



VARIANCES TO STANDARDS APPLICATION Renewal Application (three years)

Purpose: ARM 10.55.604(4) "Following the second year of implementation of a variance to standards, the school district shall provide evidence to the Superintendent of Public Instruction that the methods selected by the district implement, meet, or exceed results that could have been achieved under established standards."

DUE DATE:

First Monday in March

COUNTY: Flathead

DISTRICT: Bigfork School District #38

LIST EACH SCHOOL THAT IS REQUESTING THE VARIANCE: Bigfork Elementary/Middle 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
2. Provide evidence that local community stakeholders were involved in the consideration and development of the proposed renewal variance application. Community stakeholder groups include parents, community members, and students as applicable.
Please note Elementary and Middle School Principal Mrs. Clarke discussed the Variance to Standard with the following parents. All approved and provided positive feedback for the established program(s)
Parent
Robyn Paulson
Parent
Deb Johnson
Parent
Denise Wermer





opi.mt.gov

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

Please see attached stakeholder letters

Librarian

Julie Bonner

Librarian

Scarlett Sherman

Principal

Brenda Clarke

Assistant Principal

Matt Porrovecchio

Principal

Alan Robbins

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

5. Reflection upon initial variance:

- a. Describe the specific measurable objectives that were listed in the initial variance application that demonstrated how the proposed variance was to meet or exceed the results under the current standard(s).

On the initial request, we believed the high level of staffing committed to Library and Media standards would exceed the expectations established through 10.55.709. Not only did we achieve the intent, we surpassed previous practices, which has encouraged even more collaboration.

- b. Provide a summary of the evidence or data gathered to demonstrate that the initial variance meets or exceeds results that could have been achieved under the established standard.

Bigfork Elementary and Middle School student's experiences and learning opportunities within the Library and Media Standards has exceeded our initial measurable objectives. Please see attached Bigfork Elementary "specials" rotations schedule as well as the Bigfork Middle School course offerings schedule. Additionally, we have been able to expand opportunities for Middle School library access and support through shared high school resources and staff.





- c. After reflection on the initial variance, describe any adjustments that need to be made to meet the specific needs of the students in the school(s).

There is nothing that needs to be done to meet specific needs of the students in the school(s). However, we believe increasing our investment to library resources will further expand collaborative opportunities.

(Use check boxes provided in items 6-11 if the information requested remains unchanged from the initial variance application.)

6. Describe the renewal variance requested.

☒ *Renewal variance is the same as the initial variance.*

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

☒ *Mission and goals are the same as the initial variance.*

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

☒ *Measurable objects are the same as the initial variance.*

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

☒ *Data or evidence gathered in the same manner as the initial variance.*

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

☒ *The renewal variance will meet the specific needs of the students in the same manner as the initial variance.*

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

- a. Workable.

☒ *Renewal variance is the same as the initial variance.*

- b. Educationally sound.

☒ *Renewal variance is the same as the initial variance.*

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





Montana
Office of Public Instruction
Denise Juneau, State Superintendent

☒ *Renewal variance is the same as the initial variance.*

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

☒ *Renewal variance is the same as the initial variance.*





Montana
Office of Public Instruction
Denise Juneau, State Superintendent

Required school district signatures:

Board Chair Name: Paul Sandry

Board Chair Signature: [Signature]

Date: 3/6/17

Superintendent Name: Matthew P. Jensen

Superintendent Signature: [Signature]

Date: 3/6/17

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: [Signature]

Date: 5/15/2017

☒ Approve ☐ Disapprove

Board of Public Education Chair: [Signature]

Date: 5/11/17

☒ Approve ☐ Disapprove



REGULAR BOARD MEETING

March 3, 2017

THE REGULAR MEETING of the BOARD OF TRUSTEES of Bigfork Elementary School and Bigfork High School, District No 38, Flathead and Lake Counties, was called to order by Chairperson Sandry on March 3, 2017, at 4:03 pm in the High School, Room 203.

Trustees present: Paul Sandry, Patricia Landon, Paul Sullivan Jr. (via phone), Dana Whitney, Jessica Martinz, Zack Anderson and Christina Relyea

Also in attendance were Superintendent Matt Jensen and Business Manager Lacey Porrovecchio and staff member Charlie Appleby.

Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no comments on non-agenda items.

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Trustee Landon, seconded by Trustee Whitney, and **approved** by unanimous vote of the elementary school and high school trustees.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Variance to Standards Renewal Application – Matt Jensen explained he is seeking to renew the variance to the library standards. He feels this is appropriate because we have 2 media teachers, the leveled library and the support of both librarians.

A motion to approve the Variance to Standards Renewal Application was made by Trustee Anderson, seconded by Trustee Relyea, and approved by unanimous vote of the elementary trustees.

REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

- A. 2017-18 Preliminary Budgets – Lacey Porrovecchio went over preliminary budgets with the trustees.


FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE

All School Board meetings are held at 5 pm in the High School Library, unless otherwise noted.

- o March 8, 2017
- o April 12, 2017
- o May 10, 2017
- o June 14, 2017

A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Anderson, seconded by Trustee Whitney, and **approved** by unanimous vote of the elementary and high school trustees.

Adjourned: 4:53 pm


District Clerk


Chairperson