



**BILL LEE**  
GOVERNOR

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

**LIZZETTE REYNOLDS**  
COMMISSIONER

**Via Electronic Mail**

February 25, 2025

Manney Moore, Director of Schools  
Cocke County Schools  
305 Hedrick Drive  
Newport, TN 37821-9998  
[moorem@mail.cocke.k12.tn.us](mailto:moorem@mail.cocke.k12.tn.us)

Dear Director Moore:

I have received your waiver request of Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-3004 as it pertains to the required 180 days of classroom instruction. Lewis County Schools were closed on January 10, 2025, and January 13-14, 2025, due to the Level 3-State of Emergency. You are requesting a waiver for these days.

Under Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-3004(a)(6), the commissioner has the authority to waive the 180 days for classroom instruction requirement in the event of a natural disaster or serious outbreaks of illness affecting or endangering students or staff. Pursuant to this authority and given that Cocke County Schools have exhausted all stockpile days, the waiver request for January 10, 2025, and January 13-14, 2025, is hereby granted.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

Lizzette Reynolds  
Commissioner



**Coke County  
Schools**  
*Moving Mountains. Achieving Success.*

305 Hedrick Drive  
Newport, TN 37821

(423) 623-7821 ext:2010  
[cockecountyschools.org](http://cockecountyschools.org)

Manney Moore, Director of Schools

February 25, 2025

Commissioner Reynolds,

Coke County Board of Education is requesting a waiver from the 180 day Instructional requirement for the following dates: January 10, 13, and 14, 2025.

The loss of our Critical Infrastructure due to Hurricane Helene, paired with the Level 3 State of Emergency issued on January 10, 2025 by Governor Bill Lee led to school closure for inclement weather. Coke County Schools has exhausted all 10 stockpiled days and is requesting a waiver for the previous mentioned dates. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Manney Moore  
Director  
Coke County Schools