



STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
9th FLOOR, ANDREW JOHNSON TOWER
710 JAMES ROBERTSON PARKWAY
NASHVILLE, TN 37243-0375

BILL HASLAM
GOVERNOR

CANDICE MCQUEEN
COMMISSIONER

March 4, 2015

Via Electronic Mail

Stan Curtis, Director of Schools
Cheatham County Schools
102 Elizabeth Street
Ashland City, TN 37015

stan.curtis@ccstn.org

Dear Dr. Curtis:

Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-3004(a) (6), in the event of a natural disaster or serious outbreaks of illness affecting or endangering students or staff, the commissioner of education may waive the requirement for school district calendars to include one hundred eighty (180) days of classroom instruction for the current school year.

On February 21, Governor Haslam declared a Level 2 State of Emergency – Major Disaster – due to the extreme weather conditions throughout the state. This State of Emergency extended through March 2, representing six school days. Because of the unique and rare circumstances of our recent weather and the impact on school districts throughout the state, and because of the Level 2 State of Emergency declaration, the department is accepting requests to waive a maximum number of three instructional days during the period of February 21-March 2, 2015.

You have submitted a request to waive instructional days for Cheatham County Schools. Pursuant to my above referenced authority, I hereby grant a waiver to Cheatham County Schools of three instructional days during the period of February 21-March 2, 2015. Please revise the calendar in EIS to indicate the three days that are waived. Thank you for continuing to notify the Department of revisions to your school calendar.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Candice McQueen".

Dr. Candice McQueen



CHEATHAM COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Achieving Excellence Together

Director of Schools - Stan Curtis, Ed.D

102 Elizabeth Street • Ashland City, TN 37015 • Phone: 615.792.5664 • Fax: 615.792.2551

March 2, 2015

Commissioner Candice McQueen
Tennessee Department of Education
Andrew Johnson Tower 6th Floor
710 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

Re: Request to Waive Stockpiled Days

Dear Commissioner McQueen,

Cheatham County Schools were scheduled to be in session on Tuesday, February 17th through Friday, February 27th, 2015, for a total of nine days. A State of Emergency was declared by the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency during this time. In addition, we were not able to open as planned.

Cheatham County had several inches of ice standing on main and back roads which made them impassible. The ice in parking lots and sidewalks of all our schools were not treated because of a local salt shortage. Although our county maintenance department worked diligently to provide clean roads, Cheatham County was not equipped to handle the accumulation of ice on the roads throughout the county. Low temperatures and lack of sun prevented the layers of ice to melt. Furthermore, school roofs contained layers of ice which subsequently caused major leaks with damage to materials inside six of our twelve schools.

Cheatham County began the 2014-2015 school year with 13 stockpiled days. To date, Cheatham County School District has used eleven of the thirteen stockpiled days: one for a professional development on Election Day, and ten on weather related.

With the possible threat of more inclement weather in the forecast, and the Spring rains that have historically caused flooding in Cheatham County, the district would not be able to make up these days without extending the year past graduation. I respectfully request a waiver for 3 of these stockpiled days.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Stan Curtis, Ed.D
Director of Schools

Paul Rainwater

From: Stacy Brinkley <Stacy.Brinkley@ccstn.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2015 4:03 PM
To: Paul Rainwater
Cc: Dr. Stan Curtis; Dr. Tara Watson
Subject: RE: Request for waiver letter from St Dept of Education
Attachments: Cheatham County waiver.pdf

***** This is an EXTERNAL email. Please exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email - OIR-Security. *****

Amended waiver request is attached for Cheatham County.

Thank you

Stacy Brinkley
Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction

Cheatham County School District
(615) 792-5664

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From: Dr. Stan Curtis
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2015 1:50 PM
To: Dr. Tara Watson; Stacy Brinkley
Subject: Fwd: Request for waiver letter from St Dept of Education

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Paul Rainwater <Paul.Rainwater@tn.gov>
Date: March 3, 2015 at 1:19:16 PM CST
To: "stan.curtis@ccstn.org" <stan.curtis@ccstn.org>
Subject: Request for waiver letter from St Dept of Education

Dr. Curtis,
Good Tuesday afternoon.

We have received your request for the waiver of three days for extreme weather in Cheatham County. We need you to be more specific in requesting this information. Please see the attachment from Dr. Candice McQueen and below for the specific information we need to approve this request. You can email me this letter.