



# Murfreesboro City Schools

## Administrative Offices

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Dear Parents and Guardians:

Murfreesboro City Schools recently began a year of celebration acknowledging 120 years of service to the children of this community. We are a proud, award-winning school system that has a practicing teacher in the National Teachers Hall of Fame—and more Tennessee Teachers of the Year and more teachers in the Tennessee Teachers Hall of Fame than any other district in the state.

While this year is a year of celebration in our city, last year was a year of educational change in our state. During 2009-2010, Tennessee increased the “what” and the “how much” of student learning. So the tests given in April, nine months ago, reflected both the revised academic standards and a much higher bar for proficient levels of achievement. By making these changes, ultimately, more students will truly be ready for college or careers. But the changes produced lower scores on the test; and as a result, our district finds itself in School Improvement II status. This is a challenge for us because it is new territory. However, the principals and teachers are already working to meet the challenge, to ensure our students will meet the new levels of mastery and surpass the raised bar.

Over the past several months, Murfreesboro City has implemented professional learning communities, developed a district-wide curriculum scope and sequence, established daily intervention and enrichment times, begun extensive staff development, formed leadership academies, and more. We are intensely focused on student learning, are implementing only research-proven programs, and are committed to the whole child.

Murfreesboro City Schools has a mission to ensure the academic and personal success of each child. We are on a journey to prepare children with the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to solve problems that don't even exist today...to prepare children for the future.

We welcome you to join us on this journey—to visit your child's school and become part of this learning community. Thank you for caring about your children. Thank you for supporting Murfreesboro City Schools.

Sincerely,

Linda Arms Gilbert, Ed.D.

Director of Schools

*Bellwood-Bowdoin Preschool • Black Fox • Bradley Academy • Cason Lane Academy • Erma Siegel  
Discovery School at Reeves-Rogers • Hobgood • John Pittard • Mitchell-Neilson Elementary  
Mitchell-Neilson Primary • Northfield • Scales*