



**BILL HASLAM**  
GOVERNOR

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

**CANDICE MCQUEEN**  
COMMISSIONER

**Via Email and US Mail**

October 25, 2018

Steve Starnes, Director of Schools  
Greeneville City Schools  
129 W. Depot Street  
Greeneville, TN 37743  
[starness@gcschools.net](mailto:starness@gcschools.net)

Re: Waiver for K-3 Classes at Tusculum View Elementary

Dear Mr. Starnes:

I am in receipt of your October 24, 2018 letter requesting a waiver of the class size average for K-3 classes found in T.C.A. §49-1-104 for Tusculum View Elementary for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year.

The commissioner's waiver authority under T.C.A. §49-1-201(d) is limited by T.C.A. §49-1-104(a), which states that "neither the commissioner nor the state board of education shall grant waivers from the maximum class sizes established in this section."

With the understanding that none of the K-3 classes at Tusculum View Elementary will exceed 25, the maximum number of students per class specified in the above referenced law, your request for a waiver of the class size average is granted for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year.

Please do not hesitate to call me if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Candice McQueen" with a stylized initial "JC" to the right.

Candice McQueen  
Commissioner



Steve Starnes, Ed. S.  
Director of Schools  
Suzanne C. Bryant, Ed. D.  
Assistant Director for Instruction  
Beverly W. Miller, MBA  
Assistant Director for Administration

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October 24, 2018

Candice McQueen, Commissioner  
Tennessee Department of Education  
Andrew Johnson Tower  
710 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

Dear Commissioner McQueen,

The Greeneville City Schools Board of Education would like to request a waiver of the class size average mandates in grades K-3 for Tusculum View Elementary. **The school will continue to adhere to the class size maximums for all grades.**

The current K-3 class average at Tusculum View Elementary is 20.3. The Greeneville City School district goes above state requirements in every area of teacher and student support. All kindergarten classes at the school have a teacher assistant that is fully dedicated to each classroom. There are also additional adult supports in place in all classrooms in grades 1-3 with additional teacher assistant time, as well as additional classroom support from related arts teachers. The school has 2-3 adults in each classroom for the majority of the day.

We will adjust staffing prior to the 2019-2020 school year. However, this waiver is needed for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year. Please let me know if you need additional information or further clarification or justification for this request.

Sincerely,

Mr. Steve Starnes

Director of Schools

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*Learning Without Limits*

Kathryn W. Leonard Administrative Office  
129 W. Depot Street • Greeneville, TN 37743  
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