

Hamilton County Department of Education

Work Session

January 18, 2024 4:30 PM

3074 Hickory Valley Road

Chattanooga, TN 37421

I. Call to Order

II. Exemplars of Excellence

A. Deputy Superintendent - Dr. Sonia Stewart

1. Recognition of the 2024 Teachers of the Year

III. Delegations

A. James Lee speaking regarding the alternative law for the origin of life

B. Debbie Shugart speaking regarding transportation concerns

C. Melanie Rayborn, HCEA speaking regarding pressing issues in Tennessee Public Education right now from a teacher's viewpoint

IV. Committee Chair Updates

V. Discussion of the Board Meeting Agenda

VI. Adjourn

HAMILTON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
3074 Hickory Valley Road  
Chattanooga, TN 37421

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Hamilton County Board of Education  
Dr. Justin Robertson, Superintendent

**FROM:** Dr. Sonia Stewart, Deputy Superintendent

**DATE:** January 18, 2024

**RE:** 2024 Teachers of the Year

The Tennessee Teacher of the Year Program, sponsored annually by the Tennessee Department of Education, recognizes and honors outstanding teachers in Tennessee. The program promotes an appreciation for excellence in teaching in grade bands pre-K-4, 5-8, and 9-12. It is my pleasure to announce the Teachers of the Year 2024 for Hamilton County in the following categories:

**Grades K-4: Catherine Casselman** – East Side Elementary – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Math/Science  
Principal: Greg Wilkey  
Community Superintendent: Blake Freeman  
Board Member: Jill Black

**Grades 5-8: Matty Hardy** – Normal Park Upper School – CTE Teacher  
Principal: Jamelie Johns  
Community Superintendent: Dr. Shane Harwood  
Board Member: Ben Connor

**Grades 9-12: Olivia Kane** – STEM School – Biology/Chemistry  
Principal: Jim David  
Community Superintendent: Elaine Harper  
Board Member: Tiffanie Robinson