staff. • Reflects on leadership alignment with core value and the Board's vision, mission, and goals.

District Management	Score	Comments
Ensures operational plans and procedures to achieve the vision, mission, and goals are in place.	4	
Identifies, confronts, and resolves problems in a timely manner.	4	
Recognizes, studies, and applies emerging trends as appropriate.	4	
Uses effective communication skills.	4	
Guides and directs upper-level district management in the performance of their job duties, accepts constructive criticism from the Board regarding same, and takes responsibility where appropriate.	3	

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TOTAL SCORE:	19

Director of Schools Overall Evaluation Score

Total Mean Score Strategic Planning	24	4.0
Total Mean Score Student Achievement/Performance	36	4.0
Total Mean Score School Leadership	28	4.0
Total Mean Score Community Relationships	8	4.0
Total Mean Score Post-Secondary Opportunities		
Total Mean Score Business and Finance	19	3.8
Total Mean Score Board Relationship	20	4.0
Total Mean Score Staff and Personnel Relationships	30	3.8
Total Mean Score Integrity, Fairness, and Ethics	13	3.3
Total Mean Score Facilities/Safety	12	4.0
Total Mean Score District Management	19	3.8
Overall Mean Evaluation Score	209	3.9

Jacqueline Thomas Print Name	
Jacqueline Thomas	12/1/2025
Signature	