From Boulder Valley School District <noreply@bvsd.org>
Subject **BVSD Resilient Schools Proposal and Douglass Elementary**
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BOULDER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Dear Douglass Elementary School families and staff,

Tonight, Boulder Valley School District leadership presented a proposed plan to the Board of Education to close, consolidate, reconfigure, or relocate eight schools. The Board of Education will discuss the proposal again at its regular meeting on Sept. 8, and vote on the proposed plan at the Sept. 22 regular meeting.

The proposal recommends the closure of Douglass Elementary and that its attendance area be divided among Coal Creek, Eisenhower and Heatherwood elementary schools.

In addition, the proposed plan relocates High Peaks Elementary to the Douglass campus. Then, Community Montessori will relocate into High Peaks' current location. The Community Montessori building would be closed.

If approved by the Board of Education on Sept. 22, these changes would take effect beginning with the 2027-28 school year.

To learn more about all the proposed changes, visit the Resilient Schools website.

Why close schools?

Every BVSD school is a strong and beloved community. The recommendation to close schools is not about school quality.

It's about responding responsibly to sustained enrollment decline across the district. As enrollment falls, staff and resources are stretched across more buildings than are needed to serve fewer and fewer students. Closing schools allows us to concentrate our resources in fewer buildings so that every student has access to a high-quality, BVSD learning experience and every staff member can thrive professionally.

Learn more about the impacts of declining enrollment in our district.

How we arrived at this proposal

Douglass's resident student population is among the lowest in Boulder. Both its resident population and enrollment are below two classes/grade and are projected to stay at that level. Additionally, the Douglass attendance area is large and less densely populated than other, non-mountain attendance areas.

Relocating High Peaks, BVSD's most in-demand focus school, to the Douglass campus would give more students, particularly those in east county, access to the focus school. It also allows the district, through relocation of another focus school, to close the Community Montessori building and reduce excess capacity in Boulder.

Additional Considerations

- The ICAN program currently housed at Douglass would be relocated to Heatherwood.
- Transportation would continue to be provided based on BVSD policy, and as required by a student's IEP.
- Preschool would continue to be offered in the area. More information about specific locations for programs will be provided by Oct. 1.
- School Age Care (SAC) would be offered at Heatherwood, Coal Creek, and Eisenhower.

Support for Students, Families, and Staff

We know this is difficult news and that students and families will need time, information, and support as they process what it means for them. Our schools have plans in place to provide immediate support and, throughout the process, families and students will receive:

- **Clear, school-specific information** about key dates, decisions, open enrollment options, and transition events.
- **A dedicated district transition liaison** to help families get information, answer questions, and navigate the transition.
- **Resources for caregivers** to help them talk with students and provide age-appropriate support and reassurance.
- **Opportunities to connect** with receiving schools, including school visits, transition events, and opportunities for students and families to begin building relationships within their new school community.

We are also committed to supporting all employees impacted by these recommendations and are communicating directly with staff to provide support.

Resources for our families are located on the Resilient Schools website and for staff on the staff.bvsd.org intranet.

Your school will remain open for the 2026-27 school year, and we are committed to providing a high-quality student and staff experience. We know that Mr. Wolfer and the staff at Douglass are incredibly dedicated and will keep the focus on students, their experiences, and their learning throughout this school year. If the Board of Education approves the recommendation, Mr. Wolfer and the principals at Coal Creek, Eisenhower, and Heatherwood will work to support strong student transitions to their new schools in the 2027-28 school year.

Public Comment with the Board of Education

The Board of Education will be carefully considering the recommendations and hearing from the community during its meetings on Sept. 8 and 22. BVSD families, staff and residents may sign up for Public Comment on the Board of Education's website.

Confronting Challenges Today for more Resilient Schools Tomorrow

Every BVSD school is extraordinary because of the people who learn and work there. While buildings are important, our responsibility is to ensure that every student has access to the strongest possible educational experience. Addressing declining enrollment now will help preserve the high-quality instruction, programs, and opportunities our students deserve for years to come.

In Partnership,

Boulder Valley School District

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