



STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
9th FLOOR, ANDREW JOHNSON TOWER
710 JAMES ROBERTSON PARKWAY
NASHVILLE, TN 37243-0375

BILL HASLAM
GOVERNOR

CANDICE MCQUEEN
COMMISSIONER

March 11, 2015

Via Electronic Mail

Russ Davis, Director of Schools
Obion County Schools
316 South Third Street
Union City, TN 38261

davisr9@k12tn.net

Dear Mr. Davis:

Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-3004(a) (6), in the event of a natural disaster or serious outbreaks of illness affecting or endangering students or staff, the commissioner of education may waive the requirement for school district calendars to include one hundred eighty (180) days of classroom instruction for the current school year.

On February 21, Governor Haslam declared a Level 2 State of Emergency – Major Disaster – due to the extreme weather conditions throughout the state. This State of Emergency extended through March 2, representing six school days. Because of the unique and rare circumstances of our recent weather and the impact on school districts throughout the state, and because of the Level 2 State of Emergency declaration, the department is accepting requests to waive a maximum number of three instructional days during the period of February 21-March 2, 2015.

You have submitted a request to waive instructional days for Obion County Schools. Pursuant to my above referenced authority, I hereby grant a waiver to Obion County Schools of two instructional days during the period of February 21-March 2, 2015. Please revise the calendar in EIS to indicate the two days that are waived. Thank you for continuing to notify the Department of revisions to your school calendar.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Candice McQueen".

Dr. Candice McQueen

Paul Rainwater

From: Commissioner McQueen
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 8:09 AM
To: Paul Rainwater; Christy Ballard
Subject: Re: Obion County Schools waiver question

Good morning,

Can you let me know if his "format" for the request is adequate to make a decision on this request? Seems fine to me.

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Candice McQueen, Ph.D.
Commissioner
Tennessee Department of Education
9th Floor, Andrew Johnson Tower
710 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, TN 37243



From: Russ Davis <davisr9@k12tn.net>
Date: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 at 3:56 PM
To: Commissioner McQueen <Commissioner.McQueen@tn.gov>
Subject: Obion County Schools waiver question

Commissioner McQueen,

The Obion County School System has missed a total of 11 instructional days due to inclement weather. We had a total of 8 stockpiled days in our school calendar. The board has approved for a professional development day scheduled for Friday, March 13, 2015, to be converted to an instructional day. This leaves us with two instructional days to make up. We have proposed May 22 and 26 for those days, but are concerned that attendance will be extremely affected due to the fact that achievement testing is completed and it surrounds a long weekend. The board is not in favor of utilizing Spring Break days as this has resulted in attendance problems in the past. Could a waiver for two days be considered and approved given all of this information. I am attempting to provide the board with relevant information that will assist them in making an informed decision prior to it become public knowledge.

Your thoughts on this matter will assist greatly in advising the board on a plan of action,

Russ

Russ Davis
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