



TENNESSEE SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

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The Honorable Mark Norris
302 War Memorial Building
Nashville, TN 37243

Dear Senator Norris:

On behalf of the Tennessee School Boards Association, I would like to thank you for your support of public education during this legislative session and for listening to the concerns of boards of education as you studied issues affecting Tennessee's schools.

Your leadership and tireless efforts to ensure federal Medicaid Administrative Claim (MAC) reimbursement for school systems has made a tremendous difference in our association's quest to draw down millions of dollars in flexible federal funds for our schools. In fact, through your work, we are beginning to see positive and encouraging results with TennCare finally agreeing to file placeholder claims for previous quarters.

In a time when our state and our schools are facing considerable budget shortages, the MAC program can provide badly needed resources to our classrooms without any additional cost to the state. We are grateful that you have brought this fact to the attention of the General Assembly.

Again, thank you for making Tennessee's children your number one priority. I look forward to working with you and your staff in the future. As always, please call on us at any time if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Stephen Smith
Director of Government Relations

CC: Bruce Kerr, Dyer County Board of Education Chairman
Elizabeth Horner, Dyersburg Board of Education Chairman
Trey Hurt, Lauderdale County Board of Education Chairman
David Pickler, Shelby County Board of Education Chairman
Carl Johnson, Memphis Board of Education Chairman
Rodney Eubank, Tipton County Board of Education Chairman
Emmastine Pinkston, Covington Board of Education Chairman