



Bowling Green Independent School District

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Gary Fields, Superintendent

December 27, 2019

Kevin Brown
KY Board of Education
300 Sower Blvd., 5th Floor
Frankfort, KY 40601

Dear Mr. Brown,

On behalf of the Bowling Green Independent School District, I am requesting a waiver to exceed the allowable square footage for school construction to be placed on the February 4, 2020, board agenda. This waiver is being requested for the Bowling Green High School construction project.

The request for a waiver is the result of locally identified priorities that are important instructional components for the students at Bowling Green High School. Those specific components include:

- A theater/performing arts facility that can accommodate our band, orchestra, choir, and theatrical programs. This part of the facility exceeds the model program by approximately 6,000 square feet but is necessary to adequately meet our instructional needs.
- An auxiliary gymnasium that serves a variety of programs within our school building. Additionally, this facility will serve as our cafeteria during specific phases of construction.
- A new natatorium that will provide a swimming facility for Bowling Green High School. The school has had an on-site natatorium since the school was first constructed in 1970. With that being the case, the swimming pool serves as an important instructional component of our school day. The pool is used during the school day for swimming courses that are available to all students. Additionally, all freshman Physical Education courses have embedded water safety and swim instruction as part of their required curriculum at BGHS. Finally, the swimming pool serves as an instructional facility for our 5 elementary schools over the course of each year in which water safety and swimming lessons are conducted throughout the school year. All of these activities are conducted during the school day and are part of our instructional programs.

I appreciate the opportunity to appear before the Kentucky Board of Education to answer any questions that you or the board may have about this project. Also, I have met with the facilities and finance departments within the Kentucky Department of Education and they support our request.

Sincerely,

Gary Fields
Superintendent
Bowling Green Independent Schools