



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
9<sup>th</sup> FLOOR, ANDREW JOHNSON TOWER  
710 JAMES ROBERTSON PARKWAY  
NASHVILLE, TN 37243-0375

**BILL HASLAM**  
GOVERNOR

**CANDICE MCQUEEN**  
COMMISSIONER

March 10, 2015

***Via Electronic Mail***

Leta Joiner, Director of Schools  
Stewart County Schools  
1031 Spring Street  
Dover, TN 37058

[letajoiner@stewart.k12.tn.us](mailto:letajoiner@stewart.k12.tn.us)

Dear Ms. Joiner:

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



# STEWART COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM

1031 Spring Street · P.O. Box 433 · Dover, Tennessee 37058

Phone: 931-232-5176 · Fax: 931-232-5390

[www.stewartcountyschools.net](http://www.stewartcountyschools.net)

Mrs. Leta Joiner, Director of Schools

March 10, 2015

Dear Commissioner McQueen,

This letter is written to request a waiver of 3 days for the Stewart County School System due to the extreme weather conditions experienced and the Level 2 State of Emergency declared by Governor Haslam.

Stewart County had a total of 13 stockpile days. Our system designated 2 days (August 4 and January 16) as professional development. On November 17 we closed for inclement weather. We also closed February 4, 5, and 6 for illness. This closure was recommended by local health care providers in an effort to combat the persistent and reoccurring sickness of flu, strep and stomach virus. Our system also closed school for 9 days (February 17-20 and February 23-27) due to the extreme weather conditions and persistent icy roads our county experienced. Our schools were also closed March 4 and 5 due to the large amount of snow we received on March 3, 2015. These closures have put us 4 days over our 11 stockpile days.

We are unable to make up the days missed due to the persistent and continuing extreme weather conditions our county and state have experienced. Therefore, we respectfully ask for a waiver of the 3 instructional days.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to call me at 931-232-5176.

Sincerely,

Leta Joiner

Director of Stewart County Schools

**OUR MISSION: QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ALL**

**BOARD MEMBERS: Billy Sexton, Chairman**

**Darrell Gillum • Billy Gray • Lesa Fitzhugh • Bobby Morgan • Lana Sanders • Kenneth Collins**

## Paul Rainwater

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**From:** Leta Joiner <letajoiner@stewart.k12.tn.us>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 10, 2015 12:20 PM  
**To:** Commissioner McQueen; Paul Rainwater  
**Cc:** Marian Page  
**Subject:** Stewart County Waiver Request  
**Attachments:** 201503101211.pdf

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Commissioner McQueen,

Attached you will find Stewart County's request for the 3 day waiver of instructional days. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Leta Joiner  
Director of Stewart County Schools