

VARIANCES TO STANDARDS APPLICATION

Initial Application (two years)

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 (check one)

- First semester implementation; first Monday in March
 Second semester implementation; first Monday in July
-

COUNTY: Hill County

DISTRICT: Havre Public Schools 16&A

LIST EACH SCHOOL THAT IS REQUESTING THE VARIANCE:

Havre High School

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

10.55.709, 10.55.1801

- 2. Provide evidence that local community stakeholders were involved in the consideration and development of the proposed variance. Community stakeholder groups include parents, community members, and students as applicable.**

We have had ongoing conversations both at the Board Meeting level and at the Strategic Planning Table, with community members and parents present, about our declining student population at Havre High School. These discussions have been centered on reduction in programming and staffing as a result of our student population at the high school dipping below 500 students

- 3. Provide evidence that local school stakeholders were involved in the consideration and development of the proposed variance. School stakeholder groups include trustees, administrators, teachers and classified school staff.**

The Board of Trustees has been appraised of this situation through continued conversations at board meetings regarding our declining student population at the high school. During monthly administrative meetings, the administrative team discusses new students, students who have transferred from the districts, and those students who have dropped out. Student enrollment is an important topic for all stakeholders, and we discuss the impact of student retention well beyond count days.

4. Attach Board of Trustee meeting minutes that show the Board of Trustees adopted the application for a variance at an official, properly noticed meeting.

5. Describe the variance requested.

We have been employing 1.5 librarians to meet accreditation. Our Spring count is below 500 and we are not planning to hire a .5 librarian for Havre High School. If our enrollment exceeds 500 by the Fall count, we will utilize instructional para assistance or additional staff to assist with library media services.

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

Our mission is to follow the accreditation standards and provide quality educators and educational services to our students, their parents, and the community. The request for this variance is in line with the expectations and requirements of ARM.

- 7. List specific measurable objectives that demonstrate the proposed variance will meet or exceed the results under the current standard(s).**

If our enrollment is below 500, we, by accreditation standards, only need to employ 1.0 FTE in our high school for Library Media Services.

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

We will use the fall count to make determinations related to additional staffing or support services, if necessary.

9. Describe how and why the proposed variance would be:

a. Workable.

We currently employ a full time Library and Media Services teacher. This individual will continue in this position for 2022-2023.

b. Educationally sound.

By accreditation standards, we are meeting the requirements of administrative rules of Montana.

- c. Where applicable, aligned with program standards under ARM 10.55.1101 through 10.55.2101.**


Program standards outline the minimum requirements for fulfillment of the position, which HPS and HHS are currently meeting.

- d. Where applicable, aligned with content standards under ARM Chapters 53 and 54.**

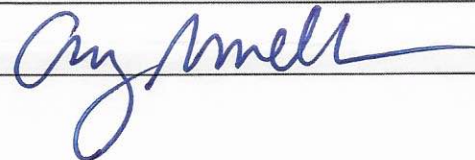
We will continue to offer library and media services to students in the manner outlined in the content standards. Our librarian is well versed in the standards and serves both students and teachers as a researcher, content expert, and facilitator for small and large groups.

Required school district signatures:

Board Chair Name: Dr. Curtis Smeby

Board Chair Signature:  Date: 2-22-22

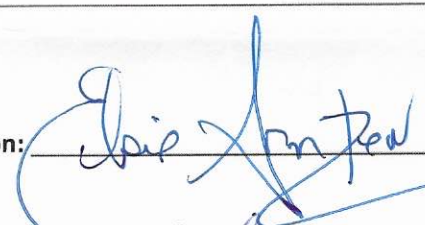
Superintendent Name: Mr. Craig Mueller

Superintendent Signature:  Date 2-22-22

Mail the 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:  Date April 13 2022

Approve Deny

Board of Public Education Chair:  Date 5/13/22

Approve Deny

February 22, 2022

**SPECIAL MEETING, BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 16 AND HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT "A"**

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees, Elementary School District #16 and High School District "A", was held at the Havre Robins Administrative Building Banner Room at 12:16 pm, February 22, 2022 for the purpose of considering any business that comes before the Board of Trustees. Curtis Smeby presided and Lorraine Larson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Cindy Erickson, Brittnee' Loch, Garrit Ophus, Curtis Smeby, Lorraine Larson, Timothy Scheele

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jacob Ingram, Theresa Miller

Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent and District Clerk were present throughout the meeting.

WELCOME

Presiding Chair welcomed the visitors in attendance.

AGENDA ADDITION/DELETION

None

ITEMS OF NEW BUSINESS

B.1. Personnel

Superintendent Mueller presented the personnel report. No board discussion.

Motion to accept the personnel report as presented.

Motion: Lorraine Larson; Second: Theresa Miller
For: Erickson, Larson, Loch, Ophus, Scheele, Smeby
Against: None;
Motion Carried 6:0

B.2. Appl. for a Variance of Standard

Superintendent Mueller presented. No board discussion.

Motion to accept the Application for a Variance of Standard as presented.

Motion: Cindy Erickson; Second: Lorraine Larson
For: Erickson, Larson, Loch, Ophus, Scheele, Smeby
Against: None;
Motion Carried 6:0

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CLOSING

With no further business, Cindy Erickson moved the meeting to be adjourned at 12:24 pm, Lorraine Larson seconded.
For: Erickson, Larson, Loch, Ophus, Scheele, Smeby
Against: None;
Motion Carried 6:0

The next scheduled meeting:

March 8, 2022 at 6:30 pm
Havre Middle School

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.16
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT "A"**

**ROBINS ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING
BANNER ROOM**

X 

Presiding Chair

X 

Minutes Clerk

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