



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 31, 2015

Via Electronic Mail

Dr. James Jones, Director of Schools
Polk County Schools
131 Stephens Street
Benton, TN 37307

jonesj17@k12tn.net

Dear Dr. Jones:

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

Paul Rainwater

From: James Jones <jonesj17@k12tn.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 7:35 AM
To: Paul Rainwater
Subject: request for state of emergency days

Mr. Rainwater,

Please allow us the three days designated during the extreme weather during the state of emergency. We have used all of our days and oftentimes we use a day or even two during the spring because of flooding with our low lying river areas. This would give a small cushion in case we go over the amount of days used for stockpiling. Any day missed at this time would have to be added to the end of the school year.

Thank you for your consideration,

Dr. James R. Jones
Director of Schools
Polk County