

BILL LEE GOVERNOR

STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TH FLOOR, ANDREW JOHNSON TOWER

NINTH FLOOR, ANDREW JOHNSON TOWER 710 JAMES ROBERTSON PARKWAY NASHVILLE, TN 37243-0375 SAM PEARCY COMMISSIONER

Via Electronic Mail

June 29, 2023

Dr. Chris Causey, Director of Schools Robertson County Schools 800 M. S. Couts Boulevard Springfield, TN 37172

Re: Waiver for Career and Technical Education Classes in Robertson County Schools

Dear Director Causey:

I am in receipt of your June 8, 2023 letter requesting a waiver of the class size average for Career and Technical Education classes found in Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-1-104 for Robertson County Schools for the 2023-24 school year.

The commissioner's waiver authority under Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-1-201(d) is limited by Tenn. Code Ann. § 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 Career and Technical Education classes in Robertson County Schools 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 2023-24 school year.

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

Sincerely,

Sam Pearcy Commissioner

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Robertson County Schools

800 M. S. Couts Boulevard • Springfield, Tennessee 37172 • Phone (615) 384-5588 • Fax (615) 384-9749

Dr. Chris J. Causey, Director of Schools

June 8, 2023

Dear Commissioner Schwinn,

Robertson County Schools is seeing an increase in the number of students that are enrolling in CTE Programs of Study. As this number increases it has become difficult to maintain a building average of 20 students per class and meet the needs of our students for graduation.

Each of our CTE classrooms is equipped to accommodate 25 students. In order to meet the average of 20 students we are forced to leave seats empty and equipment idle. Currently, we are losing 5 seats for every CTE section due to the need to comply with the average of 20. The CTE programs we have are at maximum capacity in three of our five high schools. We expect our enrollment numbers in CTE to grow again in 2023-24.

Robertson County Schools is requesting an exemption to the school average of 20 students in CTE classes contained in Tennessee Annotated Code, section 49-1-104 for the 2023-24 school year. We will continue to maintain the 25 students per class maximum.

Dr. Chris Causey

Robertson County Schools

Director of Schools

Mr. Mark Gregory

Robertson County Schools

CTE Supervisor