



BILL LEE
GOVERNOR

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

PENNY SCHWINN
COMMISSIONER

April 6, 2021

Electronic Mail

Dr. David L. Snowden, Director of Schools
Franklin SSD Schools
507 Highway 96 West
Franklin, Tennessee 37064

dsnowden@fssd.org

Dear Dr. Snowden,

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 during a school year, the commissioner of education may waive for that school year the requirement under subdivision (a)(1) of one hundred eighty (180) days of classroom instruction, if a request is submitted to the commissioner by the director of schools. The waiver request may be for the entire LEA or for individual schools within the LEA.

The Franklin SSD school system has requested approval for the closure of schools on August 7, 2020 and is requesting that the use of one-half (.5) of an instructional day be waived due to a serious outbreak of illness. Due to the serious outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the department is accepting this request to waive one-half (.5) of an instructional day for August 7, 2020.

Pursuant to my above referenced authority, I hereby grant a waiver to Franklin SSD Schools for one-half (.5) of an instructional day for August 7, 2020. Please revise the calendar in EIS to indicate the change. Thank you for continuing to notify the Department of your needs related to your school calendar.

Sincerely,

Penny Schwinn, Ph.D.
Commissioner



Tennessee Department of Education – Office of The Commissioner
 710 James Robertson Parkway - Andrew Johnson Tower, 9th Floor - Nashville, TN 37243

Local Education Agency Waiver Request

Pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated § 49-1-201(d), upon application by the local education agency for one (1) or more of its schools, the commissioner of education may waive any state board rule or statute that inhibits or hinders the LEA's ability to meet its goals or comply with its mission. Please submit completed forms to Commissioner.Schwinn@tn.gov. Following review by the commissioner, the district will be notified in writing if the waiver request is approved or denied. Unless otherwise stated, all waivers granted by the commissioner shall be granted for one year terms.

Waivers may **not** be granted by the commissioner for regulatory or statutory requirements related to:

- (A) Federal and state civil rights;
- (B) Federal, state and local health and safety;
- (C) Federal and state public records;
- (D) Immunizations;
- (E) Possession of weapons on school grounds;
- (F) Background checks and fingerprinting of personnel;
- (G) Federal and state special education services;
- (H) Student due process;
- (I) Parental rights;
- (J) Federal and state student assessment and accountability;
- (K) Open meetings;
- (L) Educators' due process rights;
- (M) Reductions in teachers' salaries;
- (N) Employee rights, salaries and benefits; and
- (O) Licensure of employees.

Local Education Agency:

Franklin Special School District

School Information (if applicable):

School Name:

Street:

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Please list the statute(s) and/or state board rule(s) for which waiver is being requested:

TN Code Annotated 49-6-3004(a)(6)(A)

Explanation of how the statute(s) and/or state board rule(s) inhibits or hinders the local education agency's ability to meet its goals or comply with its mission:

Based upon the exhaustion of the school district's stockpiled days, the FSSD is requesting a waiver of the 1/2 day missed on August 7, 2020 due to the serious outbreak of illness (COVID-19 pandemic) affecting or endangering students and staff.

Expected duration of the condition necessitating this waiver request:

The duration included only the 1/2 day.

Director of Schools (Signature)



Print Name David L. Snowden, Ph.D.

Date April 6, 2021