



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 19, 2015

Via Electronic Mail

Gailand Grinder, Director of Schools
Wayne County Schools
419 South Main Street
Waynesboro, TN 38485

gailand.grinder@waynetn.net

Dear Mr. Grinder:

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 an instructional day for Wayne County Schools. Pursuant to my above referenced authority, I hereby grant a waiver to Wayne County Schools of one instructional day during the period of February 21-March 2, 2015. Please revise the calendar in EIS to indicate the one day that is 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

Wayne County Board Of Education

P. O. BOX 658

WAYNESBORO, TENNESSEE 38485

GAILAND GRINDER
Superintendent

BARRY HANBACK
Chairman

March 19, 2015

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

Dear Dr. McQueen,

Wayne County Schools requests to waive the 180 school day requirement for the 2014-15 school year. Our district has experienced weather conditions in the form of accumulating snow and ice that made opening school impossible. Wayne County Schools were closed February 16-23, February 26, and March 5-6 for a total of 8 missed instructional days. Our approved calendar for this year includes 13 stockpiled days (7 inclement weather, 6 professional development). As a result, we have missed 1 day in excess of our stockpiled inclement weather days. Our only option to make up days is to remove staff development from the calendar or add additional instructional days to the end of the school year. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Gailand Grinder, Superintendent

Paul Rainwater

From: Candice McQueen
Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2015 1:14 PM
To: Paul Rainwater
Cc: Christy Ballard
Subject: Fwd: Request for Calendar Waiver--Wayne County
Attachments: Calendar Waiver Request-Wayne County.pdf; ATT00001.htm

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Ricky Inman <ricky.inman@waynetn.net>
Date: March 19, 2015 at 10:50:07 AM PDT
To: <Candice.McQueen@tn.gov>
Cc: Gailand Grinder <gailand.grinder@waynetn.net>
Subject: Request for Calendar Waiver--Wayne County

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Dr. McQueen,

I have attached a letter from our superintendent, Gailand Grinder, requesting a waiver for the 180 school day requirement for the 2014-15 school year due to recent extreme weather conditions. If you need any more information, please contact me at (931) 722-3548.

Sincerely,

Ricky W. Inman, Ed.D.
Supervisor of Instruction
Wayne County Schools