



State of Tennessee

David H. Lillard, Jr., State Treasurer

For Immediate Release: Aug. 5, 2014

Anderson County School System Receives Check for Promoting College Savings Program

State Treasurer David H. Lillard, Jr. has presented the Anderson County school system with a \$2,500 check for its efforts to get parents to complete an online tutorial about the importance of saving of college.

School officials received the money in exchange for getting parents of children who attend their schools to participate in the tutorial online. The tutorial provides information about the TNStars 529 College Savings Program, which offers Tennesseans a way to save with certain tax advantages.

People who open accounts with TNStars can choose from different investment options ranging from conservative to aggressive. One of those options is an age-based option in which investments are structured to be more aggressive when children are younger, then become more conservative as children approach college age. Taxes aren't paid on investment earnings as long as that money is used for qualified higher education expenses.

The promotion with Anderson County schools was part of a pilot project that the Treasury Department plans to offer at other school systems across the state.

Participating school systems will receive \$5 for each parent who views the tutorial. And for a limited time, those who complete the tutorial and open an account will receive a \$25 contribution into their TNStars 529 College Savings account.

"I congratulate Anderson County parents for their participation in our program," Treasurer Lillard said. "I'm pleased that so many of them chose to view the tutorial. I hope many of them will follow through and open college savings accounts for their children. It's important to start saving money when children are still young. Making regular contributions to an account, even small amounts of money, can really make a big difference over time."

"Saving for college can be a challenge for many families, but it's easier to manage if you have a plan," Sen. Randy McNally said. "I encourage Tennessee families to set up accounts with TNStars and make regular contributions."

“Every TN student should have the opportunity to pursue higher education,” said Rep. Dennis Powers. “With the TNStars program, they can.”

“TNStars can be a great tool for parents who want to start saving for their children’s education while they are young,” said Rep. John Ragan.

“We were very pleased to have worked with Treasurer Lillard and his staff in creating an awareness of the need to prepare for a college education,” said Larry Foster, director of Anderson County Schools. “We applaud the Treasury Department for placing value on acquiring an education beyond high school. The curriculum infused into our program of studies is value-added and has been well received by our teachers. This initiative blends well with our Gear UP grant and helps build support for continuing education. The savings aspect helps keep the hope alive for any child who wants to further his or her education.”

To access the tutorial or to gain more information on the state’s college savings program visit the TNStars website – www.tnstars.com – or call toll-free 1-855-3TN-STAR (1-855-386-7827).

-30-

Media contact: Blake Fontenay, Communications Director, (615) 253-2668 or blake.fontenay@tn.gov

[Tennessee Department of the Treasury](#)
State Capitol Nashville, TN 37243
Phone: (615) 741-2956