From "CJ Willey <cjwilley@gmail.com>" <cjwilley@gmail.com>
Subject **Working together - CU & BVSD: Let's save CU Women's Tennis & grow the sport for our community**
To Rob Price <rob.price@bvsd.org>
Cc Rob Anderson <rob.anderson@bvsd.org>, Harry Waterman <harry.waterman@bvsd.org>
Date March 6, 2026 10:42:02 AM MST

Hi Rob Price,

I'm a BVSD Parent with 4 children enrolled, and checking in as we previously spoke about the possibility of an indoor tennis facility at Platt Middle School. As of a year and a half ago you said: "At this time, there are some additional considerations and potential plans for the area at Platt Middle School, which I am unable to share at this stage." The other day I ran by this land with my children, and I see the land is still in the same state it was at that time, which is overgrown with weeds.

I also recently received communications from BVSD regarding closing schools due to declining enrollment. I'm always surprised that school administrators don't seem to understand that ***the lack of facilities for developing student-athletes and serving families in the community is a big part of this equation***. For example:

- Denver Public Schools gave some unused land for the Denver Tennis Park, and now that community and their student-athletes have access to a beautiful, 7 indoor court facility
- Arvada Public Schools have access to a beautiful public facility through Apex, with indoor tennis that their community and student-athletes have the first priority to use
- Here in Boulder County... we have zero public facilities with indoor tennis. Zero.

So I'm reaching out to ask whether Boulder County could have a growth mindset, and dedicate some land to a tennis facility? This doesn't need to be expensive for the school district, for example the bubble from Rocky Mountain Tennis Center is still owned by their head pro, Kendall Chitamber. He just needs a location. So BVSD, with a bit of creative thinking, could lease some of its unused land, so that its student athletes could have the ability to use the facility and improve and develop as student-athletes.

Please let me know if you can take action on this, and improve outcomes for BVSD student-athletes participating in tennis, as they currently have no facility for year-round training.

Best,
CJ Willey

On Thu, Oct 23, 2025 at 11:20 AM CJ Willey <cjwilley@gmail.com> wrote:

> Hi Rob,
>
> It's been a year since we corresponded regarding a tennis facility for BVSD student-athletes.
>
> Let me tell you a story: I met Vivaan Bhardwaj while playing at the Rocky Mountain Tennis Center, three years ago. He was at Peak to Peak but not winning matches, but he had a passion to improve. I played with him at RMTC until it shut down, after which he had no indoor tennis solution. When the weather allowed, we'd play at our neighborhood courts, and after I became a member at Meadows, I'd get him in there (but they do have a guest limitation, 5 times between Labor Day and Memorial Day, so we were limited. Luckily, Vivaan's parents were willing to drive him to Denver to supplement his court time. Later, when Vivaan could drive, he'd make the drive from Lafayette to Denver. He went from a player that couldn't win at the #2 Singles position, to #1 at Peak to Peak, to this past week making it to the 4A Finals, placing second in State. He wants to play college tennis next year, and getting good feedback from a number of college programs, so I think he'll do it.
>
> Vivaan is a success story that started at Rocky Mountain Tennis Center, however for the next generation of BVSD student-athletes that want to pursue tennis at a high level, the future is bleak. RMTC was the only publicly-accessible indoor tennis center in Boulder County. It is now demolished. Our student-athletes being forced to drive, in winter weather, to Denver or Arvada, introduces an unacceptable risk, in my opinion.
>
> Recently, the City of Boulder had a partnership with CU Athletics, but the CIty failed to build indoor courts at East Boulder Rec Center because its climate goals wouldn't allow for a fabric bubble structure. See the news here: *https://bouldercolorado.gov/projects/east-boulder-community-park-racket-courts*. The City now has no set plan.
>
> Platt Middle School sits on 35 acres, a half-mile away, and located in the County, not the City. For many years, the baseball field at the south end of the property has been abandoned and overgrown with weeds. The proposal is simple: BVSD & CU Athletics could collaborate to build a beautiful tennis facility (with CU providing the funding, BVSD the land) and this would provide a very central location for BVSD student-athletes to practice and even play matches. DPS did this exact deal with University of Denver athletics, and now DPS student-athletes have access to the beautiful Denver Tennis Park (where the 5A State Tournament was just held). I'd encourage you to reach out to Rick George, he is looking for solutions now, I'm sure he'd be amenable: Rick.George@colorado.edu
>
> I have 4 children that are current BVSD students. I'd like to stay in the school district, but I'd also like to know whether BVSD is forward-thinking and capable of implementing solutions to serve its student-athletes and their families. Or alternatively, if they're telling families their only option is to drive many hours in winter weather, if they want their children to improve and succeed in the sport. Please let me know which future we're choosing here.
>
> Best,
> CJ Willey
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> On Thu, Oct 31, 2024 at 10:03 AM Rob Price <rob.price@bvsd.org> wrote:
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> > Dear CJ,
> >
> > Thank you for reaching out. The district greatly appreciates your advocacy for BVSD student-athletes, and we share your commitment to supporting our students' athletic development. With the generous support of our taxpayers and voters, BVSD has successfully opened 16 new courts over the

past year, totaling 40 new courts in the last eight years—a testament to our ongoing dedication to our tennis programs and student-athletes.

At this time, there are some additional considerations and potential plans for the area at Platt Middle School, which I am unable to share at this stage. While we are not in a position to consider new tennis facility developments at Platt, I want to emphasize our gratitude for your willingness to collaborate and your commitment to BVSD athletics.

Thank you again.

Rob

Rob Price
Assistant Superintendent of Operational Services
6500 East Arapahoe Road
Boulder, Colorado 80303
720.561.6425 (office)
970.214.0110 (mobile)
www.bvsd.org

On Thu, Oct 31, 2024 at 9:45 AM CJ Willey <cjwilley@gmail.com> wrote:

> Hi Director of Athletics Waterman and Assistant Superintendent Price,
>
> Last Spring I wrote to Superintendent Anderson regarding the urgent need for year-round tennis facilities for our BVSD student-athletes, he forwarded the message, and then I followed up. I have not yet received a reply.
>
> I had identified a natural location at Nevin Platt Middle School, where the school has 35 acres and an old overgrown baseball area that has not been used for many years. The model is simple, and matches what DPS & University of Denver achieved with the beautiful Denver Tennis Park: BVSD would donate the land, private donors and/or the university provides the funding. And now adding: the programming could be done by Rocky Mountain Tennis Center, which lost their facility this past year. BVSD student-athletes would have priority to use the facility for certain times for team practices and matches, and all the student-athletes would benefit from having a place to train, which is now completely missing as Boulder County suffers from a lack of year-round tennis facilities.
>
> Please consider:
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> - This winter, our local high school tennis players will have to drive (in winter weather!) 45+ minutes away in the hopes they can find a place to play. I hope our new drivers don't get into accidents. If I was a parent of a high schooler that is pursuing their tennis development and forced to do these long drives, I'd be worried sick!
> - The next generation of youth tennis players will likely cease to pursue tennis, as they have no place to play during winter months and they will fall behind their peers. Denver has over 10 indoor tennis facilities, including multiple facilities open to the public (as Rocky Mountain Tennis Center was). Boulder now has 2, Boulder Country Club and Meadows Club. Both are expensive and neither is open to the public, with extensive waitlists.
> - BVSD Athletics has the opportunity to lead here, and truly giving unused land is not a big ask. Currently we're seeing declining enrollment because Boulder refuses to build amenities that appeal to families. I have three kids in BVSD schools, and this year Eisenhower Elementary for the first time had only enough students for one kindergarten classroom -- 28 kindergartners in one class. The teacher became so burnt out she quit teaching.
> - BVSD can help to create the amenities that attract families, and at the same time support their student-athletes, so they can pursue their dreams here in Boulder County, not driving to Arvada or Denver.
>
> I'm cc'ing Kendall Chitamber from Rocky Mountain Tennis Center, as they fill the programming piece mentioned above.
>
> Feel free to be in touch with any questions, as I'm happy to help in any way I can, and put together a group for philanthropic funding. I feel if BVSD donates the land, we could easily put together $1M in private donations to get the facility off the ground in a campaign to "Save Tennis in Boulder County." This would be a legacy project for the current BVSD leadership, and I do hope you will take the opportunity.
>
> Best,
> CJ Willey
>
> --
> Boulder, CO
> Mobile: 650.284.8715

On Tue, Apr 16, 2024 at 10:19 AM CJ Willey <cjwilley@gmail.com> wrote:

> Hi Dr. Rob and BVSD Leaders,
>
> I appreciate you getting back to me, and connecting to leaders at BVSD that have an interest and can take action.
>
> To address the point on resources: BVSD would not have to lay out any funds, only land. Following the model of Denver Public Schools, they donated unused land from Denver South High School, and the University of Denver and philanthropic gifts funded the entire project. CU has signaled they are willing to put resources into saving their Women's Varsity Tennis Program, and I know that raising philanthropically from a Boulder Tennis Community that has resources but is currently suffering (the Rocky Mountain Tennis Center closing next week, as its land was purchased by real estate developers). The funding piece would be easily achieved. Here's an article on the Denver Tennis Park project: https://coloradotennis.org/blast/index.php/2017/11/02/denver-tennis-park-breaks-ground/
>
> In my letter from early November, I proposed Nevin Platt Middle School land as ideal for this purpose, as the school has 35 acres and currently has a large baseball field that is simply overgrown with weeds and completely unused. This land is sufficient to fulfill this need, and with its central location many BVSD schools and students would benefit.

There are other BVSD schools with unused land, to be sure, and for the "cost" of unused land, the school district could have a tennis facility that could be used by multiple schools. I also know the pro at Rocky Mountain Tennis Center, Kendall Chitamber, now has the ability to place the existing bubble in a new location, so a solution could be achieved not only with no cost to BVSD, but as soon as next year. Here's his email if you'd like to reach out: coachkendallc@gmail.com

I hope we're thinking creatively here, as the alternative is: A) In the short-term, next winter, BVSD students will be driving in the winter to locations such as Arvada to fight for the scraps of court time that are not taken by Arvada residents; B) In the long-term, a sport which is growing and where Boulder schools have had such success, multiple state championships and college scholarships (example: Quinn Bernthal, Fairview High School and 2023 Girls State Champion, now with a D-1 tennis scholarship) will languish in this area, and families with children that are passionate about the sport will simply move away and leave BVSD.

Please see attached for my ideas from last November, and feel free to follow up if you would like to discuss.

Thank you,
CJ Willey
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Boulder, CO
Mobile: 650.284.8715

On Tue, Apr 16, 2024 at 5:46 AM Rob Anderson <rob.anderson@bvsd.org> wrote:

> CJ,
>
> Thanks for reaching out on this issue. I will check with our team but I am unaware of any coordinated effort to build a new indoor tennis facility in Boulder. We are in discussions with the city around assessing the need for more pools and have joined up to have a third party study this.
>
> A capital project of this nature would require substantial resources and wouldn't be something BVSD could likely take on by ourselves. Are you aware of any efforts by CU to pursue something? I am copying our district athletic director and Assistant Superintendent in charge of Facilities to keep them in the loop.
>
> Rob

Rob Anderson
Superintendent
6500 East Arapahoe Rd., Boulder CO
720-561-5114
rob.anderson@bvsd.org

On Fri, Apr 12, 2024 at 8:18 AM CJ Willey <cjwilley@gmail.com> wrote:

> Hi Rob,
>
> Our BVSD school is having a fundraiser this weekend (Eisenhower Elementary). I'm making decisions on my charitable giving, and my thoughts went back to this email -- I never received a response.
>
> This winter, hundreds of BVSD students that are passionate about tennis will be without a place to play in Boulder County. New drivers will be forced to drive in winter conditions to a facility in Arvada. I recently spoke to the Fairview High School Coach, Tanya Cumalat, about this, and she is extremely concerned.
>
> There are many potential solutions, but the question is: is BVSD exhibiting any leadership here, to address this issue?
>
> Obviously one potential solution is to allocate some unused land for a facility that would be funded by private / CU dollars.
>
> Or, with the impending demolition of the Rocky Mountain Tennis Center (later this month!), I know the head pro, Kendall Chitamber, now has ownership of the physical bubble, which is mobile. So something could be put in place by this winter, if you act now. Here's Kendall's email: coachkendallc@gmail.com
>
> Please tell me you are addressing this issue. It would help me to make my decision regarding a level of support for BVSD. If BVSD is choosing to ignore the issue and not support its students that are passionate about tennis, then I likely have to choose to put my charitable dollars directly towards solving it.
>
> Best,
> CJ Willey
>
> --
> Boulder, CO
> Mobile: 650.284.8715
>
> ---------- Forwarded message ---------
> From: **Carlton Willey** <cjwilley@gmail.com>
> Date: Tue, Nov 7, 2023 at 12:56 PM
> Subject: Re: Working together - CU & BVSD: Let's save CU Women's Tennis & grow the sport for our community
> To: Rick George <Rick.George@colorado.edu>
> Cc: Rob.Anderson@bvsd.org <Rob.Anderson@bvsd.org>, Anthony Pham <Anthony.Pham-1@colorado.edu>, Brad Bernthal <Brad.Bernthal@colorado.edu>

Hi Rick,

Thank you so much for taking the time -- I appreciate your reply, and I'm ready and willing to help any way I can.

What's very clear, as I talk to many folks about the future of CU Tennis and tennis facilities in Boulder:

- The Boulder tennis community stands ready and willing to support any facility -- if there is an appetite for a public-private facility with a charitable purpose, I know many folks that would put their dollars in to support it. $1M is very doable.
- If CU Athletics is separately moving quickly to provide a facility for the CU Women's Varsity / Men's Club teams, that's wonderful. Folks are all very concerned about the future of the program.
- I have a good friend on the Faculty at CU Law, Prof Brad Bernthal. His second daughter is a senior at Fairview and she recently received a D1 tennis scholarship, so the family is now two-for-two in that regard. I've spoken with Brad, and he obviously is very supportive of the effort to help CU Tennis, and ideally BVSD students, as well! I'll attach my letter for Brad's benefit, and I wanted to loop him in.

Thank you all for your time and attention to this important and increasingly urgent matter -- the Rocky Mountain Tennis Center will be closing very soon. I don't know all the options out there, but I do know that the Nevin Platt Middle School has a baseball field and an adjacent land that is overgrown with weeds, and this location is 2 miles / a 7 minute drive from campus, and very centrally located for use by our BVSD high schools. The Denver Tennis Park gives a template for a successful collaboration, and with the right leadership we can act quickly and create a win-win situation for all.

Best,
CJ Willey
--
Boulder, CO
Mobile: 650.284.8715

On Mon, Nov 6, 2023 at 12:58 PM Rick George <Rick.George@colorado.edu> wrote:

> Mr Willey,
>
> We are working hard on finding the right partnership and location for tennis facilities. I have a small group working on this and will get this information to them. Please know how much I appreciate you reaching out to me. We will be in touch!
>
> Rick
>
> **From:** Carlton Willey <cjwilley@gmail.com>
> **Sent:** Friday, November 3, 2023 3:07 PM
> **To:** Rick George <Rick.George@Colorado.EDU>; Rob.Anderson@bvsd.org
> **Cc:** Anthony Pham <Anthony.Pham-1@colorado.edu>
> **Subject:** Working together - CU & BVSD: Let's save CU Women's Tennis & grow the sport for our community
>
> Dear Mr. George, Dr. Anderson,
>
> I'm a Boulder resident and tech lawyer, a passionate tennis player, and a father to four young children in BVSD schools. My wife works for the university's health system.
>
> We moved to Boulder from Denver, where I witnessed the successful collaboration between University of Denver and Denver Public Schools, resulting in Denver Tennis Park, which serves both organizations as well as having a charitable mission to serve the community.
>
> I've written a letter, attached, describing a proposal here in Boulder. If you're interested in pursuing this, I will personally help to gather charitable, philanthropic donations, with a goal of raising $1,000,000. I have found that Boulder County's tennis community is passionate, generous, and I believe they would enthusiastically support the type of facility I've outlined. What we need is visionary leadership to "get it done" -- and I believe the two of you have that.
>
> Thank you for your time and consideration. If you have any questions or you'd like to reach out to me to discuss further, please do not hesitate.
>
> Best,
> CJ Willey

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