From "Jenna Sampson <jenna@boulderreportinglab.org>" <jenna@boulderreportinglab.org>
Subject **Building acquisitions/partnerships**
To Randy Barber <randy.barber@bvsd.org>
Date July 23, 2026 10:33:24 AM MDT

Got it. What does a high level conversation about the use of buildings look like and how do those partnerships play into the presentation being presented to the board? Can you explain how partnerships will be key to the plan?

On Jul 23, 2026, at 9:31 AM, Randy Barber <randy.barber@bvsd.org> wrote:

Jenna,

Knowing that partnership will be key once a plan is presented and approved by the Board, district staff have met proactively with municipal partners, prior to the beginning of planning. My understanding is that these were high-level and not specific to the plans being actively developed now.

Similarly, our team did meet with the Museum of Boulder, at their request, at the end of June, to hear their interest in space. Again, no specific plans were discussed.

We, of course, appreciate the interest of community partners in potentially supporting the transition of any school buildings, if that becomes necessary.

At this time, we are focused on developing a plan to be presented to the Board of Education.

Any conversations about specific buildings will come after the Board approves a plan, which is expected in September.

Randy Barber | APR
Chief Communications Officer
Office: 720-561-5823
Mobile: 303-507-6694

On Wed, Jul 22, 2026 at 5:41 PM Randy Barber <randy.barber@bvsd.org> wrote:

> Let me check with my team regarding general meetings with partners… and I'll circle back.
>
> I'm boarding a flight right now and should be back on the ground around 8.
>
> RB

Randy Barber | APR
Chief Communications Officer
Office: 720-561-5823
Mobile: 303-507-6694

On Wed, Jul 22, 2026 at 5:01 PM Jenna Sampson <jenna@boulderreportinglab.org> wrote:

> I understand this is sensitive, which is why we wanted to give you another chance to respond with any detail that might make the reporting more accurate beyond what we already know to help the public understand any background that may be important.
>
> Regarding the initial question, you are now confirming there has been dialogue with the museum about the use of space later this year but not specific buildings, is that correct? Is future use planning factoring into the consolidation plan?
>
> I'll let my editor know you'd like to connect.
>
> Thanks,
> Jenna

On Wed, Jul 22, 2026 at 12:28 PM Randy Barber <randy.barber@bvsd.org> wrote:

> > Jenna,
> >
> > Will you please connect me with your editor?
> >
> > BVSD has not been engaged in conversations regarding the use of any specific buildings.

My understanding is that Mr. Yates confirmed this when his team spoke with you. I've copied a message that he sent to our team after your conversation (emphasis added).

Any reporting that identifies particular buildings as part of this process would be inaccurate and could unnecessarily create confusion and concern within our community.

I look forward to addressing our concerns with Boulder Reporting Lab leadership.

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Bob Yates** <bobyatesboulder@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Jul 20, 2026 at 9:33 PM
Subject: Re: Museum of Boulder
To: Rob Price <rob.price@bvsd.org>, Rob Anderson <rob.anderson@bvsd.org>
Cc: Christopher Taylor <director@museumofboulder.org>

Rob and Rob:
Just a head's up that Chris and I received a call this evening from Jenna Sampson, a reporter for Boulder Reporting Lab. She wanted to know if the Museum had been offered space in a particular school by BVSD staff. We confirmed that, not only have we not had discussions with you or anyone about specific schools, we don't even have an agreement with BVSD about whether a space-sharing arrangement is possible.

We emphasized that the Museum has had discussions over the past two years with several government entities about space sharing for the Museum's collection, including the City of Boulder, the Boulder Library District, Boulder County, and BVSD. We said that, in addition to alleviating space constraints that the Museum has, a possible space-sharing collaboration with an organization that has an educational mission--like the library or BVSD--would be particularly attractive to the Museum as a way to share historical artifacts and photographs in our collection with a wider segment of the community.
Chris and I wanted you to be aware of this inquiry.
Best,
Bob

On Wed, Jul 22, 2026 at 12:51 PM Jenna Sampson <jenna@boulderreportinglab.org> wrote:
Just wanting to get your final comment since I know in fact a meeting between Rob and Bob Yates has taken place to discuss using a school for storage. I was told Whittier was the ideal match, but there was a list presented to select from.

And related to that, what is the district's thinking around how the possible future use of school buildings plays into the final decision making?

Thanks,
Jenna

On Tue, Jul 21, 2026 at 1:39 PM Randy Barber <randy.barber@bvsd.org> wrote:
No. No conversations.

I'm curious on who your source is - since that has no basis in fact.

I would suspect that you'll hear more rumors before August 25 - when we present a proposed plan to the Board of Education.

Randy Barber | APR
Chief Communications Officer
Office: 720-561-5823
Mobile: 303-507-6694

On Tue, Jul 21, 2026 at 1:20 PM Jenna Sampson <jenna@boulderreportinglab.org> wrote:
Ok thanks. So There haven't been any conversations at all with community partners about the possible use of school buildings? I've heard Whittier and Southern Hills have both been discussed in that vein.

Jenna

On Jul 21, 2026, at 7:54 AM, Randy Barber <randy.barber@bvsd.org> wrote:

Jenna,

Thanks for reaching out.

Any consideration regarding the future use of a closed facility is a separate process that would occur only after the Board makes its decision this fall.

We have, of course, been in communication with municipalities and community partners to keep them informed about the ongoing process. However, discussions about the future of any specific facility have not begun at this stage.

At this point, it is simply too early for those conversations.

Randy

Randy Barber | APR
Chief Communications Officer
Office: 720-561-5823
Mobile: 303-507-6694

On Mon, Jul 20, 2026 at 10:55 PM Jenna Sampson <jenna@boulderreportinglab.org> wrote:

> Hi Randy - I wanted to see what the district might share about its conversations around possible agreements forming to take over closed schools.
> For instance, does the district have any plans or dialogue around partnering with institutions such as CU or the Museum of Boulder to take over BVSD buildings, and if so do those possibilities add weight to the scale toward closure?
>
> Thanks,
> Jenna

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Randy Barber | APR
Chief Communications Officer
Office: 720-561-5823
Mobile: 303-507-6694