



VARIANCES TO STANDARDS APPLICATION

March 2, 2015

Purpose: ARM 10.55.604.1. A local board of trustees may apply to the Board of Public Education through the Superintendent of Public Instruction to implement a variance to a standard or a section of standards, excluding standards stating statutory criteria, standards pertaining to educator licensure or endorsement, and content standards as defined by the Board of Public Education and provided in guidance from the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

DUE DATES

- First semester implementation; March 2, 2015
 - Second semester implementation; July 6, 2015
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COUNTY: Yellowstone

DISTRICT: Canyon Creek School District #4

LIST THE SCHOOL OR MULTIPLE SCHOOLS THAT ARE REQUESTING THE VARIANCE(S): Jr. High

1. Is this an initial application (2 years) or a Renewal application (3 years)?

Initial

2. Is this for first semester implementation or second semester implementation?

1st Semester and 2nd Semester

3. Standard(s) for which a variance is requested, i.e., 10.55.709. If there is a program delivery standard, be sure to list it as well. For example, 10.55.1801.

10-55-705

4. Please attach evidence through official minutes of the board of trustees that local school community stakeholders were involved in the consideration and development of the proposed variance to standards. Stakeholder groups include trustees, administrators, teachers, classified school staff, parents, community members, and students as applicable.

5. Please provide evidence that the board of trustees adopted its application for variance at an official, properly noticed meeting of its board of trustees.

6. Describe the variance requested.

We are requesting a variance in regards to having a shortage in administration of .07 in our Jr. High building. ARM 10-55-705





Due to staffing increases over 18 1.0 FTE Canyon Creek School District is requesting a variance of .07 FTE for an administrator in the Jr. High. Canyon Creek is currently working well under the current staffing and at this time cannot justify hiring an administrator at .07 FTE. All academic and social aspects of students and staff are being met under the current conditions.

7. Provide a brief statement of the mission and goals of this proposed variance.

Canyon Creek School will continue to use PLC's in meeting students' needs as well as counseling services. This communication along with weekly PLC meetings will ensure that student's needs are being met. These meetings will stay current and up to date by keeping the administrator in building informed of all changes and concerns. The administrator will attend these meetings regularly to assure that all students are given a comprehensive school experience.

8. List at least one specific measurable objective(s) that demonstrates that the proposed variance will meet or exceed the results under the current standard(s).

Canyon Creek Jr. High will continuously measure student progress through academic data. The use of NWEA testing and SBAC results along with standard assessments of the common core will assure that we are measuring all student growth. The shortage of an administrator will also be dealt with by making sure the administrator on hand is regularly attending weekly PLC meetings to discuss student concerns.

9. What data or evidence will be gathered to document progress toward meeting the measurable objectives?

Records of PLC meetings with attendance, and the collection of student's achievement scores to measure growth.

10. In what way does this variance to standard meet the specific needs of the students in your school(s)?

By assuring that administration is attending regular meetings, we are committed to seeing that students are being well taken care of. Staff communication is vital to committing to providing an excellent resource for students by using all available people to meet their needs. This can be addressed by the use of administration, counseling, and PLCs.

11. Variance to Standard: Outline how and why the proposed variance would be:

a. Workable. (Sufficient district resources are available for the success of the variance.)

Currently we have 8 staff members directly working with our 32 students in the Jr. High. We feel that adequate staffing is the key to assuring that students are being addressed emotionally and academically. Our students have direct access to our school counselor and administrator in the building if they need some help. The district has developed a study time during the middle of the day where all students are able to get assistance with schooling. Staff meet twice a week in PLC's to assess student progress. The PLC meetings are documented and notes are shared via google to the administrator in the building. The administrator also attends at least one meeting per week.



b. Educationally sound. (Applicant has relied on sound research as a rationale for the variance.)

Canyon Creek has proven to be academically sound by evaluating the achievement scores within the district. Currently our districts latest CRT scores indicated that we have been 100% proficient in Reading and 88% proficient in math. WE have had one out of school suspension in the last three years indicating that our student's needs are being met. We will continue to monitor and strive to increase our students' scores with the staffing at hand. Currently 97% of our students are indicating that they are proficient on NWEA testing.

c. Where applicable, aligned with program standards under ARM 10.55.1101 through 10.55.1901.

12. Designed to meet the content standards for this area of the curriculum (only applies to those standards which also have related curriculum content standards).

RENEWAL APPLICATION ONLY: Please attach a summary of the data gathered to demonstrate that the variance cycle ending June 30, met or exceeded the standard. State the measurable objective for the initial or previous application.

Required school district signatures:

Board Chair Name: Rhonda L. Hogsstad

Board Chair Signature: Rhonda L. Hogsstad Date: 3-16-15

Superintendent Name: Brent Lipp

Superintendent Signature: Brent Lipp Date 3-16-15



Montana
Office of Public Instruction
Denise Juneau, State Superintendent

opi.mt.gov

Mail your signed form to:

Accreditation and Educator Preparation Division
Office of Public Instruction
PO Box 202501
Helena, MT 59620-2501

OPI USE ONLY

Superintendent of Public Instruction: *Denise Juneau* Date 5/14/15
 Approve Disapprove

Board of Public Education Chair *Sharon Carroll* Date 5/7/15
 Approve Disapprove





Jeanne Carroll <jcarroll@canyoncreekschool.org>

Draft Minutes Regarding Accreditation Variance

1 message

Jeanne Carroll <jcarroll@canyoncreekschool.org>

Wed, Feb 18, 2015 at 3:47 PM

To: Brent Lipp <blipp@canyoncreekschool.org>

Brent–

Here is the section of the draft minutes from the Board meeting on Monday, February 16, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.:

NEW BUSINESS

1. Approve Variance on Accreditation

(Action)

Mark Berg made a motion to approve the variance as written. Manny Zuniga seconded the motion. Brent explained Effie Benoit from OPI called about employee reporting done by the superintendent and business manager. Because of our staffing, Brent is over on his duties by .07 administratively. The accreditation deviation was placed on the 7th and 8th grade. He wrote up the variance and the Board approves it and then the Board of Education approves it. This will happen again next year and is a common problem. Manny said part-time deans were tried before and it just didn't work. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Carroll

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*Jeanne Carroll**Business Manager/District Clerk**Canyon Creek School District No. 4*

but can if the Board wishes. She feels the mill levy is most important. There is money in Tech fund right now. Brent talked about how the deficit gets larger and larger every year every time a levy is not passed. perhaps do tech levy next year. He listed dollar amounts other districts are asking for. Our \$49,000 levy is breaking even for us.

Special projects are on hold. All in favor.

4. Review Applications/Set Up Trustee Interviews (Action)
We have applications submitted from both Joel Junso and Kimberly Harper. Brent proposed a special meeting on March 30th.

5. Business Manager/Clerk Evaluations Forms
Rhonda said to have them back by April 10th to Brent.

6. Special Board Meeting Date
Brent would like to have special meeting for staffing concerns, issues with personnel committee before the 26th and then the meeting on March 30th. All in agreement at 6:30 p.m.

7. Approve Changed Variation Request for Accreditation
Board needs to approve the changed variation request for accreditation.

8. Approve Tetra Tech Proposal

Brent explained all water adjustments have been done so far, except the increased level of Copper readings in our testing. We were over by 1 decibel in one spot in one water fountain that is rarely used. It's not going to hurt anyone or make anyone sick, it just doesn't meet DEQ standards. All copper readings on other side of building is always very low. With wells being connected to the entire building, there may be a change. Brent reviewed the proposal with the first part just being testing \$5600 for that time period. The second part is for the actual work, system implementation, if they exceed copper readings, then force us to do a corrosion control system to coat the lines so there is no sluffing from the flux that was used from 1990's and earlier, which is \$4,600. So close to \$10,000, which would need to come out of next year's budget. Mark Berg made a motion and Manny Zuniga seconded the motion to spend these funds if needed. Brent thanked Pam Reed for all the extra effort she put in and she has gone out of her way to cut costs and keeping costs as minimal as possible. She is also a parent here. All in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Negotiations Committee /Meeting Date-March 30th
2. Manny Zuniga made a motion to approve the corrected variance request. Billie Bergstrom seconded the motion. Brent said the variance request is to address having a .07 principal absence in the junior high. Brent just put wrong number on it on the original variance he sent in. All voted in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING

Committee Updates
Negotiations Update
Update on Water Sample

Manny Zuniga moved to adjourn at 7:27 pm. All in favor.