From "Randy Barber <randy.barber@bvsd.org>" <randy.barber@bvsd.org>
Subject **Records request**
To Jenna Sampson <jenna@boulderreportinglab.org>
Date June 18, 2026 6:43:09 AM MDT

Good morning Jenna,

I saw that request come in. I'm sure our CORA coordinator will be in touch soon to help provide whatever documents we can, but I always appreciate the heads up—and even more so, some context about what you're looking for.

Are you working on a specific story, or simply exploring the topic? Understanding the broader context can help us ensure we're providing the most useful information.

Additionally, if you are working on a specific story, please let us know if you have a deadline. CORA requests, of course, operate within their own timelines, but I will be out of the office on vacation and returning June 29. I want to make sure we have an opportunity to respond to any inquiries, particularly if you're working on a timeline that falls before my return.

On a related note, I've been meaning to circle back regarding your recent story, As Boulder Valley School District weighs closures, parents organize to save their schools.

I thought the article did a good job capturing the perspectives of families and communities that have been particularly vocal about potential future action. Although no schools have been identified for closure or consolidation at this stage, some parent groups have emerged in this process.

One concern I continue to have is ensuring that the district has a meaningful opportunity to respond when criticism is raised or questions are posed about our process. I know Boulder Reporting Lab strives to follow the Society of Professional Journalists Code of Ethics, which encourages journalists to diligently seek subjects of news coverage and provide opportunities to respond.

While I appreciate that you reached out to Board President Nicole Rajpal regarding one aspect of the story, district leadership was responsible for designing and carrying out the engagement process and could have provided additional context on several points raised in the article. For example, we could have explained that while we don't typically seek out former Board members for feedback, we felt there was value in hearing from a school leader who had firsthand experience navigating a similar process two decades ago.

As a former journalist, I deeply respect the important watchdog role that reporters play in covering public institutions, including school districts. My hope is that we can continue to provide timely information and thoughtful responses to your questions, and that BVSD is afforded the opportunity to help readers understand the full context surrounding the issues being discussed.

As I've shared before, context matters. Comparisons to how other districts are approaching similar challenges can be valuable to readers. Likewise, when reporting on topics such as enrollment trends, finances, or school safety and student beahvior (including police reports), additional regional or statewide context can help audiences better understand where BVSD's experience fits within the broader landscape.

I appreciate the work you do and look forward to continuing to work together. I'm always willing to connect over coffee, if you'd like to continue the conversation... and of course, I'll make sure our team is ready to answer questons following your CORA inquiry.

Randy

On Wed, Jun 17, 2026 at 9:06 PM Jenna Sampson <jenna@boulderreportinglab.org> wrote:

> Hi Randy - I submitted a Cora request on data regarding police reports from BVSD. Just wanted to give you a heads up.
>
> Thanks,
> Jenna
>
> Jenna Sampson
> Journalist
> 720-418-0669
> jenna@boulderreportinglab.org

--

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