



Tennessee Diploma Project

Why the Tennessee Diploma Project?

May 2009

Why Tennessee Schools are Changing

Tennessee is in the process of implementing new tests and more rigorous graduation requirements for all students under an initiative called the **Tennessee Diploma Project**. Many people want to know WHY!

The answer is too few high school graduates demonstrate the knowledge and skills needed for even entry-level jobs or freshman coursework at a college or university. In other words, they are graduating without the tools to succeed after high school.

The lack of preparation costs families and communities.

The **Tennessee Diploma Project** puts forth changes so students are taught the skills employers and educators say students need to perform well in a job or at the college level.

Continued...



How Can I Help My Child?

- Learn what courses your child must take.
- Talk to your child regularly about his/her schoolwork.
- Ask your child what skills or subjects are hard to understand and make sure he/she seeks help from a teacher or friend.
- Encourage your child to ask questions when unsure in class or confused by a homework assignment.
- Talk to his/her teacher about any concerns



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To redefine what students learn, Tennessee officials considered national and state guidelines to make Tennessee students competitive with peers nationwide while customizing the standards to make sense for Tennessee.

The **Tennessee Diploma Project** also ensures all students are taught a common set of courses. This 'Ready Core' curriculum means all students have access to the education employers and educators say is crucial for the workplace and college.

The **Tennessee Diploma Project** aims to ensure all Tennessee graduates are qualified to take advantage of opportunities after high school, whether choosing to pursue a career or continue their education.

Learn more about the graduation requirements at www.tennessee.gov/education/gradreq.shtml.

**Tennessee
Diploma Project...**
**Taking Tennessee to
the Head of the Class**

