



**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

## Via Email and US Mail

August 3, 2020

Steve Starnes, Director of Schools  
Greeneville City Schools  
129 W. Depot Street  
Greeneville, TN 37743  
[starnes@gcschools.net](mailto:starnes@gcschools.net)

Re: Waiver for Career and Technical Education Classes

Dear Director. Starnes:

I am in receipt of your June 30, 2020 letter requesting a waiver of the class size average for Career and Technical Education classes found in T.C.A. §49-1-104 at Greeneville High School and Greeneville Technology Center for the 2020-2021 school year.

The commissioner's waiver authority under T.C.A. §49-1-201(d) is limited by T.C.A. §49-1-104(a), which states that "neither the commissioner nor the state board of education shall grant waivers from the maximum class sizes established in this section."

With the understanding that none of the Career and Technical Education classes at Greeneville High School or Greeneville Technology Center will exceed 25, the maximum number of students per class specified in the above referenced law, your request for a waiver of the class size average is granted for the 2020-2021 school year.

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

Sincerely,

**Penny  
Schwinn**

Digitally signed by  
Penny Schwinn  
Date: 2020.08.05  
10:20:41 -05'00'

Dr. Penny Schwinn  
Commissioner



**Steve Starnes, Ed.S.**  
Director of Schools  
**Suzanne C. Bryant, Ed.D.**  
Assistant Director for Instruction  
**Beverly W. Miller, MBA**  
Assistant Director for Administration

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June 30, 2020

Penny Schwinn, Commissioner  
Tennessee Department of Education  
Andrew Johnson Tower  
710 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

Dear Commissioner Schwinn,

The Greenville City Schools Board of Education would like to request a waiver of the class size average mandates for CTE courses at Greenville High School and Greene Technology Center. **Both schools will continue to adhere to the class size maximums for CTE.**

Our configuration of CTE course offerings is unique. We offer some CTE courses at Greenville High School, but we also offer courses at Greene Technology Center, which is located at a separate location. Greene Technology Center is a partnership between Greenville City and Greene County Schools. This waiver will allow more students to take advantage of these rigorous courses and to develop college and career readiness skills. In addition, more students will have the opportunity to graduate with industry certifications.

Please let me know if you need additional information or further clarification or justification for this request.

Sincerely,

Steve Starnes

Director of Schools

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**Cultivate the Mind and Impact the Heart through Excellence and Equity**

Kathryn W. Leonard Administrative Office  
129 W. Depot Street Greenville, TN 37743-1420  
(423) 787-8000 | <http://www.gcschools.net>