



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

April 24, 2026

Brian Hutto, Director of Schools
Lebanon Special School District
397 N. Castle Heights Avenue
Lebanon, TN 37087

Dear Director Hutto:

I am in receipt of your waiver request of State Board of Education Rule 0520-01-19 as it relates to service models for English as a Second Language (ESL) programs. You have requested to use an alternative ESL service model at schools within Lebanon Special School District due to a student's severe medical condition that results in them receiving homebound services that impair their ability to receive the required one class period a day of ESL services.

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 comply with the provisions of State Board of Education Rule 0520-01-19 by implementing the monitoring steps required under the Rule as well as implementing the additional action steps to address the use of an alternative ESL service model at schools within Lebanon Special School District due to a student's severe medical condition that results in them receiving homebound services outlined in your waiver request, your request is hereby granted for the remainder of the 2025-26 school year.

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

Sincerely,

Lizzette Reynolds
Commissioner

Lebanon Special School District

Committed to a Community of Excellence



Brian Hutto
Director of Schools
Lebanon Special School District
397 N. Castle Heights Avenue
Lebanon, TN 37087

April 24, 2026

Commissioner Lizette Reynolds
Tennessee State Department of Education
710 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, TN 37243-0375

Dear Commissioner Reynolds:

I am writing on behalf of an [REDACTED] to request that the requirement for ESL services for one class period per day at the middle school level be waived. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The student's ESL teacher will be providing Homebound services to the student for four hours per week. However, this does not meet the state requirement for ESL services. We are requesting this waiver while the student's health allows her to receive homebound services.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brian Hutto".

Brian Hutto