From Laura Shafer <laura.shafer@bvsd.org>
Subject **Preparing for Friday's roundtable**
To Christopher Basten <christopher.basten@bvsd.org>
Cc Randy Barber <randy.barber@bvsd.org>
Date February 25, 2026 2:16:44 PM MST

Dear Chris,

In preparation for Friday's roundtable with Deputy Superintendent de la Cruz and your team, we wanted to share a few resources that may be helpful to review—and to pass along to staff in advance.

Feel free to copy and email the message below to your staff:

Dear High Peaks Staff,

As you may know, Deputy Superintendent Lora de la Cruz will be visiting High Peaks Friday for a roundtable conversation.

Educators are invited to join us for lunch and a discussion focused on building resilient schools for BVSD students during this period of declining enrollment. We hope you'll stop by, if your schedule allows, and be part of this important conversation.

In order to maximize your time in conversation, please review this background information in advance:

- Defining the path forward presentation
- Jan. 28 Board of Education presentation (~24 minutes) and the discussion amongst board members that followed (~12 minutes).

The feedback gathered during Friday's conversation will help inform next steps, including future engagement with BVSD staff, families, and the broader community.

Thank you in advance for your time and for all you do to support our students.
Chris

Finally, I've attached the feedback form that we will have staff fill out tomorrow. Lora should have printed forms with her, but I thought it would be helpful to have the file just in case. Additionally, if there are educators that don't have the opportunity to participate during the event, you are welcome to share this electronic version with them: https://forms.gle/h2QyCDKiVsreFQwo9

Laura Shafer
Executive Secretary to the
Superintendent and Board of Education
720-561-5114

Attachments:

- Teacher Roundtable Feedback Form.pdf
- For Roundtables - Declining Enrollment Teacher Engagement Deck.pdf

Feedback

QUESTIONS

What are your biggest concerns and fears regarding this process?

What aspects of your experience as a teacher align the most to your ability to effectively teach and support students?

What new supports would you hope would come out of this process?

RANK THEM

Force Rank from 1-3 the following options in order of preference for the schools in your region:

- [ ] Grade reconfiguration, e.g. K-2 & 3-5 or convert K-8s to elementary and middle
- [ ] Consolidate two or more schools into one building (existing or new)
- [ ] Close one or more schools and distribute students to multiple schools

BVSD

Superintendent Roundtables | Jan-Mar 2026

Defining the path forward: Engaging Teachers

Purpose of Today's Meeting

- Confirm shared understanding of the urgency created by declining enrollment
- Review the options
- Reaffirm Board goals for future decisions
- Gather feedback from educators

School Adjustment Options
~~Allow schools to stay "small"~~
Introduce or expand focus programs
Grade reconfiguration, e.g. K-2 & 3-5 or convert K-8s to elementary and middle
Relocate focus programs
Consolidate two or more schools into one building (existing or new)
Close one or more schools and distribute students to multiple schools

Context

- Declining birth rates (national, state, & local trend) & fewer kindergarteners
- Aging population
- Dwindling housing opportunities due to low inventory, people aging in place
- High cost of living
- More housing opportunities in surrounding districts

THE DENVER POST

BUSINESS > REAL ESTATE • News

Colorado has the four most expensive housing markets in U.S. not on a coast

Denver, Boulder, Fort Collins and now Greeley make the real estate list

Daily Camera

Boulder County report: 80+ population to grow faster than all others

UPDATED: July 6, 2024 at 6:21 p.m.

THE DENVER POST

January 13, 2026

Colorado public school enrollment sees biggest drop since 2020 as graduation rate continues to improve

TIMES-CALL

NEWS > EDUCATION

St. Vrain Valley enrollment falls slightly for third year

PUBLISHED: December 18, 2025 at 4:19 PM MST

GOLDEN TRANSCRIPT

Jeffco enrollment falls to historic low as families move

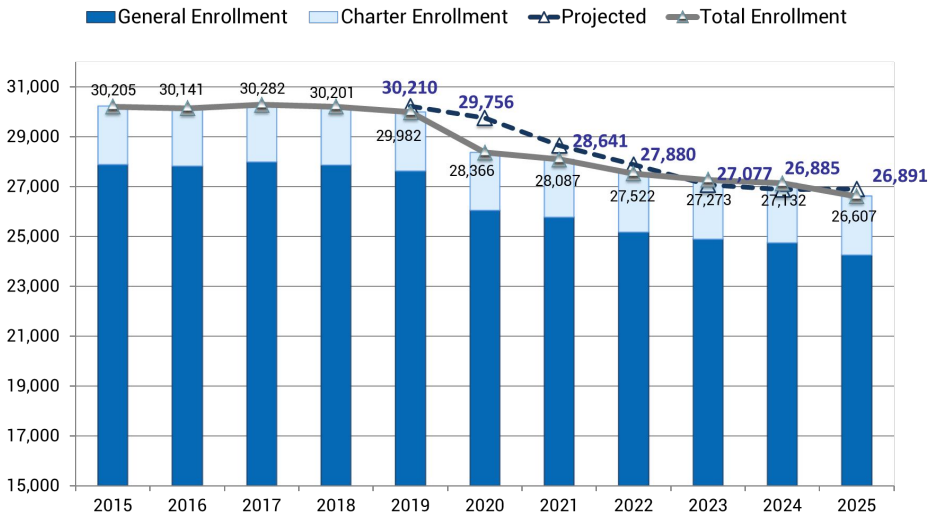
District records smallest kindergarten class ever; officials point to rising home costs driving young families out

Updated Dec 3, 2025

What has Changed Since 2024-25 SY

The data has moved faster than expected:

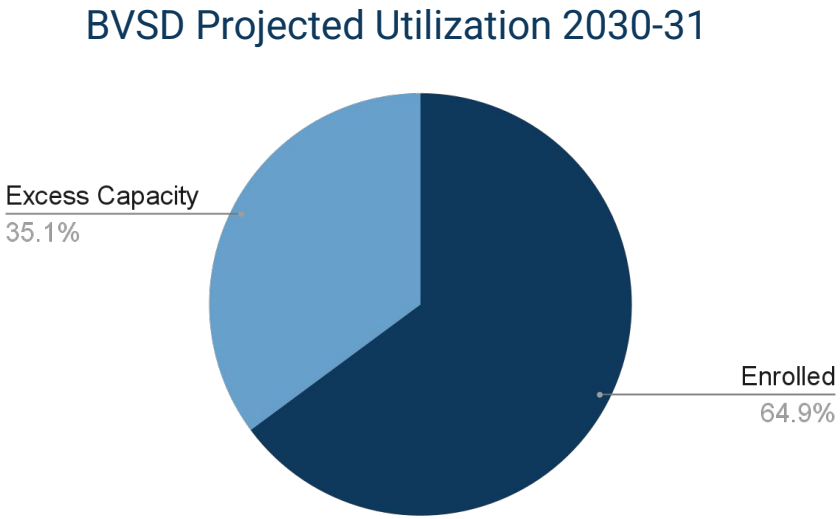
- Enrollment declined by 525 students.
- This accelerates the timeline for addressing excess capacity.
- Delay increases risk to student experience, staffing stability and long-term financial sustainability.



Enrollment declined by 525 students; 2nd greatest loss since pandemic.

BVSD Elementary Building Capacity

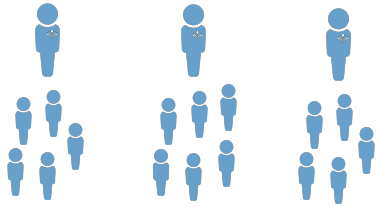
- BVSD has the capacity to serve 14,543 K-5 students in our non-charter schools.
- We currently serve 9,732 (SY 25-26) K-5 non-charter students.
- The utilization rate is 67% with 4,811 open seats (SY 25-26).
- Projected to go to 9,433, or 65% in 5 years with 5,110 open seats.



Elementary School Programmatic Impacts

Three Round (~450)
(3 classes per grade level)

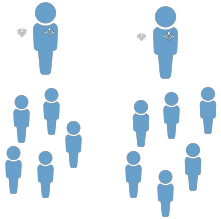
Grade 1



- ABC Specials rotation
- Instrumental music
- Ideal for programming
- Dedicated counselor, Specials teachers & Special Education teachers

Two Round (~300)
(2 classes per grade level)

Grade 1



- Traveling teachers
- Scheduling complexity & limitations
- Programming limitations

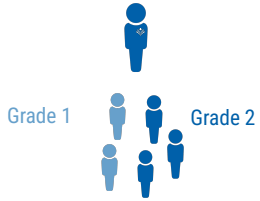
One Round (~150)
(1 class per grade level)

Grade 1



- Limited teacher collaboration
- Lack of flexibility to shift students
- More programming limitations

Multi Grade
(<1 class per grade level)



- Yearly change
- Complex planning for teachers



BVSD Response To Date

2021-22

- Created Long Range Advisory Committee (April 2022)

2022-23

- LRAC metrics and recommendations (June 2023)

2023-24

- Parent enrollment survey (Sept. 2023)
- 1st annual Place to Be Showcase (Oct. 2023)
- 1st Annual Trend Report (Feb. 2024)
- Initiated Heatherwood Community Engagement (Mar. 2024)
- Updated enrollment-related policies

2024-25

- Approved Heatherwood focus program (Sept. 2024)
- New enrollment dashboard (Sept. 2024)
- New commuter Choice Enrollment preference (Oct. 2024)
- Place to Be Showcase (Oct. 2024)

2025-26

- Adopted new attendance boundaries (Sept. 2025)
- Long range planning worksession (Oct. 2025)
- Place to Be Showcase (Oct. 2025)
- Launch community engagement (Jan. 2026)

What Happens If We Continue Status Quo?

Without action, families and students will continue to see:

- Reduced access to learning opportunities
- Fewer adults supporting students
- More students placed in multi-grade classrooms
- More singleton teachers
- Growing inequities across schools
- Continued spending on underutilized buildings



Defining Goals

Future decisions should:

- Maintain and improve learning outcomes for all students
- Distribute students so all schools have the right level of students/resources to maintain high-quality learning experiences to maintain and improve outcomes for all students
- Stabilize overall enrollment by retaining current students and attracting new students to the district
- Maximize all efficiencies to address ongoing fiscal challenges

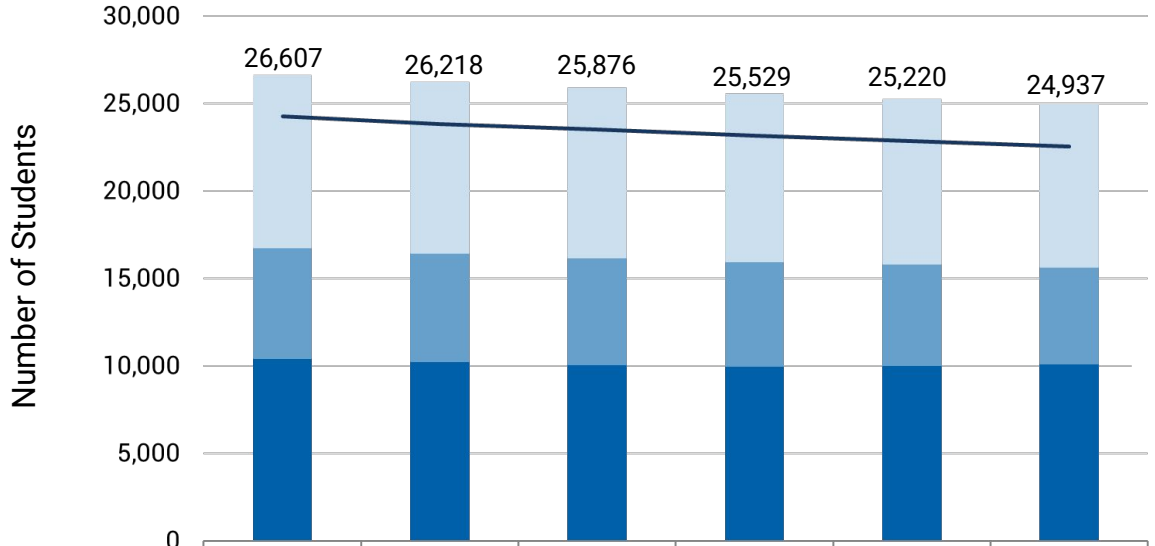
Options for Board Action

	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

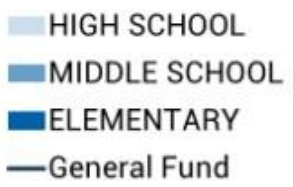


The Path Forward: Our Community Engagement Commitment

Overall Enrollment Projected to Decline



	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31
HIGH SCHOOL	9,848	9,767	9,681	9,548	9,399	9,256
MIDDLE SCHOOL	6,332	6,172	6,090	5,975	5,774	5,552
ELEMENTARY	10,427	10,280	10,105	10,006	10,047	10,129
General Fund	24,270	23,845	23,503	23,156	22,847	22,564



Projected loss of 1,670 students
(1,706 General Fund)

* *Preschool not included due to the difficulty to assess demand and due to it's disconnect with school attendance areas.*

5-year Elementary Enrollment Projections

ELEMENTARY ENROLLMENT TRENDS

- **Boulder**
  Continued enrollment declines
  10 of 14 (71%) schools projected to be at or below 2 classes per grade level with a regional building utilization of 58%
- **Louisville-Superior**
  Continued enrollment declines
  3 of 6 (50%) schools projected to be at or below 2 classes per grade level with a regional building utilization of 61%
- **Lafayette-Erie**
  Slow enrollment growth
  No schools projected to be at or below 2 classes per grade level with a regional building utilization of 88%
- **Broomfield**
  Continued enrollment declines
  2 of 4 (50%) schools projected to be at or below 2 classes per grade level with a regional building utilization of 73%

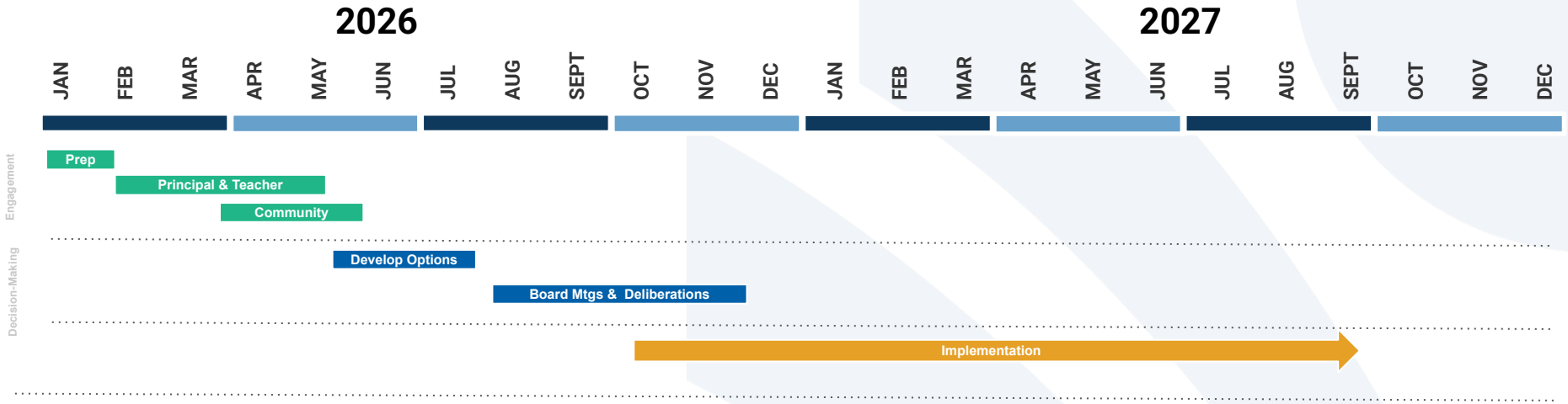
Community Engagement Structure



Notes:

1. Projected enrollment in Lafayette and Erie is currently stable and will continue to be monitored. Potential impacts to these areas will be considered in the development of school adjustment options in other communities.

2. Due to their unique geographic circumstances, mountain schools require differentiated decisions and are not being considered for school adjustment options at this time.



Engagement

Jan - Feb '26 - Preparation

- Engage principals and teachers
- Orientation sessions with Board and Superintendent advisory committees
- Begin to engage with municipalities

Mar - May '26 Build understanding of the problem & collect input

- Regional community group meetings and stakeholder specific sessions

Decision-Making

Jun - Aug '26 - Develop school adjustment options

- Present summary of community engagement to Board (June)
- Staff to develop facility planning options (June-August)

Aug '26 - Present school adjustment options to the Board

- Board's opportunity to discuss options
- Opportunity for community input during public comment

Sep '26 - Present final plan for study to the Board

This will include updated attendance boundaries, open enrollment preferences, analysis of facility improvements required (if any), etc.

- Opportunity for community input during public comment

Oct '26 - Present final plan for action to the Board (October 2026)

- Necessary for BVSD open enrollment timeline Nov. 1 - early January 2027

Implementation

Nov '26 - Aug '27 -Student / Staff Transition Planning & Support

- Enrollment specialists to provide direct support to impacted families throughout the enrollment process
- Support impacted staff and families with transition
- Plan for implementation
- Facility real estate process if needed

Discussion

Teacher Feedback

What are your biggest concerns and fears regarding this process?

What aspects of your experience as a teacher align the most to your ability to effectively teach and support students?

What new supports would you hope would come out of this process?

Force Rank the following options in order of preference for the schools in your region:

- Grade reconfiguration, e.g. K-2 & 3-5 or convert K-8s to elementary and middle
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