



**BILL LEE**  
GOVERNOR

TENNESSEE  
**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
5th FLOOR, DAVY CROCKETT TOWER  
500 JAMES ROBERTSON PARKWAY  
NASHVILLE, TN 37243  
615-741-2966  
[www.tn.gov/sbe](http://www.tn.gov/sbe)

**SARA H. MORRISON**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

November 17, 2020

VIA E-MAIL

Dr. Adrienne Battle  
Director of Schools  
Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools  
2601 Bransford Avenue  
Nashville, Tennessee 37204  
[Adrienne.Battle@mnps.org](mailto:Adrienne.Battle@mnps.org)

Dear Dr. Battle:

I am writing to confirm receipt of Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools (MNPS) textbook and instructional materials waiver requests for the subjects of math, English language arts, science, and social studies for the 2020-21 school year. State Board staff are working to review these waiver requests pursuant to State Board Rule 0520-01-18. It is anticipated that these waiver requests will be brought to the State Board of Education for review at its February 5, 2021 quarterly meeting.

As we previously discussed with your staff, additional information may be needed beyond the initial waiver application. At this time, we request alignment documents for each of the four core subject areas – math, English language arts, science, and social studies – that clearly correlate the Tennessee Academic Standards for each of those subjects to the content in the proposed materials and/or supplemental materials. This would ideally take the form of a table or spreadsheet with columns comparing the Tennessee Academic Standards and the content in the proposed materials.

Based on conversations with your staff, it appears that waiver requests will also be needed for other subjects. To ensure that all MNPS waiver requests can be brought to the State Board for review at the same time, we ask that all necessary waiver requests be submitted by December 7, 2020. The waiver application can be accessed via the State Board's website here: <https://www.tn.gov/sbe/rules--policies-and-guidance/guidance.html>. Please complete a separate application for each additional subject area for which a waiver is needed; for example, a waiver application for World Language, a waiver for Fine Arts, etc. Any waiver applications regarding Career and Technical Education courses may be combined into one application. For each

application, please include a focused overview of how the proposed materials, and any supplemental resources, will ensure coverage of the relevant Tennessee Academic Standards.

It is important to note that until such time as a waiver request is approved, any use of unapproved textbooks or instructional materials for in-person instruction is a violation of Tennessee Code Annotated section 49-6-2206, which specifically prohibits the use of unapproved textbooks and instructional materials without a waiver approved by the State Board of Education.

I appreciate the collaborative efforts of your team as we work through this process. We will be in touch if any additional information is needed to review these waiver requests. Please let me know if you or your team have additional questions about this process. Thank you for all of your hard work on behalf of students during this challenging school year.

Sincerely,



Dr. Sara Morrison  
Executive Director

SM/acs

CC: Keri Randolph, Executive Officer for Strategic State, Federal and Philanthropic Investments, [Keri.Randolph@mnps.org](mailto:Keri.Randolph@mnps.org)  
Lillian Hartgrove, TN State Board of Education, Chair, [Lillian.Hartgrove@tn.gov](mailto:Lillian.Hartgrove@tn.gov)