



**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**

September 9, 2024

Eric Jones  
Fayetteville City Schools  
110 Elk Avenue South, Suite 200  
Fayetteville, TN 37334

Re: Waiver for English as a Second Language (ESL) Programs

Dear Director Jones:

I am in receipt of your August 16, 2024 waiver request of State Board of Education Rule 0520-01-19 as it relates to the use of an alternate English as a Second Language (ESL) service model. You have requested to use a co-teaching model for ESL programs for students within Fayetteville City Schools.

According to your request, this alternative model will allow the school district to provide greater access to services to English Learners (ELs) in accordance with their specific needs.

Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-1-201(d) grants the commissioner the authority to “waive any state board rule or statute that inhibits or hinders the LEA’s ability to meet its goals or comply with its mission.” On the condition that the school district complies with the provisions of State Board Rule 0520-01-19 by implementing the monitoring steps and requirements under the Rule, your request is hereby granted for the 2024-25 school year.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

Lizzette Reynolds  
Commissioner



## Local Education Agency Waiver Request

Pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated § 49-1-201(d), upon application by the local education agency (LEA) for one 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.Education@tn.gov](mailto:Commissioner.Education@tn.gov). Following review by the commissioner, the LEA 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:

Fayetteville City Schools

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### School Information (if applicable):

School Name:

Fayetteville Middle School

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Street:

1800 A Wilson Parkway

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City: Fayetteville

Zip Code: 37334

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

English as a Second Language Rule 0520-01-19-.03, #9

**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:**

Collaboration between content and ESL teachers has proven to increase learning outcomes for English Language Learners. Moving to a co-teacher model would allow EL students to have their EL services while having more support in a core class. The EL teacher and content area teacher would plan and provide equitable lessons that would benefit all students in the classroom.

With this model, the EL students would have more access to Tier 2 or 3 services during RTI. This would help the global growth of the students. The students receiving services through this model will be monitored bi-weekly in each domain to ensure the progress of language proficiency of all EL students.

**Expected duration of the condition necessitating this waiver request:**

This is expected to last the 2024-2025 school year for all ESL students in the building.

**Director of Schools** (Signature)

  
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Print Name Eric Jones

Date 8/16/24

# Fayetteville City Schools

110 Elk Avenue, South, Suite 200

Fayetteville, Tennessee 37334

(931) 433-5542

Fax (931) 433-7499

Eric Jones

Director of Schools

Thomas H. Holland, Jr., Vice Chairman

Bridgette Hopkins

Jennifer W. Murdock

Mark Clark, Chairman

Pamela Bryson

Shawnta Fulton

1. ESL Coordinator: Rose Murray

Title III Supervisor: Tricia Jean

2. ESL service delivery model being requested: Co-Teaching Model

3. Number of schools that will implement the ESL service delivery Model: 1

4. Grade levels that will implement the ESL service delivery model: 8th & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

5. Proposed implementation date: 8/29/2024 or As soon as Approved


6. Proposed monitoring plan of new model: Progress monitoring will be conducted bi-weekly using the Aims Web.

7. Short description of the ESL service delivery model being requested that includes evidence base of success from research that supports linguistic, and academic needs of English learners:

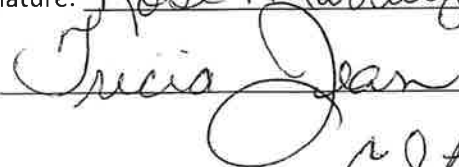
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9. ESL coordinator signature:



Title III Supervisor:



10. Federal programs director signature:

