



# Our 5 Major Successes

## SECOND HIGHEST GROWTH SCORES IN TENNESSEE

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- SCS recently received the second highest rating on the Tennessee Department of Education's 2018 Accountability Report.
- In 2018, the Tennessee Department of Education listed 37 SCS-managed Reward Schools in the District. This is up from 13 schools listed last year.
- Since the initial Priority School list, 28 of our schools have earned their way off.
- Previously one of the lowest performers in the State, Douglass High School's ELA 3.0 and Math scores increased 5.9 points from 2016-2017, and Douglass was a Level 5 school for two years in a row, 2015-2016 and 2016-2017.

## iZONE SUCCESSSES

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- Over the past five school years, all iZone schools experienced increases in success rates and that growth continued until the 2017 TNReady assessment change.
- Previously one of the lowest-performing schools in Tennessee, A.B. Hill Elementary, for example, went from a Level 1 to a Level 5 school in 2018 and was removed from the State's priority list.
- Sixty-seven percent of iZone High Schools showed success rate improvement from 2016 to 2017 on TNReady.
- In 2017-2018, two of our iZone schools were designated as Reward Schools by the Tennessee Department of Education.

## \$200 MILLION INVESTED IN SCHOOLS

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- In an effort to re-design and expand the District's career and technical education program, SCS introduced College and Career Technical Education, or CCTE which now involves partnerships with Memphis and Shelby County corporations.
- SCS has put a greater emphasis on creating more educational school options such as the T-STEM Academy at East High School, Maxine Smith and the E-Zone in Whitehaven.

- Rather than closing schools, SCS invested in 19 Critical Focus Schools and even combined some school populations and moved them into newly constructed and more technologically advanced school buildings.

## INCREASED EQUITY

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- In an effort to provide equity and greater budget transparency District-wide, SCS has sent resources "Back 2 Students" through student-based budgeting and school-level budget planning.
- Student-based budgeting, mixed with school-level budget planning allows individual school leaders and stakeholders the flexibility to redirect the resources needed to increase student achievement.
- At the beginning of the 2017 school year, the SCS School Board declared its support of Deferred Action of Childhood Arrivals or DACA. The board declared that all of the District's Latino students and families are welcome and safe at SCS.
- At the beginning of 2018, Superintendent Hopson implemented a plan that increased all full-time employees' wages to a minimum of \$15 an hour, citing the importance of all District employees earning a living wage.
- SCS increased its recruitment and retention efforts to ensure qualified teachers are in front of every student and that teachers have sustainable positions.

## SAFER SCHOOLS

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- SCS has invested in additional school resource officers, cameras and card access in and around school buildings.
- The District has realized double-digit drops in weapon-related offenses over the last two years.
- We have adopted alternatives to suspension, such as "restorative justice" programs that prioritize getting students to reflect on behavior change over punishment.
- To further assist students with behavior related issues, SCS has invested in additional social workers, counselors and behavioral specialists in recent years.