

Contractual Operations of Municipal Schools

Dear Reader:

The following document was created from the MTAS website ([mtas.tennessee.edu](https://www.mtas.tennessee.edu)). This website is maintained daily by MTAS staff and seeks to represent the most current information regarding issues relative to Tennessee municipal government.

We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with municipal government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other MTAS website material.

Sincerely,

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Reference Number:
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Municipalities are authorized to enter into two kinds of contracts for the operation of municipal schools:

- A city school board and a county school board may enter into a contract for the county superintendent of education to supervise the operation of city schools. Such a contract does not alter the distribution of county and state funds to city schools, but the city is authorized to devote its school funds to payment of the proportionate cost of the maintenance of such schools. The indebtedness of the city school system remains the obligation of the city. T.C.A. § 49-2-1001.
- The boards of education of two or more school systems are authorized to enter into a contract to establish, maintain and operate a public school or schools jointly. If the city does not have a school board, the city's governing body may enter into the contract. T.C.A. §§ 49-2-1101, *et seq.*

DISCLAIMER: The letters and publications written by the MTAS consultants were written based upon the law at the time and/or a specific sets of facts. The laws referenced in the letters and publications may have changed and/or the technical advice provided may not be applicable to your city or circumstances. Always consult with your city attorney or an MTAS consultant before taking any action based on information contained in this website.

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