

January 20, 2022

Dear Director Huff,

Thank you for your waiver submission on January 19, 2022.

The commissioner of education may consider waivers related to of the provisions of Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. Chapters 0520-01-03 and 0520-01-13 related to remote instruction to the extent necessary to allow students affected at the classroom or school level by COVID-19 isolation or quarantine to participate in remote instruction. As stated, your district still has the authority to quarantine students and staff on an individual case-by-case basis (not in the aggregate). Waivers will only be considered when a LEA can document and demonstrate a significant impact of COVID-19 quarantine or isolation on school operations, impacting students, teachers, and/or staff. Please note, if a waiver request is granted to a school, all extracurricular activities for that school must also be cancelled for the duration of the waiver period.

The waiver submitted by **Clarksville-Montgomery County School System** for Kenwood High School is **approved** at this time.

The rationale for this approval is:

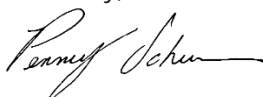
- The positivity rate has increased such that there are significant disruptions to instruction.
- The district has taken necessary steps to staff where able; however, key personnel remain an issue at the high school.

If not already in place, the department also continues to encourage all districts to implement as many mitigation strategies as possible to contain the spread of COVID-19, limit quarantines, and remain in-person, such as utilizing:

- The same or enhanced mitigation strategies used last school year such as temperature checks, physical distancing, frequent handwashing, etc.
- Seating charts in all settings, including classrooms, cafeteria/meals, bus routes, etc.
- Proactively stocking non-perishable items for breakfasts/lunches to account for meal staff absences
- Cohorting students to limit close contacts
- The consideration of masking

I continue to be incredibly grateful for the work of your district, educators, students and families as we collectively address and respond to COVID-19.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Penny Schwinn'.

Penny Schwinn, PhD, MAT
Commissioner, Tennessee Department of Education



Local Education Agency Waiver Request Application: COVID-19 Relief

Upon application by the local education agency (LEA) for one (1) or more of its classrooms or schools, pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-1-201 (d), the commissioner of education will consider waivers of the provisions of Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. Chapters 0520-01-03 and 0520-01-13 related to remote instruction to the extent necessary to allow students affected at the classroom or school level by COVID-19 isolation or quarantine to participate in remote instruction. This waiver process is not required for individual students on quarantine.

Waivers will only be considered when a LEA can document and demonstrate a significant impact of COVID-19 quarantine or isolation on school operations, impacting students, teachers, and/or staff. Please note, if a waiver request is granted to a school, all extracurricular activities for that school must also be cancelled.

Please submit completed applications to Commissioner.Schwinn@tn.gov. Following review by the commissioner or designee, the local education agency will be notified in writing if the waiver request application is approved or denied. If approved, the waiver will only be valid for seven (7) calendar days. If conditions warranting a waiver persist, then the LEA may submit additional waivers.

Clarksville-Montgomery County School System

Local Education Agency

621 Gracey Ave.

Clarksville

37040

Street

City

Zip

Angela M. Huff

Digitally signed by Angela M. Huff
Date: 2022.01.19 13:57:39 -06'00'

1/19/22

Director of Schools (Signature)

Date

1. Number of **classrooms** for which you are requesting a waiver: _____

Grade of Classroom	Name of School	In Quarantine or Isolation					
		# of Teachers	% of Teachers	# of Staff	% of Staff	# of Students	% of Students

Please explain why this waiver is necessary and in-person instruction is not feasible at this time:

Almost 50% of employees are absent with 20% of teachers and 16% of staff absent specifically for COVID-19 related leave. This is significantly impacting the ability to safely and efficiently operate the school. There are District-wide staffing issues and a substitute shortage.

2. Number of **schools** for which you are requesting a waiver: 1

Name of School	In Quarantine or Isolation					
	# of Teachers	% of Teachers	# of Staff	% of Staff	# of Students	% of Students
Kenwood High School	16	20%	5	16%	55	4

Please explain why this waiver is necessary and in-person instruction is not feasible at this time:

Almost 50% of employees are absent with 20% of teachers and 16% of staff absent specifically for COVID-19 related leave. This is significantly impacting the ability to safely and efficiently operate the school. There are District-wide staffing issues and a substitute shortage.