



BILL LEE
GOVERNOR

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

PENNY SCHWINN
COMMISSIONER

May 12, 2021

Electronic Mail

Randy Frazier, Director of Schools
Weakley County Schools
8319 Hwy 22 Suite A
Dresden, Tennessee 38225

Randy.Frazier@wcsk12tn.net

Dear Mr. Frazier,

Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-3004(a) (6) In the event of a natural disaster or serious outbreaks of illness affecting or endangering students or staff during a school year, the commissioner of education may waive for that school year the requirement under subdivision (a)(1) of one hundred eighty (180) days of classroom instruction, if a request is submitted to the commissioner by the director of schools. The waiver request may be for the entire LEA or for individual schools within the LEA.

The Weakley County school system has requested approval for the closure of schools on May 4, 2021 and is requesting that one instructional day be waived due to the tornado and significant damage to the roads and power lines. Due to this natural disaster, the department is accepting this request to waive one instructional day for May 4, 2021.

Pursuant to my above referenced authority, I hereby grant a waiver to Weakley County Schools for one instructional day for May 4, 2021. Please revise the calendar in EIS to indicate the change. Thank you for continuing to notify the Department of your needs related to your school calendar.

Sincerely,

Penny Schwinn, Ph.D.
Commissioner

From: Randy Frazier <Randy.Frazier@wcsk12tn.net>

Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 2:55 PM

To: Commissioner Schwinn <Commissioner.Schwinn@tn.gov>

Cc: Christy Ballard <Christy.Ballard@tn.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Request to Waive Instructional Day due to Natural Disaster

Commissioner Schwinn,

Weakley County Schools is requesting permission to waive the required 180 days of instruction for the 2020 – 2021 school year.

During the early morning hours on Monday, May 3rd our school system was impacted by a tornado. The tornado caused significant damage in our county and many roads were closed due to downed power lines and trees. Many parts of our county was without power for most of Tuesday. We also had building damage at our bus garage and at Dresden High School. I cancelled classes in our district on Tuesday, May 4th 2021. We used all of our stockpiled days to delay the start of school due to COVID and for inclement weather in February. Making up this day at the end of the year would impact our plans for summer learning camps. I am respectfully requesting your consideration to waive this day.

Sincerely,

Randy Frazier, Director

Weakley County Schools