

April 7, 2022

Superintendent Chris Fenske Lakeview Public Schools 875 Barstad Rd., P.O. Box 107 Cottonwood, MN 56229 (sent via email: chris.fenske@lakeview2167.com)

Dear Superintendent Fenske,

Thank you for submitting an application for the Minnesota River Valley Education Consortium (MRVEC) Flexible Learning Year Program. I have approved your district for the 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25 school years as pre-Labor Day starts.

I am asking that the goals listed for the MRVEC Flexible Learning Year Program be replaced with SMART goals that more directly tie to the professional development purposes of the Flexible Learning Year program. SMART goals are strategic and specific, measurable, attainable, results oriented and time-bound. The goals for the MRVEC Flexible Learning Year program should tie to the districts' overarching goals but not be the same. My hope is that the MRVEC Flexible Learning Year goals will strike a balance between attainable in the short term and stretch in the long term, with frequent and intermittent feedback. In that way, districts will know if they are on track and can make timely adjustments as needed.

Karen Jacobson of MRVEC may submit the new goals that are agreed to by participating districts to Cindy Jackson, ombuds at the Minnesota Department of Education, by Friday, April 29, 2022.

MRVEC should also submit an electronic review of the MRVEC Flexible Learning Year Program by August 15, 2025 to mde.flexiblelearning@state.mn.us. You may contact Cindy at 651-582-8572 or cindy.s.jackson@state.mn.us, if you would like specific feedback, have questions or need help along the way.

Sincerely,

Heather Mueller, Ed.D.

Heather Mueller, Ed. D.

Commissioner