



**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**

March 10, 2025

Dr. Donald Clint Durley, Director of Schools  
Grundy County Schools  
P.O. Box 97  
Altamont, TN 37301-0097  
[ddurley@grundyk12.com](mailto:ddurley@grundyk12.com)

Dear Director Durley:

I am in receipt of the March 6, 2025, waiver request of Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-3004(i) as it relates to remote instruction. Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-3004(i)(1) allows school districts to provide up to two (2) days each semester of the required one hundred eighty (180) days of classroom instruction via remote instruction in the event of dangerous or extreme weather conditions or of serious outbreak of illness affecting or endangering students or staff. Additionally, Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-3004(i)(7) requires school districts to make meals available to students in accordance with the school nutrition program requirements on days that remote instruction is provided.

Grundy County Schools have exhausted two remote instruction days this semester, and you are requesting to the use of two additional remote instruction days, if needed, due to extreme weather conditions. You have also requested a waiver of the requirement to serve meals on these remote instruction days, if used.

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)(1) and Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-3004(i)(7) is hereby granted to allow the use of the aforementioned remote instruction days without the requirement to serve meals. 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](mailto: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.

District 310 Grundy County School System  
Local Education Agency

School Name, if applicable

School Address, if applicable

  
Director of Schools Signature & Date

Dr. Donald Clint Durley  
Director of Schools Printed Name

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

TN Code ANN. 49-6-3004(i)  
TN Code ANN. 49-6-3004(i)(7)

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

Grundy County is requesting two additional virtual days in case we have a need. Due to our rural terrain, all the snow this year, cold weather and Hurricane Helene we have used all snow days and two virtual days. We are asking for two virtual days in case of unforeseen circumstances.

Expected duration of the condition necessitating this request.

We are requesting two virtual days in case of unforeseen circumstances. We would like to have a waiver for meals due to not being able to give the cafeteria notice to prepare for meals.