From "Randy Barber <randy.barber@bvsd.org>" <randy.barber@bvsd.org>
Subject **Correction Requested**
To Jenna Sampson <jenna@boulderreportinglab.org>
Date April 27, 2026 1:57:23 PM MDT

Jenna,

We request an immediate correction to your story: Inside BVSD's final meeting on possible school closures as declining enrollment forces tough choices.

In the article you state:

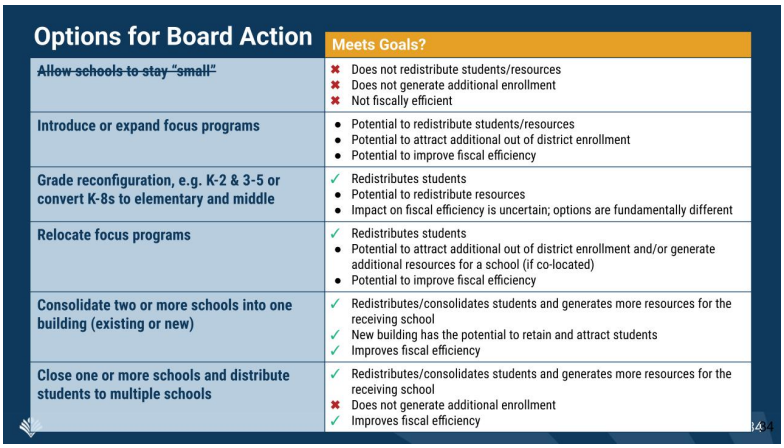
> The schools most likely to face closure or consolidation are elementary campuses with low enrollment or excess capacity. Several, including Flatirons, Heatherwood, Kohl and Eldorado K-8, are already operating below half capacity. District projections also identified Whittier International, Louisville Elementary, Monarch K-8 and Columbine Elementary.

As was stated during the meeting and during your previous interview with Superintendent Anderson -- **the district does not, yet, have a plan. As a result, it would be inaccurate to report a list of schools that are "most likely to face closure."**

What we have said is that any decisions will:

- Be limited to schools serving elementary students (K-5 and K-8)
- Be in three regional areas: Boulder, Broomfield and Louisville/Superior
- Not include our mountain schools

Additionally, closure and consolidation are only two of the five options under consideration:



Options for Board Action	Meets Goals?
~~Allow schools to stay "small"~~	✖ Does not redistribute students/resources ✖ Does not generate additional enrollment ✖ Not fiscally efficient
Introduce or expand focus programs	• Potential to redistribute students/resources • Potential to attract additional out of district enrollment • Potential to improve fiscal efficiency
Grade reconfiguration, e.g. K-2 & 3-5 or convert K-8s to elementary and middle	✓ Redistributes students • Potential to redistribute resources • Impact on fiscal efficiency is uncertain; options are fundamentally different
Relocate focus programs	✓ Redistributes students • Potential to attract additional out of district enrollment and/or generate additional resources for a school (if co-located) • Potential to improve fiscal efficiency
Consolidate two or more schools into one building (existing or new)	✓ Redistributes/consolidates students and generates more resources for the receiving school ✓ New building has the potential to retain and attract students ✓ Improves fiscal efficiency
Close one or more schools and distribute students to multiple schools	✓ Redistributes/consolidates students and generates more resources for the receiving school ✖ Does not generate additional enrollment ✓ Improves fiscal efficiency

You would be correct in citing that there are a number of low-enrolled schools in the district, as identified by our Long Range Planning Committee. While LRAC helped set up a system to monitor and support schools experiencing declining enrollment, the Board set that system aside when it decided on the current approach. Consequently, that data will help the process but won't be the deciding factor for actions taken at specific schools.

Beyond the correction request I wanted to raise a concern that the district was not given an opportunity to respond to this criticism:

> Luke Johansen, a parent of two students at Louisville Elementary and founder of Sloyd Experience, a nonprofit that teaches traditional woodworking in schools, said the meeting felt "squishy." He wondered why people were being asked to rank issues they knew little about.

> "For a data-driven district, why aren't they giving us any data to use so we can give actual feedback?"--

While community perspectives are an important part of this process, the district was not given an opportunity to respond to this claim before publication. Providing that opportunity is essential to ensuring accurate and balanced coverage.

Randy

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