From:	Les Meyer
To:	OPI Waivers
Subject:	Support for waiver from double testing
Date:	Tuesday, October 01, 2013 7:45:52 AM

To Whom it may Concern:

Thank you for taking the time to consider our encouragement to support the State Superintendent's request for a waiver to administer the CRT test this Spring. We will be utilizing the Smarter Balance Assessment and by requiring students to take both assessments will be very time consuming. Time is crucial, especially in the spring time and two tests will take precious time away from both the teachers and students. The CRT test is not aligned with the Board of Public Education's standards; whereas the Smarter Balance Assessment is aligned with the Board of Public Education's standards.

This variance request provides the U.S. Department of Education with an opportunity to reduce red tape and increase flexibility for schools as we transition to the SBAC test. If granted, it will allow teachers increased time to focus on instruction under the new standards, rather than on administering duplicative assessments, one of which is no longer aligned with the Montana Board of Public Education's standards.

I respectfully request that you grant the State Superintendent's requested waiver.

Sincerely,

Les Meyer, Superintendent, Fairfield Public Schools