



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

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NASHVILLE, TN 37243-0375

**BILL HASLAM**  
GOVERNOR

**KEVIN HUFFMAN**  
COMMISSIONER

April 2013

Dear Directors of Schools,

I am writing today to share my support for a new opportunity that I believe will benefit students.

In 2011, facing an increasing number of students requiring remediation in mathematics, Chattanooga State Community College launched a pilot program to provide early remedial study for local high school seniors. This pilot, conducted among 500 12th grade students scoring below college ready on the ACT, yielded an unprecedented success rate. Among participating schools, up to 90 percent of the students completed remedial math competencies before graduating high school.

This program, known as the Seamless Alignment and Integrated Learning Support (SAILS) initiative, delivers remedial math instruction before the student enters higher education. The 12th grade year becomes the focal point to remedy deficits and prepare the student to enter college prepared for credit-bearing coursework. SAILS' most critical element is the high school-college partnership. In the SAILS model, college and high school faculty members work together to ensure student progress, learning, and success.

The opportunity to serve as a SAILS school will provide your students with access to a seamless K-12/higher education continuum that significantly increases their chances of attaining college readiness in mathematics. The SAILS initiative has the full support of the Tennessee Department of Education, and I encourage you to consider partnering with your regional community college in making Seamless Alignment and Integrated Learning Support available to your students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Huffman".

Kevin Huffman