



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

Dr. David Dickerson, Director of Schools
Grundy County Schools
1376 Main Street
Altamont, TN 37301

ddickerson@k12tn.net

Dear Dr. Dickerson:

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 Grundy County Schools. Pursuant to my above referenced authority, I hereby grant a waiver to Grundy 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 cursive script that reads "Candice McQueen".

Dr. Candice McQueen



GRUNDY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1376 Main Street
PO Box 97
ALTAMONT, TENNESSEE 37301

Dr. David Dickerson
Director of Schools

Telephone: (931) 692-3467
Facsimile: (931) 692-2188

March 2, 2015

Candice McQueen, Ph.D.
Commissioner
Tennessee Department of Education
9th Floor, Andrew Johnson Tower
710 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, TN 37243

Commissioner McQueen:

Thank you for your consideration in allowing some flexibility in the required 180 instructional days in the State of Tennessee and for giving us the opportunity to request these instructional days to be waived. Please consider the following from the Grundy County School System:

- 1) Grundy County is a small rural county situated on the Cumberland Plateau. Our county has been hit hard with the recent winter weather. There have been downed power lines, ice/snow covered roads, and even a Level 2 State of Emergency declared by Governor Haslam.
- 2) The Grundy County School System has a total of ten stockpiled days in the 2014-2015 School Calendar. We also have three Professional Development Days designated throughout the year with February 12 being our last Professional Development Day. We are currently two days over the ten stockpiled days built within our calendar. This number may very well increase depending on the rest of the winter season and spring tornado season.
- 3) The Grundy County School System will have a difficult time making up anything beyond the allotted days due to scheduling, graduation date, costs associated with additional days, and even the possibility of missing additional days within the next several weeks.

I appreciate the opportunity to submit this request to you as a leader in education.

Please consider waiving three instructional days for the Grundy County School System. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need any additional information or if I can be of assistance.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Dickerson". The signature is written in a cursive style.

David Dickerson, Ed.D.
Director of Schools