



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: Roosevelt

DISTRICT: 3

LIST EACH SCHOOL THAT IS REQUESTING THE VARIANCE: Frontier School K-6, Frontier School

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- 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.**
20-55-710
 - 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.**
Newsletter information to public (see attached: 1C)

Indian Ed Committee Minutes (1A)

Parent Petition (1B)
 - 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.**
February 14, 2017 School Board Meeting minutes (2A)

Teacher & staff petition (2B)
 - Attach Board of Trustee meeting minutes that show the Board of Trustees adopted the application for a variance at an official, properly noticed meeting.**
 - Describe the variance requested.**





In the Fall of 2016 the official student count was 124 (3A) at Frontier Elementary K-6 school, and 25 in 7 & 8 Middle school. These numbers are close to the 126 compliance to the librarian standard and over by .04 for the counselor standards. The spring count saw a drop in students K-6, to 119 and to 23 in the 7&8th grades.

Standard 10-55-710 requires Counselor prorated to .0025 FTE for each student in the district. We are requesting that a .33 FTE counselor be allowed to work as counselor, as we were .04 FTE over with our increased enrolment numbers. Our current certified staff counselor, who has been here for about ten years, is retired, and only allowed to work .33FTE. This will only be needed if our student numbers increase from current numbers.

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

Counselor - Policy 2140 (4C)

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

1. Counselor will spend time guiding (5B) K-8 students at the request of parents, students, and staff weekly as seen by the current schedule, (5C) (5D).
2. He will also work directly with selected middles school students in small groups for 30 or more minutes, two months consecutively, (November & December) teaching, coaching and modeling healthy social behavior, career paths and future educational goals.

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

1. Record of attendance by students to see counselor and in small group classes throughout the year. Student survey results to question, "The coueslor is available and helpful when I need him." (6D)
2. A quarterly review between administration and the counselor to ensure that promotion of student success using strategies and interventions of "being respectful, responsible and safe." as seen by the comparison of the number of behavior referrals dealing with lack of respect, responsibility or safety to ensure that the number stays flat or decreases compared to prior year, assessed annually.
3. The review between the administration and the counselor of how effective the small group intervention strategy regarding family, personal/social counseling, conflict/anger/violence management, eating disorders are evaluated mid year, after second quarter ends.
4. The counselor to be "on call" to be present if cases of suicide, grief/separation/loss issues, and issues related to emergency management plans, crises, disasters, and other trauma-causing events occur.

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

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The students are being assisted and counseled as needs arise for counseling, with some students being seen on a regular basis, weekly to daily (during November & December). Teaching and modeling healthy social behavior, guiding career paths and future educational goals occur in small group pull out to assist students in developing positive self-esteem.

We are happy to have a retired counselor who will provide us with solid counseling services and is available whenever a specific or urgent need arises. The retirement laws bind his hands for taking on more than .33 FTE. The counselor availability in our area is limited, binding our hands.

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

a. Workable.

Counselor that is familiar with current students and can continuing to work with them, having already built relationships is very effective. The schedule where the counselor is full time for a quarter works well for deeper relationships, teaching and relationships to form. The weekly attendance by the counselor beyond that meets the needs of this small rural district.

b. Educationally sound.

Available, on call, certified Counselor that is familiar with students backgrounds already is continuing to work with them to move them forward from where they currently stand. The need for the extra .04 FTE was only until end of October this past year, and may not be needed next year at all.

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

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





Required school district signatures:

Board Chair Name: Aimee Wardman

Board Chair Signature: Aimee Wardman Date: _____

Superintendent Name: Christine Egger

Superintendent Signature: Christine Egger Date 2-27-17

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: Cheryl Anderson Date 5/15/2017

Approve _____ Disapprove

Board of Public Education Chair Marian Carroll Date 5/11/17

Approve _____ Disapprove



2A

Frontier Elementary School District 3A
Roosevelt County, MT
February 14, 2017

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of School District #3 was held at Frontier School on February 14, 2017. Chairman Aimee Wortman called the meeting to order at 6:32pm.

Board Members Present: Aimee Wortman, Therese Long, and Mark Zilkoski

Others Present: Superintendent Christine Eggar, Greg Gourneau, The Herald News

MINUTES

Therese Long made a motion to approve the minutes from January 10, 2017 with Mark Zilkoski seconding the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Executive session minutes from January 10, 2017 were approved by Therese Long with a second by Mark Zilkoski, and all members approving.

WARRANTS AND CLAIMS AGAINST THE DISTRICT

The January claims against the school were presented to the board in the amount of \$16,089.75 with an additional payment to BMO up to \$4000 allowed, to be reported at the next board meeting. Dr. Mark Zilkoski made a motion to approve the warrants along with the \$4000 payment to BMO, with Therese Long seconding the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

FIRST SEMESTER TRANSPORTATION CLAIM

The first semester transportation bus route reimbursement claim for \$41,080.62 motion was made by Dr. Zilkoski, seconded by Therese Long and approved by all members present.

CALL FOR AN ELECTION

The board approved the call for a mil levy proclamation for an election, if needed, with an amount to be decided after the state reports are released. Included in the motion was to have the election include a move to a three man school board, from the present five man school board, as allowed for third class elementary districts (ARM 20-3-331). The final election proclamation was for a building reserve levy of \$10,000 per year for five years be assessed. The motion was made for these elections by Therese Long and seconded by Mark Zilkoski. Motion carried unanimously.

ACTIVITY ACCOUNT BALANCE

Student Activity Funds balance was presented to the board for informational purposes.

RECOGNITION OF AND PRESENTATIONS BY GUESTS AND VISITORS

No guests present wishing to speak.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF BAND TRIP

Russell Johnson presented the board with a an amended proposal to take seventh and eighth band grade students to play with Minot or Dickenson college marching band during the 2017-2018 school year. A motion was made to accept this fall band trip by Therese Long and seconded by Mark Zilkoski. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUISINESS

APPROVAL OF OUT OF DISTRICT STUDENTS

Superintendent Eggar informed the board that no students had applied at this time.

APPROVAL OF 2017-2018 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Superintendent Eggar recommended the adoption of the most popular calendar approved by staff. The school calendar begins Tuesday after Labor Day for students. The motion was made to accept this calendar by Therese Long and seconded by Mark Zilkoski. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF ICU WORKSHOP

Superintendent Eggar supplied the School Board with information and a request to host the conference, ICU, a system to help students complete quality assignments and thus increase learning. The cost of the workshop is \$10,000. Areas schools have been invited to attend at the rate of \$1500 per school. A \$2500 grant has been requested from CSPD to help pay some of the cost. Dr. Zilkoski made a motion to pay \$10,000 for ICU training, Therese Long seconded. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

APPROVAL OF SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

The board reviewed the Roose-Valley special education cooperative agreement. The motion to renew the agreement was made by Dr. Zilkoski and seconded by Therese Long. Passed unanimously.

REPORT OF SPRING STUDENT COUNT

Superintendent Eggar informed the board of the 142 student count submitted for February's count for Frontier School. This was a significant increase from last spring.

APPROVAL OF HIRING ADDITONAL TEACHER FOR 2017-2018

Because of the increase in student number, Supt. Eggar requested another certified teacher be hired to assist teachers and students. This new teaching position would replace the aide hired this

fall to help with the increased enrolment. The motion was made by Mark Zilkoski and seconded by Therese Long. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF REQUESTING VARIATION TO STANDARDS

Because of the increase in student number, Frontier was found deficient in the amount of counseling services offered this school year. (ARM 10-55-710) The school is also just in compliance with the required certified librarian hours (ARM 10-55-709). She requested approval for a request of variation to the standards for each of these areas. The motion to approve variances was made by Therese Long and seconded by Mark Zilkoski. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BOILER REPLACEMENT

Maintenance Director Greg Gourneau informed the board that a middle school boiler is broken. It needs a heat exchanger or to be replaced. The replacement unit will include a 5 year warrentee and was recommended. The cost is \$8000 for parts and labor for the new boiler. The motion to approve the purchase of anew boiler was made by Therese Long and seconded by Mark Zilkoski. Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF PIR DAY 1/23 SURVEY RESULTS

Superintendent Eggar shared with the board the positive feedback from staff for the work time provided on the PIR day.

PRINCIPALS REPORT

- Principal Gourneau informed the board of 1 bus was in Glasgow getting brakes repaired.
- He was working with MSGIA to get the June storm damage was assessment completed and repairs bid.
- He informed the board that the classified staff evaluation were complete.
- Principal Gourneau had positive feedback for the ICU training attended in Minnesota.
- Principal Gourneau informed the board that letters were sent home to student who have missed 5 or more days already this semester.
- Greg Gourneau reported the Winter Elementary Principal's conference went well.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Superintendent Eggar informed the board of the meetings she had attended since the last meeting, along with her upcoming meetings.
- She also reported to the board of the reports that she had completed since the last board meeting.
- Supt. Eggar informed the board of the Day of Advocacy at the State Capital on March 13.
- Math Matters training was to occur in Frontier for area wide schools in addition to Frontier staff on Monday, February 20.

- Eighth grade students spent time during their lunch hours reading with Kindergarten students, was mentioned.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: CLERK EVALUATION

The board went into executive session at 7:47. Board was reconvened at 8:09.

CLERK CONTRACT

The plan of improvement for the clerk was to be supervised by Supt. Eggar. Improvements were to be made by the clerk and evaluated at the April board meeting. If these improvements were not accepted by the clerk the board approved termination of Clerk Angelia Hernandez. This motion was made by Mark Zilkoski and seconded by Therese Long. The motion carried unanimously.

SUPERINTENDENT CONTRACT SALARY APPROVED

The board voted to approve a 5% raise for Superintendent Christine Eggar in the 2018-2019 & 2019-2020 contracts. The move of current benefits, less \$3000, from health insurance compensation benefits to salary would occur after the 2018-2019 raise. The addition of wording for matching retirement up to 5% and for insurance benefits, as is found in the teacher Negotiated Agreement would be included in the new contracts. The motion to approve was made by Mark Zilkoski and seconded by Therese Long. Motion carried unanimously.

BOARD CALENDAR

Next month's meeting will be held on March 14, 2017 @ 6:30 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Mark Zilkoski made the motion to adjourn at 8:18pm second by Therese Long. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

Chairman Aimee Wortman

Clerk Angela Hernandez