



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 19, 2025

Kristi Hall, Director of Schools
Fentress County Schools
1011 Old Hwy 127 S
Jamestown, TN 38556
kristi.hall@fentressboe.com

Dear Director Hall:

I am in receipt of the February 18, 2025, waiver request of Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-3004(i)(7) as it relates making meals available to students in accordance with the school nutrition program requirements on days that remote instruction is provided. You have requested a waiver of this requirement on February 19-20, 2025.

Pursuant to the commissioner's waiver authority under Tenn. Code. Ann. § 49-1-201(d)(1), your request of a waiver of Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-3004(i)(7) to not serve meals on February 19-20, 2025, remote instruction days, is hereby granted. 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 (T.C.A.) § 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 of Education (SBE) rule or statute that inhibits or hinders the LEA's ability to meet its goals or comply with its mission. 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.

LEAs applying for waivers must email this completed form to LEA.Waivers@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.

Fentress County Schools

Local Education Agency

N/A

School Name, if applicable

N/A

School Address, if applicable

Kristi Hall

2/18/25

Director of Schools Signature & Date

Kristi Hall

Director of Schools Printed Name

List the statute or SBE rule for which a waiver is being requested.

Public Chapter 897

Explanation of how the statute or SBE rule inhibits or hinders the LEA's ability to meet its goals or comply with its mission.

Fentress County Schools are unable to meet the schools meals requirement of Public Chapter 897 due to the incoming inclement weather. Fentress County is located in a rural area and icy and snow covered roads cause unsafe traveling conditions. I feel as the Director of Schools that if our roads are too dangerous for us to have regular school, then I do not feel comfortable asking families to travel to pick up meals. Our school system will meet all other portions of Public Chapter 897.

Expected duration of the condition necessitating this request.

We are asking for two days. February 19 -20, 2025