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## **TSBA Announces 2011 Statewide Student Recognition Award Winner**

The Tennessee School Boards Association's (TSBA) Student Recognition Award Program honored one student from each of the Association's nine developmental district who had achieved distinction in the areas of academics, community leadership, and engagement. District winners were announced at this year's Fall District Meetings held in September. As district winners, these students were eligible for the statewide award, which includes a \$2,000 scholarship. In order to compete for this award, the students were asked to write a 1000-word essay to describe why or why not Tennessee schools should transition from hard copy textbooks to utilizing digital textbooks. District winners were then interviewed by a panel of judges made up of TSBA members.

The winner of the TSBA Student Recognition Award is Southeast District Winner Benjamin Riley. Currently a senior at McMinn Central High School, Benjamin has been class president for his freshman, sophomore and junior years and has been awarded the McMinn County Education Foundation Youth Leadership Award. He held a spot on the Top 10 Numeric GPA for his freshman, sophomore and junior years and was selected as the Tennessee National Society of High School Scholars Award Recipient and People to People Ambassador. He actively participates in community service projects, and currently serves on the McMinn County School Board policy committee.

*The Tennessee School Boards Association, a statewide, nonprofit organization, is a federation of the state's local school boards. The mission of the Tennessee School Boards Association is to assist school boards in effectively governing school districts. Through the years, TSBA has helped school boards and their members reach their highest potential through association programs, meetings and services. TSBA also provides school board members a collective voice in matters of legislation and public education concerns. To learn more about TSBA, visit our website at [www.tsba.net](http://www.tsba.net).*