From "Dan Condon <dan@thecondon.family>" <dan@thecondon.family>
Subject **{BVS Board} Keep Historic Whittier School Open**
To "bvs.board@bvsd.org" <bvs.board@bvsd.org>
Date May 2, 2026 10:00:11 AM MDT

Boulder Valley School District Board of Education
6500 E. Arapahoe Road, Boulder, CO 80303

Re: Please Keep Whittier International Elementary Open

Dear Members of the Board,

I am a single father of a nine-year-old at Whittier International Elementary — a child with both a 504 plan and an Advanced Learning Plan. I am also a weekly volunteer in the Hug & Go drop-off line every Friday morning. I show up because this school has earned that from me, and I want to make the case that you should fight to keep it open.

Whittier is not a generic neighborhood school with soft enrollment numbers. It is a rare convergence of things that are genuinely hard to build and impossible to quickly replace:

- An IB World School since 2003 — over two decades of authorization, teacher training, and embedded culture that cannot be transferred to another building or recreated after a closure
- A Title I school serving Boulder's most economically vulnerable families and one of the most racially diverse student bodies in the district
- A community that has already organized — Resilient Whittier — and is ready to recruit, advocate, and grow enrollment if given the chance

The IB PYP is not incidental to Whittier — it is the reason families seek it out from across the district. That makes it an enrollment solution, not just a program. Rather than closing Whittier, I urge the board to invest in growing it: better outreach, transportation support, and recognition that an IB school in the heart of Boulder is a competitive asset worth protecting.

I also ask the board to remember its own history. BVSD's 2000 consolidation fell hardest on a small, diverse neighborhood school while choice programs serving wealthier families survived. You have acknowledged that. This is the moment to choose differently.

Please keep Whittier open. Protect its IB authorization. Partner with Resilient Whittier on a real enrollment growth plan before August. And conduct a genuine equity impact assessment before any closure decision is made.

This school is worth showing up for. I do it every Friday. I'm asking the board to do it too.

With respect and urgency,

Dan Condon
Whittier Parent & Friday Morning Hug & Go Volunteer
Boulder, Colorado

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