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Lillian M. Lowery, Ed.D.  
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street - Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

March 26, 2014

RECEIVED

Ms. Mamie J. Perkins  
Interim Superintendent  
Anne Arundel County Public Schools  
2644 Riva Road  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

MAR 28 2014

OFFICE OF THE  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Dear Ms. Perkins:

Thank you for your letter of March 18, 2014 in which you request a waiver of the 180-day school year requirement due to the inclement weather in your area. Specifically, you are requesting a waiver of five days. You indicate that although you have included four inclement weather days in your school calendar, your system has been closed for nine days.

On March 25, 2014, the State Board of Education gave me the authority to grant a waiver of up to five days for school systems closed due to severe weather and approve requests for adjustments in local school calendars. Out of great concern for the lost time for students this school year, local school systems are required to demonstrate their effort to provide additional instruction for students by opening on previously scheduled school holidays, other days identified in the school calendar and by extending the school year. These conditions are set forth in regulation, COMAR 13A.02.01.04 (C), and I assured the State Board that I would review each waiver request in light of these expectations.

Your request does not demonstrate an effort to modify the school calendar to make up for lost instructional time. Therefore, I must deny your request. As you deem appropriate, you may resubmit your request in light of the expectations cited above.

I appreciate your continued focus on instruction as we deal with the consequences of the severe winter weather that we have experienced.

Sincerely,

Lillian M. Lowery, Ed.D.  
State Superintendent of Schools

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