



THE WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Title:		Option One BEA Waiver Request	
As Related To:	<input type="checkbox"/> Goal One: Develop and support policies to close the achievement and opportunity gaps.	<input type="checkbox"/> Goal Three: Ensure that every student has the opportunity to meet career and college ready standards.	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Goal Two: Develop comprehensive accountability, recognition, and supports for students, schools, and districts.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Goal Four: Provide effective oversight of the K-12 system.	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Other	
Relevant To Board Roles:	<input type="checkbox"/> Policy Leadership	<input type="checkbox"/> Communication	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> System Oversight	<input type="checkbox"/> Convening and Facilitating	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy		
Policy Considerations / Key Questions:	Should the Option One request for waiver of the minimum 180-day school year requirement be approved, based on the criteria in WAC 180-18-040? Are there deficiencies in the application that may warrant resubmittal of the application, with corrections or additional information, for consideration at a subsequent meeting of the Board?		
Possible Board Action:	<input type="checkbox"/> Review	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopt	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approve	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	
Materials Included in Packet:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Memo		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Graphs / Graphics		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Third-Party Materials		
	<input type="checkbox"/> PowerPoint		
Synopsis:	<p>The Board is presented with a request under RCW 28A.305.140 by Mary Walker School District for Option One waiver of the basic education program requirement of a minimum 180-day school year. The district requests waiver of three days for school years 2015-16, 2016-17, and 2017-18 for professional development of staff.</p> <p>In your packet you will find:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A memo summarizing the request by Mary Walker. • The district's waiver application with school board resolution. • A copy of WAC 180-18-040. • An evaluation worksheet. 		



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OPTION ONE BASIC EDUCATION PROGRAM WAIVER: CURRENT REQUEST

Policy Considerations

Does the request by Mary Walker School District for an Option One waiver of the minimum 180-day requirement warrant approval by the Board, based on the criteria for evaluation in WAC 180-18-040? If not, what are the reasons, with reference to the rule, for denial of the request?

If the request is denied, what deficiencies in the application or required documentation are there that the district might correct for resubmittal at a subsequent board meeting under WAC 180-18-050(2)?

Background: Option One Waivers

The SBE uses the term “Option One” to distinguish the 180-day waiver available to any district under [RCW 28A.305.140](#) from the “Option Two” waiver available to a limited number of small districts under RCW 28A.305.141 for purposes of economy and efficiency. RCW 28A.305.140 authorizes the Board to grant waivers from the minimum 180-day requirement of RCW 28A.150.220 (5) “on the basis that such waivers are necessary to implement a local plan to provide for all students in the district an effective education system that is designed to enhance the educational program for each student. “

WACs 180-18-040 and 180-18-050 implement this authority. [WAC 180-18-040](#) provides that “A district desiring to improve student achievement for all students in the district or for individual schools in the district may apply to the state board of education for a waiver from the provisions of the minimum one hundred eighty school year requirement . . . while offering the equivalent in annual minimum instructional hours . . . in such grades as are conducted by the school district. The Board may grant a waiver request for up to three school years. There is no limit on the number of waiver days that may be requested. Rules adopted in 2012 as WAC 180-18-040(2) and (3) establish criteria to evaluate the need for a new waiver or the renewal of an existing one for additional years.

WAC 180-18-050 sets procedures a district must follow in requesting a waiver. In addition to the waiver application, the district must submit:

- A resolution adopted by the school board stating how the waiver will improve student achievement and attesting that the district will meet the minimum instructional hours for basic education under the waiver plan;
- A proposed school calendar under the waiver plan;
- A summary of the collective bargaining agreement with the local education association, providing information specified in the rule.

Summary of Current Option One Waiver Request

Mary Walker School District requests waiver of three days for the 2015-16, 2016-17, and 2017-18 school years for the purpose of staff development. Mary Walker is a district of about 500 enrollment in Spokane County. It operates an elementary, middle and high school, and two alternative schools.

The district presents the application as a renewal request, but it is properly treated as a new request, because Mary Walker did not have a waiver for the 2014-15 school year. Its previous waiver was an

“Option Three” granted in August 2011 for the 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14, also of three days. Option Three was an expedited, pilot process that allowed districts meeting certain eligibility and other requirements to use up to three waiver days to implement specified innovative strategies. The Board eliminated the Option Three waiver by rule in November 2012. Some districts that had Option Three waivers have requested and been granted Option One waivers to replace them on their expiration.

Mary Walker states that the purpose of its proposed waiver plan is to provide three professional development days for all professional staff in the areas of [AVID](#) (Advancement via Individual Determination), differentiated instruction, and project-based learning. The stated goals for student achievement are for all students to meet or exceed-grade level standards in mathematics, reading and writing, and to increase literacy in all students. The district states that the specific, measurable, and attainable goals are that by the third year of the waiver, 90 percent of all students will increase their literacy, as measured by assessments, and that 90 percent of all students will be at grade-level standards on state assessments.

In item 4 of the application Mary Walker says that staff will use the waiver days for grade-level, course-level, or school-meetings to examine students’ needs, interventions, and adjust personal learning plans. “Staff will collaborate” the district says, to continuously improve common performance tasks, content assessments, and common resources.”

Because the first year of the requested waiver is the current year, and the school calendar designates September 1, October 5, and January 25 as In-Service days, the professional development activities proposed under the waiver application have already taken place for 2015-16. At staff request, the district has provided a description of the staff activities that took place on those three days on which students were not in attendance. That information is not part of the application, but staff will provide it in response to questions.

In item 5 the district lists state and local assessments that will be used to collect evidence of the degree to which the goals of the waiver for student achievement have been attained. [Amplify](#) is a software product for early childhood assessment in English and Spanish. DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Early Literacy Skills) is a data system for measuring student growth in the early grades. [DRA II](#) is a formative reading assessment. [RICC](#) stands for Rapid Inquiry-Driven Change Cycle. According to Education Northwest, RICC is a method of teacher collaboration that “helps a school staff make swift and lasting improvement around a school-wide instructional challenge.” Mary Walker says it is in its third year of measuring student progress through the RICC process.

In item 7 Mary Walker describes how teachers, administrators, parents and the community participated in development of the waiver plan. Monday late starts are used for staff to plan activities to be conducted on the waiver days.

In Part B Mary Walker describes how waiver days were used under the Option Three waiver that expired in 2013-14. The information is available for members’ interest, but is not treated as a part of this application, as it is a new rather than renewal request.

Action

The Board will consider whether to approve the request of Mary Walker School District for an Option One waiver as presented in its application and summarized in this memo.

If you have questions regarding this memo, please contact Jack Archer at jack.archer@k12.wa.us.

MARY WALKER SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 207
Resolution No. 15-04 - AMENDED
2015-2016

180-DAY WAIVER RENEWAL REQUEST FOR
2015-2016, 2016-2017 AND 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEARS

WHEREAS, requesting the State Board of Education grant a renewal of waiver of the minimum 180-day requirement for three school years, 2015-2016, 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 (WAC 180-18-040);

WHEREAS, the Mary Walker School District No. 207 has established goals for making changes that will significantly increase student learning and individual achievement;

WHEREAS, the Mary Walker School District No. 207's goals include understanding of the academic needs of students and restructuring instructional programs to provide more academic options for all students;

WHEREAS, in order to achieve these goals, staff need additional non-student time which require whole staff release for collegial teaming, collaboration between staff of different buildings and/or grade levels, and individual time for district goal implementation;

WHEREAS, the Mary Walker School District No. 207 has 35 certificated employees and administrators, all of whom will participate in the strategies implemented under this waiver;

WHEREAS, the student contact hours and program offerings would exceed state requirements and certificated staff work hours would be according to the full teacher contract requirements;

WHEREAS, the district will use State standards and measures including results of the annual Measures of Student Progress assessment and the High School Proficiency Exam to determine the success and identification of expected benchmarks and results which will be outlined annually in the School Improvement Plan;

WHEREAS, the School Improvement Plan outlines activities designed to achieve the goals of the waiver and derived through analysis of multiple data sources and collaborative efforts with area school districts;

WHEREAS, the school district held a public hearing on this plan in the Mary Walker High School Library on July 20, 2015; and

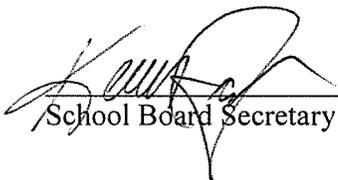
WHEREAS, the Washington Board of Education has recognized the importance of education improvements and has established waivers of the 180-day school year requirement for restructuring purposes.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Mary Walker School District No. 207 hereby requests that the minimum 180-day school year requirement be waived for the Mary Walker School District No. 207 to allow up to three (3) waiver days in the 2015-2016, 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 school years for the purpose of enhancing the educational program, as well as for providing

more academic options for all students. During this time, students would not attend school, to allow all certificated staff to implement district instructional goals and to participate in collegial and collaborative activities – such as vertical teaming and curriculum alignment – between staff of different buildings, grade levels and/or area school districts which would require whole staff release.

AMENDED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of Mary Walker School District No. 207, Stevens County, Washington, at Springdale, Washington this 17th day of February 2016.

ATTEST:

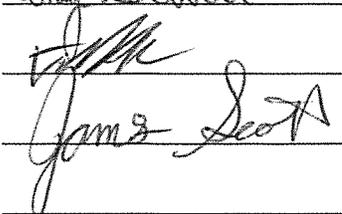


School Board Secretary

MARY WALKER SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 207
Board of Directors:









THE WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Governance | Accountability | Achievement | Oversight | Career & College Readiness

Application for Waiver under RCW 28A.305.140 from the 180-Day School Year Requirement of the Basic Education Program Requirements

The State Board of Education's authority to grant waivers from basic education program requirements is RCW 28A.305.140 and RCW 28A.655.180(1). The rules that govern requests for waivers from the minimum 180-day school year requirement are WAC 180-18-040 and WAC 180-18-050.

Instructions:

Form and Schedule

School districts requesting a waiver must use the SBE Waiver Application Form. The application form and all supporting documents must be received by the SBE at least **forty (40)** calendar days prior to the SBE meeting at which consideration of the waiver request will occur. The Board's meeting schedule is posted on its website at <http://www.sbe.wa.gov>. It may also be obtained by calling 360.725.6029.

Application Contents:

The application form must include, at a minimum, the following items:

1. A proposed school calendar for each of the years for which the waiver is requested.
2. A summary of the collective bargaining agreement with the local education association providing the information specified in WAC 180-18-050(1).
3. A resolution adopted and signed by the district board of directors requesting the waiver. The resolution must identify:
 - The basic education program requirement for which the waiver is requested.
 - The school year(s) for which the waiver is requested.
 - The number of days in each school year for which the waiver is requested.
 - Information on how the waiver will support improving student achievement.
 - A statement attesting that if the waiver is granted, the district will meet the minimum instructional hour offerings for basic education in grades one through twelve per RCW 28A.150.220(2)(a).

Applications for new waivers require completion of Sections A and C of the application form. Applications for renewal of current waivers require completion of Sections A, B, and C.

Submission Process:

Submit the completed application with the local board resolution and supporting documents (preferably via e-mail) to:

Jack Archer
Washington State Board of Education
P.O. Box 47206
Olympia, WA 98504-7206
360-725-6035
jack.archer@k12.wa.us

The SBE will provide written confirmation (via e-mail) of receipt of the application materials.

* CORRECTED *

Part A: For all new and renewal applications:

The spaces provided below each question for answers will expand as you enter or paste text.

School District Information	
District	<i>Mary Walker School District No. 207</i>
Superintendent	<i>Kevin J. Jacka</i>
County	<i>Stevens</i>
Phone	<i>509-258-4534</i>
Mailing Address	<i>P.O. Box 159 500 N. 4th Street Springdale, WA 99173-0159</i>
Contact Person Information	
Name	<i>Kevin J. Jacka</i>
Title	<i>Superintendent</i>
Phone	<i>509-258-4534</i>
Email	<i>kjacka@marywalker.org</i>
Application type:	
New Application or Renewal Application	<i>Renewal</i>
Is the request for all schools in the district?	
Yes or No	<i>Yes</i>
If no, then which schools or grades is the request for?	
How many days are requested to be waived, and for which school years?	
Number of Days	<i>3 per school year</i>
School Years	<i>2015-2016; 2016-2017; 2017-2018</i>
Will the waiver days result in a school calendar with fewer half-days?	
Number of half-days reduced or avoided through the proposed waiver plan	<i>We have reduced half-days from 9 to 3 over the course or previous waivers.</i>
Remaining number of half days in calendar	
Will the district be able to meet the minimum instructional hour offering required by RCW 28A.150.220(2) for each of the school years for which the waiver is requested?	
Yes or No	<i>Yes</i>

On the questions below please provide as much detail as you think will be helpful to the Board. Any attachments should be numbered to indicate the question(s) to which the documents apply.

The format for responses can vary to accommodate the information being provided (e.g., narrative, tabular, spreadsheet).

1. What are the purposes and goals of the proposed waiver plan?

Purpose: To provide three (3) professional development days for all certificated staff, in the areas of AVID system-wide, differentiated instruction, and project-based learning.

Goal #1: For all students will meet/attain grade level standards, or better, in math, reading and writing.

Goal #2: To increase literacy in all students.

2. Explain how the waiver plan is aligned with school improvement plans under WAC 180-16-200 and any district improvement plan. Please include electronic links to school and/or district improvement plans and to any other materials that may help the SBE review the improvement plans. (Do not mail or fax hard copies.)

Goal #1 in the School Improvement Plan is the same goal as Goal #1 in the Waiver.

Goal #2 matches the strategy areas of system-wide AVID, the RICC process, K-12 and walk-through's by principals.

3. Name and explain specific, measurable and attainable goals of the waiver for student achievement. Please provide specific data, in table or narrative form, to support your response.

By the end of 2018 school year, 90% of students will increase their literacy.

By the end of 2018 schoolyear, 90% of all students will be at grade level on the state assessments.

4. Describe in detail the specific activities that will be undertaken on the proposed waiver days. Please provide explanation (and evidence if available) on how these activities are likely to result in attainment of the stated goals for student achievement.

Grade level, course level or school level team meetings provide the pathway for professional development in reaching the goals.

1) They use data to conduct a cycle of innovation around projects and ideas, to solve problems and continuously improve.

2) They look at students' needs, interventions and adjust personal learning plans.

3) Staff will collaborate to continuously improve common performance tasks, content assessments and content resources.

5. What state or local assessments or metrics will be used to collect evidence of the degree to which the goals of the waiver are attained?

- *District created*
- *Amplify*
- *DIBELS*
- *DRA II*
- *SBAC*
- *PSAT*
- *SAT*
- *RICC Assessments (Post / Pre)*

6. Waiver requests may be for up to three school years. If the request is for multiple years, how will activities conducted under the waiver in the subsequent years be connected to those in the first year?

The RICC process is in its 3rd year, and continues to expand off the previous work, using AVID strategies, P-12, staff created assessments, leadership and grade level collaboration. That process is an example of how the Mary Walker School District will continue to connect first year to third year: Evaluation, Change, Create and Expand.

7. Describe in detail the participation of administrators, teachers, other district staff, parents, and the community in the development of the waiver.

Participation involvement in the development of waiver days is as follows:

- *Staff, teachers and administrators use Monday late-starts to develop waiver day direction-based of all collaborations, sharing and needs.*
- *Parent involvement is through Family Night Outs, surveys and School Board meetings.*
- *Community involvement in the development is through School Board meetings, Chamber of Commerce involvement and surveys.*

8. Provide information about the collective bargaining agreement (CBA) with the local education association, stating the number of professional development days, full instruction days, late-start and early-release days, parent-teacher conferences, and the amount of other non-instruction days. Please also provide a link to the district's CBA or e-mail it with the application materials. Do not send a hard copy of the CBA.

Currently, the CBA expired on 8/31/2014. We continue to work off that CBA.

- *Total certificated days = 180.*
- *late 1-hour per week*
- *early release days = 2*
- *Parent – Teacher conferences*
- *2 days*
- *0 (zero) non-instruction days*

9. Please provide the number of days per year for the following categories:

Student instructional days (as requested in application)	177
Waiver days (as requested in application)	3
Additional teacher work days without students	0
Total	180

10. If the district has teacher work days over and above the 180 school days (as identified in row three of the table), please provide the following information about the days: In columns 3 – 5, describe the specific activities being directed by checking those that apply.

Day	Percent of teachers required to participate	District directed activities	School directed activities	Teacher directed activities
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
Check those that apply				

11. If the district has teacher work days over and above the 180 school days (row three of table in item 9 above), please also explain the rationale for the additional need of waiver days.

New 180 Day Applications- Stop here and skip to Section C, "Last Steps".

Part B: For Applications for Renewal of Waivers for Additional Years.

1. Describe in detail how the district used the waiver days and whether the days were used as planned and proposed in your prior request.

The waived days will be used for professional development to increase teacher and school leader effectiveness, increase collaboration time within the school district and within the PREP Consortium and comprehensive instructional strategies.

2. To what degree were the purposes and goals of the previous waiver met? Using the performance metrics for the prior waiver plan, describe how effective the activities implemented have been in achieving the goals of the plan for student achievement. If goals have not been met, please describe why the goals were not met, and any actions taken to date to increase success in meeting the goals.

Of the four (4) goals stated in the previous waiver application plan ...

10.a. Increasing student achievement on state assessments in reading, mathematics and science for all grades tested.

10.b. Reducing the achievement gap for student subgroups.

10.c. Improving on-time and extended high school graduation rates (only for districts containing high schools).

10.d. Other components of the approved plan.

... parts of two (2) goals were not met: "Increasing student achievement on state assessments in reading, mathematics and science" – the middle school is in School Improvement Step 4 and middle school scores on state assessments declined / maintained over the three (3) years in improving in 2014. The high school is a 2015 School of Distinction and 2013 and 2014 School of Achievement.

10.b. Achievement gaps are closing in the early grades as shown in their assessments, but there are dramatic gaps in Kindergarten.

3. Describe any proposed changes in the waiver plan going forward, including any changes to the stated goals or the means of achieving the stated goals, and explain the reasons for proposing the changes.

The only change to previous waiver goals is 10.d. The PREP Consortium is not meeting for professional development days; those days will be district days.

4. Explain why approval of the request for renewal of the waiver is likely to result in advancement of the goals of the waiver plan.

Request is so important to provide professional development for teachers that don't extend contracts above 180 days. Implementation and alignment of common core, new assessments (SBAC) and continued staff growth NEED time.

5. How were parents and the community informed on an ongoing basis about the use and impacts of the previous waiver? Provide evidence of support by administrators, teachers, other district staff, parents, and the community for renewal of the waiver.

Parents, students and community participate through advisory committees, student-led conferences, parent involvement nights, AVID sight teams and open School Board meetings.

C. Last Steps:

- Please print a copy for your records.
- Mail or email the school board resolution, supporting documents, and this application to the email or mailing address on the first page. (E-mail is preferable.)
- Ensure supplemental documents clearly identify the questions that the documents support.

Thank you for completing this application.

180-18-040

Waivers from minimum one hundred eighty-day school year requirement.

(1) A district desiring to improve student achievement by enhancing the educational program for all students in the district or for individual schools in the district may apply to the state board of education for a waiver from the provisions of the minimum one hundred eighty-day school year requirement pursuant to RCW

[28A.305.140](#) and WAC [180-16-215](#) while offering the equivalent in annual minimum instructional hours as prescribed in RCW [28A.150.220](#) in such grades as are conducted by such school district. The state board of education may grant said waiver requests for up to three school years.

(2) The state board of education, pursuant to RCW [28A.305.140\(2\)](#), shall evaluate the need for a waiver based on whether:

(a) The resolution by the board of directors of the requesting district attests that if the waiver is approved, the district will meet the required annual instructional hour offerings under RCW [28A.150.220\(2\)](#) in each of the school years for which the waiver is requested;

(b) The purpose and goals of the district's waiver plan are closely aligned with school improvement plans under WAC [180-16-220](#) and any district improvement plan;

(c) The plan explains goals of the waiver related to student achievement that are specific, measurable, and attainable;

(d) The plan states clear and specific activities to be undertaken that are based in evidence and likely to lead to attainment of the stated goals;

(e) The plan specifies at least one state or locally determined assessment or metric that will be used to collect evidence to show the degree to which the goals were attained;

(f) The plan describes in detail the participation of administrators, teachers, other district staff, parents, and the community in the development of the plan.

(3) In addition to the requirements of subsection (2) of this section, the state board of education shall evaluate requests for a waiver that would represent the continuation of an existing waiver for additional years based on the following:

(a) The degree to which the prior waiver plan's goals were met, based on the assessments or metrics specified in the prior plan;

(b) The effectiveness of the implemented activities in achieving the goals of the plan for student achievement;

(c) Any proposed changes in the plan to achieve the stated goals;

(d) The likelihood that approval of the request would result in advancement of the goals;

(e) Support by administrators, teachers, other district staff, parents, and the community for continuation of the waiver.

[Statutory Authority: RCW [28A.305.140\(2\)](#) and 28A.305.141(3). WSR 12-24-049, § 180-18-040, filed 11/30/12, effective 12/31/12. Statutory Authority: Chapter [28A.305](#) RCW, RCW [28A.150.220](#), 28A.230.090, 28A.310.020, 28A.210.160, and 28A.195.040. WSR 10-23-104, § 180-18-040, filed 11/16/10, effective 12/17/10. Statutory Authority: RCW [28A.305.140](#) and 28A.655.180. WSR 10-10-007, § 180-18-040, filed 4/22/10, effective 5/23/10. Statutory Authority: RCW [28A.150.220\(4\)](#), 28A.305.140, 28A.305.130(6), 28A.655.180. WSR 07-20-030, § 180-18-040, filed 9/24/07, effective 10/25/07. Statutory Authority: Chapter [28A.630](#) RCW and 1995 c 208. WSR 95-20-054, § 180-18-040, filed 10/2/95, effective 11/2/95.]