

# BRISTOL TENNESSEE CITY SCHOOLS

March 11, 2022



## BEST FOR ALL DISTRICT

On February 11, the Tennessee Department of Education announced Bristol Tennessee City Schools is a **Best for All District**, joining 67 other districts across the state earning this designation. These 68 districts committed historic amounts of federal COVID-19 relief and stimulus funding directly to student achievement and improving academic outcomes.

"We are excited about being named a Best for All District, recognizing districts that are leading the state in putting students first," said Dr. Annette Tudor, BTCS director of schools. "While we were only required to spend 20% of our ESSER 3.0 allocation to address COVID-related learning loss, we are committed to spend at least half of our funding on direct services to students designed to accelerate learning."

Check out the [video](#) from our Best for All Day celebration!



## PUBLIC FEEDBACK REQUESTED: ESSER 3.0

On February 21, the Bristol Tennessee Board of Education approved the ESSER 3.0 Public Plan-Federal Relief Spending Addendum and the Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan Addendum. **The public is invited to go to [www.btcs.org/esser](http://www.btcs.org/esser) to review the plan and provide feedback through March 31, 2022.**

Districts are required to update the ESSER 3.0 Public Plan every six months through September 30, 2023. With each update, the public will have the opportunity to provide feedback on the plan. Public input will then be considered as future updates are made.

## TEACHERS OF THE YEAR



**KIM GASSIOT**  
Grades PreK-4



**SPENCER FINCH**  
Grades 5-8



**TARA HARTSOE**  
Grades 9-12

From eight district-wide nominees, three teachers were selected to represent BTCS in this year's state Teacher of the Year award. The Teacher of the Year program recognizes and honors outstanding teachers in Tennessee. It is an opportunity to applaud teachers who devote their professional careers to enriching the lives of Tennessee students.

All schools in Tennessee can nominate one teacher as a system finalist for grades PreK-4, 5-8, and 9-12. The three teachers selected from Bristol Tennessee City Schools are as follows: Grades PreK-4: **Kim Gassiot**, Haynesfield; Grades 5-8: **Spencer Finch**, Tennessee Middle; and Grades 9-12: **Tara Hartsoe**, Tennessee High. The other school-level winners are **Lucretia Brown**, Anderson; **Angie Meredith**, Avoca; **Jamey Cross**, Fairmount; **Ginny Swaggerty**, Holston View; and **Alexis Arnold**, TOPS. Click [here](#) for more information and to see what happened when district administrators surprised these outstanding teachers on Valentine's Day!



## ATHLETIC SPOTLIGHT



### Spring Sports



**Come out and support our student athletes!**  
**Schedules are available at the following links:**

[Dale Burns Youth Sports Schedule\\*](#)

[Tennessee Middle School Schedule](#)

[Tennessee High School Schedule](#)



\*Schedules will be posted when available.



7TH ANNUAL

## VIRGINIA DUFF FINE ARTS FESTIVAL

THURSDAY, MARCH 24 - 5:30-7:30 P.M.  
FAIRMOUNT ELEMENTARY

A district-wide K-12 fine arts extravaganza including:

- professional student art show
- vocal and instrumental ensembles by fine arts student groups

The art show and concert will occur simultaneously, and attendees can move between the two as desired.



## SUMMER STREAM CAMP

BTCS will once again offer Summer STREAM Camp for students who will be entering first through ninth grades. The dates are Mondays through Thursdays, June 6-30.

This free and exciting summer program is designed to further support student learning and engage students in STREAM activities. STREAM stands for science, technology, reading, engineering, arts, and math. Students who need additional support to prepare them for next school year will be given priority; however, the camp will be available to any current BTCS student as space allows.

Summer STREAM Camp for first through fifth graders will be held at Fairmount Elementary from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and for sixth through ninth graders at Tennessee Middle from 7:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. An optional extended day program will be available until 5:30 p.m. each day. The camp includes a free breakfast and lunch, and transportation will be provided within the city limits (no transportation for the extended day program). A nurse will be available. Registration information will be sent home with priority students beginning March 22.



## FAMILY ACTIVITY CHALLENGE

**Coordinated School Health** is gearing up for an active and fun-filled month of April for BTCS families! Elementary families should be on the lookout for an activities calendar coming home with your child. After all, **active families are healthy families!**



## READING 360 MODEL DISTRICT CELEBRATION

As part of the state's Reading 360 initiative, The Tennessee Department of Education teamed up with the BTCS Family Resource Center earlier this month to treat preschool families to loads of at-home reading resources. Dr. Lisa Coons, chief academic officer for the TDOE, led the team, which included none other than Riley the Reading Raccoon.

The next day the team from the TDOE was at Avoca Elementary to recognize **BTCS as ONE of only five Reading 360 Model Districts** in the state. The Model District celebration included a visit to two Reading 360 Model classrooms and recognition of the teachers and administrators who are instrumental in implementing Reading 360 across the district.



Students in Ms. Andrea Powell's kindergarten classroom at Avoca are all smiles with Riley the Reading Raccoon.

### BTCS MODEL DISTRICT TEACHERS

Grant Coordinators:

**Sumer Humphrey & Sherri Mech**

Anderson: **Lucretia Brown & Beth Light**

Avoca: **Angie Meredith & Andrea Powell**

Fairmount: **Ashley Barbe**

Haynesfield: **April Freeman**

Holston View: **Tammy Chandler**

Grant Videographer: **Collin Moore**

## INDUSTRY DAY: CONNECTING EDUCATORS WITH INDUSTRY

More than 55 educators from BTCS and other local entities were paired with 18 industries on February 16 to learn the educational requirements for job positions in our community. The goal of the day is for the educators to take what they learn back to their classrooms and help their students become more prepared to enter the workforce in the local area. BTES and the Tennessee Valley Authority have sponsored the annual day since its inception. Read more [here](#).



WE NOW HAVE  
INSTAGRAM!

FOLLOW

@BTCS\_DISTRICT



### COVID-19 Testing Spring Break Schedule

There will be no COVID-19 testing at the Administration Building during Spring Break.

Testing will resume Tuesday, March 22.

Spring Break

MARCH 14-18

MARCH 21

OPTIONAL LEARNING DAY  
for students who are pre-registered



**Report Cards** for the third nine weeks will be available through the PowerSchool Parent Portal on Wednesday, March 23.