



BILL LEE
GOVERNOR

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

LIZZETTE REYNOLDS
COMMISSIONER

Via Electronic Mail

March 14, 2024

Dr. Mischelle Simcox, Director of Schools
Johnson County Schools
211 North Church Street
Mountain City, TN 37683

Dear Director Simcox:

I am in receipt of your March 8, 2024 waiver request of Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-3004(i) as it relates to remote instruction. Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-3004(i)(1) allows school districts to provide up to two (2) days each semester of the required one hundred eighty (180) days of classroom instruction via remote instruction. Additionally, Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-3004(i)(7) requires school districts to make meals available to students in accordance with the school nutrition program requirements on days that remote instruction is provided.

According to your request, you have used one of your allotted remote learning days on Election Day (March 5, 2024) and will be utilizing your remaining remote learning day. You have requested the use of an additional remote learning day make up instructional days lost due to the snowstorm that occurred the week of January 15, 2024, which necessitated school closures in the district and throughout the state. You have also requested a waiver of the requirement to serve meals on these remote learning days.

Pursuant to the commissioner's waiver authority under Tenn. Code. Ann. § 49-1-201(d)(1), your request of a waiver of Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-3004(i)(1) is hereby granted to allow the use of one additional remote learning day without the requirement to serve meals on that day.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

Lizzette Reynolds
Commissioner



JOHNSON COUNTY SCHOOLS
211 North Church Street ♦ Mountain City, TN 37683
(423) 727-2640 ♦ FAX (423) 727-2663
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DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS
Dr. Mischelle Simcox

March 8, 2024

Commissioner Reynolds,

With the recent weather that occurred across the state of Tennessee and every school in the state being closed the week of January 15th, we are requesting a waiver of the 180-day requirement for classroom instruction pursuant to TA 49-6-3004(a)(6). Johnson County Schools has missed 17 instructional days due to inclement weather. We do go extended time which means we have 13 stockpile days built into our calendar. We are out of inclement weather days. We have currently made Presidents Day into an instructional day to gain back one of these snowdays. We also used one of our Remote Learning Days on the March 5th Election Day. This has put us down to 15 instructional days missed due to inclement weather.

I am humbly requesting that we receive a waiver of the 180-day requirement for classroom instruction. We would like to use one more of the Remote Learning Days and are requesting an additional Remote Learning Day to be added to us to allow us to make up the two remaining instructional days. We would also like to have a waiver in regards to serving meals and ask that we not have to serve breakfast/lunch on these two remote learning days. We would greatly appreciate any assistance and support you can give us.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mischelle Simcox

Dr. Mischelle Simcox