



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 3, 2015

Via Electronic Mail

Jerry Nash, Director of Schools
Hickman County Schools
115 Murphree Avenue
Centerville, TN 37033

nashj1@k12tn.net

Dear Dr. Nash:

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 Hickman County Schools. Pursuant to my above referenced authority, I hereby grant a waiver to Hickman 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



AMY BRYANT
9589 S. Lick Creek Rd., Lyles, TN 37098

JACKIE DEITMEN
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105 Hickory Trace, Lyles, TN 37098

27 February 2015

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

Dear Commissioner McQueen:

The Hickman County School System does hereby respond to your communication to Superintendents dated Thursday, 26 February 2015 regarding "Waivers for Instructional Days" with a request to waive three (3) instructional days.

Our request for your consideration is based upon the following facts:

Hickman County Schools operate on a seven and one half hour instructional day which generates thirteen (13) stockpiled days per year. Of the thirteen (13) stockpiled days, the 2014-2015 school calendar allocated eleven (11) days for weather/illness issues and two (2) days for professional development for a total of thirteen (13) stockpiled days. At the end of the day on Friday, 13 February 2015, Hickman County Schools had expended one (1) day for weather, two days for illness and two days for professional development for a total five (5) stockpiled days used. Beginning on Monday, 16 February 2015, Hickman County Schools missed nine (9) instructional days because of weather issues. As of Friday, 27 February 2015 we were able to open our schools and return to instructing students. Thus, a total of fourteen (14) days have been used from the stockpiled days which means we are one (1) day over our allotted amount of stockpiled days at the end of the day, Friday, 27 February 2015. It is our belief, that in all probability we will miss additional days due either to snow/ice or spring flooding.

Since our school system is within ten (10) weeks of graduation, and since there has been community push back for cutting back spring break due to non-refundable tickets already purchased, our only option would be to conduct school on Saturday. In our only attempt to have school in session on Saturday, the attendance was less than twenty-five (25%) percent. We do not believe it would be any different this time. Therefore, we do not have any leeway to make up the missed days in a reasonable, prudent way.

We are requesting the three (3) day waiver as a hedge against additional potential missed days. We will do our best to not exceed that amount of waived days.

Your consideration of this waiver request will be greatly appreciated by the students, parents, faculty and support staff of Hickman County schools.

Sincerely,

Jerry W. Nash, Ph.D.
Superintendent
Hickman County Schools