

BILL LEE GOVERNOR

## STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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

## Via Electronic Mail

August 31, 2023

Jason Golden, Director of Schools Williamson County Schools 1320 W Main Street, Suite 202 Franklin, TN 37064

Re: Waiver for Average Class Size at Westwood Elementary School

Dear Director Golden:

I am in receipt of your March 24, 2023 waiver request of the class size average found in Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-1-104 for grade K-3 classes at Westwood Elementary School in Williamson County Schools.

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 grade K-3 classes at Westwood Elementary School will exceed the maximum number of students per class specified in the above referenced law, your request for a waiver of the class size average is hereby granted for the remainder of the 2023-24 school year.

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

Sincerely,

Lizzette Reynolds Commissioner

## Local Education Agency Waiver Request

Pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated § 49-1-201(d), upon application by the local education agency for one (1) or more of its schools, the commissioner of education may waive any state board rule or statute that inhibits or hinders the LEA's ability to meet its goals or comply with its mission. Please submit completed forms to <a href="mailto:Commissioner.Education@tn.gov">Commissioner.Education@tn.gov</a>. Following review by the commissioner, the district will be notified in writing if the waiver request is approved or denied. Unless otherwise stated, all waivers granted by the commissioner shall be granted for one year terms.

Waivers may **not** be granted by the commissioner for regulatory or statutory requirements related to:

- (A) Federal and state civil rights;
- (B) Federal, state and local health and safety;
- (C) Federal and state public records;
- (D) Immunizations;
- (E) Possession of weapons on school grounds;
- (F) Background checks and fingerprinting of personnel;
- (G) Federal and state special education services;
- (H) Student due process;
- (I) Parental rights;
- (J) Federal and state student assessment and accountability;
- (K) Open meetings;
- (L) Educators' due process rights;
- (M) Reductions in teachers' salaries;
- (N) Employee rights, salaries and benefits; and
- (O) Licensure of employees.

## Williamson County Schools School Information (if applicable): School Name: Westwood Elementary School Street: 7200 Tiger Trail City: Fairview Zip Code: 37062

Please list the statute(s) and/or state board rule(s) for which waiver is being requested:
TCA 49-1-104
Explanation of how the statute(s) and/or state board rule(s) inhibits or hinders the local education agency's ability to meet its goals or comply with its mission:  Westwood Elementary (K-5) has an average enrollment of 21.76 for their K-3 students per teachers. Westwood Elementary will adhere to the maximum class size standards at all times.
Expected duration of the condition necessitating this waiver request:
Until the end of the 2023-2024 school year.
Print Name Jason Golden
B/30/2023