

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 USPS

June 29, 2018

Dr. Norma S. Gerrell
Paris Special School District
1219 Highway 641 South
Paris, TN 38242
Norma.Gerrell@parisssd.org

Re: Waiver Request

Dear Dr. Garrell:

I am in receipt of your June 25, 2018 letter requesting a waiver for the Paris Special School District of State Board of Education Rule 0520-01-03-.07(2), requiring schools to employ a certain number of library information specialists per school who hold endorsements as library information specialists.

Pursuant to my authority under T.C.A. §49-1-201(d), your waiver request is hereby granted for the 2018-2019 school year.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely.

Candice McQueen Commissioner



## Paris Special School District

1219 Highway 641 South Paris, TN 38242 (731) 642-9322 (731) 642-9327 Fax www.parisssd.org

June 25, 2018

Ms. Elizabeth Fiveash
Assistant Commissioner for Policy and Legislation
Department of Education
Ninth Floor, Andrew Johnson Tower
710 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, TN 38243-0375

RE: Request for Waiver 2018-2019

Dear Ms. Fiveash:

I am writing to request an additional year of waiver of State Board of Education Rule 0520-01-03-07 requiring schools to employ a certain number of library information specialists per school who hold endorsements as library information specialists. We were granted an additional year in April 2016 and May 2017 due to the review of the Rule and any possible changes that had not been completed.

This waiver has given Paris Special School District the flexibility of utilizing a teacher who is a reading specialist to both deliver Tier III instruction and manage our library needs at Inman Middle School. At the middle school level, we have found that a library specialist does not always have the training to provide the Tier III instruction, but a reading specialist has the ability to manage the library. Tier III instruction at the middle school level is our last best chance at students reading on grade level before they begin the rigor and challenges of high school curriculum. Our students have benefitted tremendously from the ability to utilize our personnel in this method.

We respectively request that we be granted another year of this flexibility. Please review our request and present it to the Commissioner for approval.

Herrell

Sincerely.

Dr. Norma S. Gerrell

Director of Schools