

Rhea County Department of Education



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2026-27 TISA ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT & REFLECTION

Please find below the 2026-27 TISA Accountability Report and Reflection for Rhea County Schools. If there are any questions or comments, please contact Rhea County Department of Education.

Goal 1: Grade 3 ELA (Required)

Rhea County Schools (720) Public District - FY 2027 - LEA Plan - Rev 1

☐ N/A The district does not serve grade 3 students or is a state special school therefore the grade 3 ELA goal does not apply.

- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-3-112, the target must be at least 70%.

* % of students will score proficient on the 3rd grade TCAP by

* Year

Annual Target

Year	Annual Target - At a minimum, targets must be set to increase proficiency by 15% of the gap to 70% in three years.*	Data Sources
2026-27	* 41.2% of 3rd Grade Students Scored Proficient in ELA	* Spring 2027 TCAP data will provide the needed data to confirm targets.
2027-28	* 47.4% of 3rd Grade Students Scored Proficient in ELA	* Spring 2028 TCAP data will provide the needed data to confirm targets.
2028-29	* 70.0% of 3rd Grade Students Scored Proficient in ELA	* Spring 2029 TCAP data will provide the needed data to confirm targets.

* 15% increase in three years is not required for districts who have 70% or more of 3rd grade students proficient in ELA.

Strategies: Include the goal-specific strategies that the district is implementing or intends to implement to reach the stated goal.

Strategy Description	Benchmark Indicator	Methods for checking progress of implementation and improvement throughout the year.	Estimated TISA Amount, if applicable Enter \$0 if not applicable.	Other funding source and amount, if applicable
Rhea County Schools will be implementing consistent unit and lesson implementation of ELA HQIM focusing on the ELA IPG to allow for clear communication between administrators and teachers.		- IPG Learning Walks - Student Work Analysis - Quarterly Benchmarks - CASE data analysis	\$ 7,468.56	
Rhea County Schools will implement regular collaboration opportunities for PLC both within buildings and extending to other schools in the district for grade level collaboration opportunities.		- Learning Walks - Student Work Analysis - Quarterly Benchmarks - CASE data analysis	\$ 0.00	
Rhea County will provide high dosage, low ratio tutoring for retained and struggling students as well as summer programming with highly qualified teachers.		- Learning Walks - Student Work Analysis - Quarterly Benchmarks - CASE data analysis	\$ 5,000.00	

Goal 2

Rhea County Schools (720) Public District - FY 2027 - LEA Plan - Rev 1

Goal 2

By May 2029, Rhea County will improve the percentage of students who are meeting or exceeding expectation in 3-12 ELA outcomes for all students, for students with disabilities, and English Learners.

State the district's 3-year SMART goal aligned to the identified priorities. Ensure the goal statement includes what is being improved, the identified student group(s), and the expected amount of improvement.

Annual Target

Year	Annual Target - Include targets for All students and identified subgroups	Data Sources
2026-27	* All Students- Grades- 3-5: 46.9%, Grades 6-8: 40.0%, Grades 9-12: 49.8% Student's w/ Disabilities- Grades 3-5: 18.5%, Grades 6-8: 5.6%, Grades 9-12: 3.6% English Learners- Grades 3-5: 27.5%, Grades 6-8: 7.7%, Grades 9-12: 25.1%	* Spring 2027 TCAP data will provide the needed data to confirm targets.
2027-28	* All Students- Grades- 3-5: 48.9%, Grades 6-8: 42.0%, Grades 9-12: 51.8% Student's w/ Disabilities- Grades 3-5: 20.5%, Grades 6-8: 7.6%, Grades 9-12: 5.6% English Learners- Grades 3-5: 29.5%, Grades 6-8: 9.7%, Grades 9-12: 27.1%	* Spring 2028 TCAP data will provide the needed data to confirm targets.
2028-29	* All Students- Grades- 3-5: 50.9%, Grades 6-8: 44.0%, Grades 9-12: 53.8% Student's w/ Disabilities- Grades 3-5: 22.5%, Grades 6-8: 9.6%, Grades 9-12: 7.6% English Learners- Grades 3-5: 31.5%, Grades 6-8: 11.7%, Grades 9-12: 29.1%	* Spring 2029 TCAP data will provide the needed data to confirm targets.

Strategies: Include the goal-specific strategies that the district is implementing or intends to implement to reach the stated goal.

Strategy Description Defines what the strategy is and establishes areas of consistent, districtwide expectations for implementation.	Benchmark Indicator Methods for checking progress of implementation and improvement throughout the year.	Estimated TISA Amount, if applicable Enter \$0 if not applicable.	Other funding source and amount, if applicable
Rhea County Schools will be implementing consistent unit and lesson implementation of ELA HQIM focusing on the ELA IPG to allow for clear communication between administrators and teachers.	- Learning Walks - Student Work Analysis - Quarterly Benchmarks - CASE data analysis	\$ 62,000.00	

Rhea County Schools will implement regular collaboration opportunities for PLCs both within buildings and extending to other schools in the district for grade level collaboration opportunities.	- Learning Walks - Student Work Analysis - Quarterly Benchmarks - CASE data analysis	\$ 0.00	
Rhea County will provide high dosage, low ratio tutoring for retained and struggling students as well as summer programming with highly qualified teachers.	- Learning Walks - Student Work Analysis - Quarterly Benchmarks - CASE data analysis	\$ 28,150.00	

Goal 3

Rhea County Schools (720) Public District - FY 2027 - LEA Plan - Rev 1

Goal 3

By May 2029, Rhea County will improve the percentage of students who are meeting or exceeding expectation in 3-12 Math outcomes for all students, for students with disabilities, and English Language Learners.

State the district's 3-year SMART goal aligned to the identified priorities. Ensure the goal statement includes what is being improved, the identified student group(s), and the expected amount of improvement.

Annual Target

Year	Annual Target - Include targets for All students and identified subgroups	Data Sources
2026-27	* All Students- Grades- 3-5: 49.3%, Grades 6-8: 57.8%, Grades 9-12: 34.9% Students w/ Disabilities- Grades 3-5: 19.3%, Grades 6-8: 5.6%, Grades 9-12: 3.3% English Learners- Grades 3-5: 38.2%, Grades 6-8: 54.8%, Grades 9-12: 6.7%	* Spring 2027 TCAP data will provide the needed data to confirm targets.
2027-28	* All Students- Grades- 3-5: 51.3%, Grades 6-8: 59.8%, Grades 9-12: 36.9% Students w/ Disabilities- Grades 3-5: 21.3%, Grades 6-8: 7.6%, Grades 9-12: 5.3% English Learners- Grades 3-5: 38.2%, Grades 6-8: 54.8%, Grades 9-12: 6.7%	* Spring 2029 TCAP data will provide the needed data to confirm targets.
2028-29	* All Students- Grades- 3-5: 53.3%, Grades 6-8: 61.8%, Grades 9-12: 38.9% Students w/ Disabilities- Grades 3-5: 23.3%, Grades 6-8: 9.6%, Grades 9-12: 7.3% English Learners- Grades 3-5: 40.2%, Grades 6-8: 56.8%, Grades 9-12: 8.7%	* Spring 2027 TCAP data will provide the needed data to confirm targets.

Strategies: Include the goal-specific strategies that the district is implementing or intends to implement to reach the stated goal.

Strategy Description	Benchmark Indicator Methods for checking progress of implementation and improvement throughout the year.	Estimated TISA Amount, if applicable Enter \$0 if not applicable.	Other funding source and amount, if applicable
Rhea County Schools will be implementing consistent unit and lesson implementation of Math HQIM focusing on the Math IPG to allow for clear communication between administrators and teachers.	- Learning Walks - Student Work Analysis - Quarterly Benchmarks - CASE data analysis	\$: 62,000.00	

Rhea County Schools will implement regular collaboration opportunities for PLC both within buildings and extending to other schools in the district for grade level collaboration opportunities.	- Learning Walks - Student Work Analysis - Quarterly Benchmarks - CASE data analysis	\$ 0.00	
Rhea County will provide high dosage, low ratio tutoring for retained and struggling students as well as summer programming with highly qualified teachers.	- Learning Walks - Student Work Analysis - Quarterly Benchmarks - CASE data analysis	\$ 7,000.00	

Goal 4

Rhea County Schools (720) Public District - FY 2027 - LEA Plan - Rev 1

☐ This goal not established.

Goal 4

By May 2029, Rhea County Schools will increase the number of our students that are considered Ready Graduates for all students, for students with disabilities, and English Learners.

All Students Grades- 43.4%
Students with Disabilities- 4.0%
English Learners- 10.1%

State the district's 3-year SMART goal aligned to the identified priorities. Ensure the goal statement includes what is being improved, the identified student group(s), and the expected amount of improvement.

Annual Target

Year	Annual Target - Include targets for All students and identified subgroups	Data Sources
2026-27	* All Students- 42.5% Student's w/ Disabilities- 13.1% English Learners- 9.7%	* TDOE CCR Data Files
2027-28	* All Students- 43.5% Student's w/ Disabilities- 16.1% English Learners- 12.7%	* TDOE CCR Data Files
2028-29	* All Students- 46.5% Student's w/ Disabilities- 19.1% English Learners- 15.7%	* TDOE CCR Data Files

Strategies: Include the goal-specific strategies that the district is implementing or intends to implement to reach the stated goal.

Strategy Description Defines what the strategy is and establishes areas of consistent, districtwide expectations for implementation.	Benchmark Indicator Methods for checking progress of implementation and improvement throughout the year.	Estimated TISA Amount, if applicable Enter \$0 if not applicable.	Other funding source and amount, if applicable
Rhea County will implement activities to increase awareness of career opportunities, work-based learning, early postsecondary opportunities, and increase access to earn postsecondary credentials.	-Career assessments conducted each semester - Development of student's course of study - Data from Projects, grades and industry certifications will be assessed to align programs of study offered to meet community and student needs.	\$ 0.00	

During the 2026-27 school year, Rhea County will deliver the ACT Cambridge practice assessments to all Freshman and Sophomore students on the same date as the Junior ACT assessment date. This will provide us with a baseline for composite scores as well as cohort scores.

-Evaluate ACT Cambridge practice scores -Progress monitor monthly in each of the 4 test areas (English, Math, Reading, Science)

\$ 10,000.00

During the 2026-27 school year, Rhea County will offer ACT prep classes to Juniors and Seniors designed to improve content knowledge and assist in test taking strategies.

-Progress monitor monthly in each of the 4 test areas (English, Math, Reading, Science)

\$ 25,000.00

TISA Overview

Rhea County Schools (720) Public District - FY 2027 - LEA Plan - Rev 1

Overview

The Tennessee Investment in Student Achievement (TISA) public school funding formula marks a significant change in how Tennessee invests in public education. The TISA funding formula updates the way Tennessee funds public education for the first time in over 30 years to empower each student to read proficiently by third grade, prepare each high school graduate for postsecondary success, and provide resources needed for all students to ensure they succeed.

As part of TISA, T.C.A. § 49-3-112 requires each school district, starting in the 2023-24 school year, to submit an annual accountability report to the Tennessee Department of Education (department). This report must include:

- Goals for student achievement which are now addressed through the LEA plan. One of the goals must include the district's plan to pursue the goal of seventy percent (70%) or more of the district's third grade students to score "met expectations" or "exceeded expectations" on the English Language Arts (ELA) portion of the TCAP tests. This goal must also detail the district's goal to increase 3rd grade ELA proficiency rates by 15% of the gap over three years (starting with the 2022-23 TCAP results) to achieve the district's stated goal of at least 70% of 3rd grade students proficient in ELA.
- Explanation of how the district's stated goals can be met within the district's budget which are now addressed through the LEA plan.
- For reports submitted starting in the 2024-25 school year, a description of how the district's budget and expenditures from the prior school year enabled the district to make progress toward the stated student achievement goals. Prior year reflection and expenditures are to be completed at the beginning of each school year as a separate section, now located within the LEA planning process.

Each district's TISA accountability report, including goals, strategies, and reflections, are required to be presented to the public for review and comment before the report is submitted to the department.

Additionally, the TISA Accountability must be presented for local school board approval. The report must be submitted annually to the department by November 1st.

Furthermore, each district's TISA accountability report is required to be reviewed annually by the TISA Progress Review Board pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-3-114 to determine whether the school district is taking the proper steps to achieve their stated goal.

For questions, please review the TISA Accountability Report Guidance document or contact tnedu.funding@tn.gov.

Completed reports should be submitted in ePlan by November 1, 2026.

Resources

[Click here to open the guide.](#)

Goal 1

Rhea County Schools (720) Public District - FY 2027 - LEA Plan - Rev 1

Goal Statement 1: 3rd Grade ELA Proficiency

70	%	of students will score proficient on the 3rd grade ELA TCAP by	Year 2026
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District Goal 1

Year	Annual Outcome Target(s)	Associated Metrics/Data
Year 1: 2023-2024 school year (Previous outcome)	38.6% of 3rd Grade Students Scored Proficient in ELA	3rd Grade ELA TCAP
Year 2: 2024-2025 school year (Use previous outcome)	39.3% of 3rd Grade Students Scored Proficient in ELA	3rd Grade ELA TCAP
Year 3: 2025-2026 school year (Use actual outcome)	42.1% of 3rd Grade Students Scoring Proficient in ELA	3rd Grade ELA TCAP

- * Check the response that best describes the progress made on the 2025-26 target toward Goal 1.
- ☐ Exceeded target
 - ☐ Met target
 - ☐ Increased but did not meet target
 - ☐ Did not make progress toward target
 - ☐ End of year outcome data for 2025-26SY is unavailable at the time of this report

Reflection: Based on progress toward the goal, how will this impact your action plan for the coming years?

Rhea County has implemented instructional coaches to help our teachers be successful. This measure will be paid through federal money. Rhea County used TISA money to purchase multiple educational software licenses as well as required screeners and benchmark assessments to provide critical formative data. Rhea County also plans on continuing to make tutoring and summer school available to students with identified gaps in learning.

Goal 1 Prior Year Report: 2-3 Prior year, major TISA investments made toward this goal

Major TISA Investment	Expended Amount (Rough Estimate)	Reflection of whether the investment contributed to progressing toward the goal or not, and how so.
Tutoring in grades K-8. (\$30,765) Summer School for K-12 Students (Paid for with State Grants) (\$192,080)	\$ 222,845.00	Tutoring and summer school definitely solidified student learning and helped them to establish gains in their learning.

Rhea County Schools will be implemented consistent unit and lesson implementation of ELA HQIM focusing on the ELA IPG to allow for clear communication between administrators and teachers.	\$ 0.00	Rhea County's implementation of consistent unit and lesson plans focusing on the ELA IPG has allowed the teachers to focus in on specific strategies in class such as in-depth and thoughtful questioning by the teachers.
Rhea County Schools will implement regular collaboration opportunities for PLC both within buildings and extending to other schools in the district for grade level collaboration opportunities.	\$ 0.00	Rhea County's students have benefited from the teacher collaboration. The collaboration has allowed teachers to share ideas and plan out lessons that will address all student's needs.

Goal 2

Rhea County Schools (720) Public District - FY 2027 - LEA Plan - Rev 1

Goal Statement 2:

Rhea County Schools will increase the ELA proficiency rate of all students, in all grade bands for ELA. By 2030, we will increase the ELA proficiency in grades 3-8 from 40.1% to 50.1% and grades the ELA proficiency in grades 9-12 from 41% to 51%.

District Goal 2

Year	Annual Outcome Target(s)	Associated Metrics/Data
Year 1: 2023-2024 school year (Previous outcome)	-42.4% of Students in Grades 3-8 & -38.3% of Grades 9-12 Scored Proficient in ELA*	Grades 3-8 TCAP & English I & II EOCs
Year 2: 2024-2025 school year (Use previous outcome)	-41.4% of Students in Grades 3-8 & -47.8% of Grades 9-12 Scored Proficient in ELA*	Grades 3-8 TCAP & English I & II EOCs
Year 3: 2025-2026 school year (Use actual outcome)	-44.1% of Students in Grades 3-8 & -47% of Grades 9-12 will be Scoring Proficient in ELA	Grades 3-8 TCAP & English I & II EOCs

* Check the response that best describes the progress made on the 2025-26 target toward Goal 2.

- ☐ Exceeded target
- ☐ Met target
- ☐ Increased but did not meet target
- ☐ Did not make progress toward goal
- ☐ End of year outcome data for the 2025-26SY is unavailable at the time of this report

Reflection: Based on progress toward the goal, how will this impact your action plan for the coming years?

Rhea County has implemented instructional coaches to help our teachers be successful. This measure will be paid through federal money. Rhea County used TISA money to purchase multiple educational software licenses as well as required screeners and benchmark assessments to provide critical formative data. Rhea County also plans on continuing to make tutoring and summer school available to students with identified gaps in learning.

Goal 2 Prior Year Report: 2-3 Prior year, major TISA investments made toward this goal

Major TISA Investment	Expended Amount (Rough Estimate)	Reflection of whether the investment contributed to progressing toward the goal or not, and how so.
Tutoring in grades K-8. (\$30,765) Summer School for K-12 Students (Paid for with State Grants) (\$192,080).	\$ 222,845.00	Tutoring and summer school have allowed for gaps in student learning to be addressed.

Rhea County Schools will be implemented consistent unit and lesson implementation of ELA HQIM focusing on the ELA IPG to allow for clear communication between administrators and teachers.	\$ 0.00	Rhea County's implementation of consistent unit and lesson plans focusing on the ELA IPG has allowed the teachers to focus in on specific strategies in class such as in-depth and thoughtful questioning by the teachers.
Rhea County Schools will implement regular collaboration opportunities for PLC both within buildings and extending to other schools in the district for grade level collaboration opportunities.	\$ 0.00	Rhea County's students have benefited from the teacher collaboration. The collaboration has allowed teachers to share ideas and plan out lessons that will address all student's needs.

Goal 3

Rhea County Schools (720) Public District - FY 2027 - LEA Plan - Rev 1

☐ This goal not established.

Goal Statement 3:

Rhea County Schools will increase the Math proficiency rate of all students, in all grade bands for Math. By 2030, we will increase the Math proficiency in grades 3-8 from 51.0% to 61.0% and grades the Math proficiency in grades 9-12 from 38.6% to 48.6%.

District Goal 3

Year	Annual Outcome Target(s)	Associated Metrics/Data
Year 1: 2023-2024 school year (Previous outcome)	-48.6% of Students in Grades 3-8 & -31.3% of Grades 9-12 Scored Proficient in Math	Grades 3-8 TCAP & Algebra I, II Geometry EOCs
Year 2: 2024-2025 school year (Use previous outcome)	-51.7 % of Students in Grades 3-8 & -32.9% of Grades 9-12 Scored Proficient in Math	Grades 3-8 TCAP & Algebra I, II Geometry EOCs
Year 3: 2025-2026 school year (Use actual outcome)	-53.3% of Students in Grades 3-8 & -33.6% of Grades 9-12 Scored Proficient in Math	Grades 3-8 TCAP & Algebra I, II Geometry EOCs

* Check the response that best describes the progress made on the 2025-26 target toward Goal 3.

- ☐ Exceeded target
- ☐ Met target
- ☒ Increased but did not meet target
- ☐ Did not make progress toward goal
- ☐ End of year outcome data for the 2025-26SY is unavailable at the time of this report

Reflection: Based on progress toward the goal, how will this impact your action plan for the coming years?

Rhea County has implemented instructional coaches to help our teachers be successful. This measure will be paid through federal money. Rhea County used TISA money to purchase multiple educational software licenses as well as required screeners and benchmark assessments to provide critical formative data. Rhea County also plans on continuing to make tutoring and summer school available to students with identified gaps in learning.

Goal 3 Prior Year Report: 2-3 Prior year, major TISA investments made toward this goal

Major TISA Investment	Expended Amount (Rough Estimate)	Reflection of whether the investment contributed to progressing toward the goal or not, and how so.

-Tutoring in grades K-8. (\$30,765) -Summer School (Paid for by State Grandt) for K-12 Students. (\$192,080)	\$ 222,845.00	Tutoring and summer school have allowed for gaps in student learning to be addressed.
Rhea County Schools will be implemented consistent unit and lesson implementation of Math HQIM focusing on the Math IPG to allow for clear communication between administrators and teachers.	\$ 0.00	Rhea County's implementation of consistent unit and lesson plans focusing on the ELA IPG has allowed the teachers to focus in on specific strategies in class such as in-depth and thoughtful questioning by the teachers. Teachers are now trying to incorporate time for students to have meaningful conversations around the standards.
Rhea County Schools will implement regular collaboration opportunities for PLC both within buildings and extending to other schools in the district for grade level collaboration opportunities.	\$ 0.00	Rhea County's students have benefited from the teacher collaboration. The collaboration has allowed teachers to share ideas and plan out lessons that will address all student's needs.

Goal 4

Rhea County Schools (720) Public District - FY 2027 - LEA Plan - Rev 1

☐ This goal not established.

Goal Statement 4:

Rhea County Schools will increase the percent of Ready Graduates for all students. By 2029, we will increase the percent of Ready Graduates to 46.5%

All Students- 46.5%

Student's w/ Disabilities- 19.1%

English Learners- 15.7%

District Goal 4

Year	Annual Outcome Target(s)	Associated Metrics/Data
Year 1: 2023-2024 school year (Previous outcome)	All Students- 42.1% Student's w/ Disabilities- 13.3% English Learners- 28.6%	TDOE released data files
Year 2: 2024-2025 school year (Use previous outcome)	All Students- 60.7% Student's w/ Disabilities- 21.9% English Learners- 48.9%	TDOE released data files
Year 3: 2025-2026 school year (Use actual outcome)	All Students- 42.5% Student's w/ Disabilities- 5.6% English Learners- 0%	TDOE released data files

* Check the response that best describes the progress made on the 2025-26 target toward Goal 4.

- ☐ Exceeded target
☐ Met target
☐ Increased but did not meet target
☒ Did not make progress toward goal
☐ End of year outcome data for the 2025-26SY is unavailable at the time of this report

Reflection: Based on progress toward the goal, how will this impact your action plan for the coming years?

Due to the lack of progress toward our Ready Graduate Goal, Rhea County will emphasize all current initiatives and actively pursue additional opportunities to increase the number of students considered Ready Graduate.

Goal 4 Prior Year Report: 2-3 Prior year, major TISA investments made toward this goal

Major TISA Investment	Expended Amount (Rough Estimate)	Reflection of whether the investment contributed to progressing toward the goal or not, and how so.
Rhea County offered classes within students' schedules that would help prepare them for the ACT.	\$ 25,000.00	The ACT Prep Courses could have helped more by equipping the teachers with additional resources and training.
Rhea County administered the Cambridge practice test for the ACT to all Freshmen and Sophomores.	\$ 10,000.00	The Cambridge practice test could have benefited more students if the grade levels had emphasized the importance of practicing for an upcoming ACT test.