Long Range Advisory Committee

MINUTES
Monday, January 27, 2025
5:30 - 7:00 PM

Se ofrece traducción de los materiales de la reunión a español por pedido. Por favor comunicarse con bvsd.operations@bvsd.org.

Committee Members in Attendance: Jeff Anderson, Josh Baldner, Laura Baukol, Susan Courson, Brooke Daerr, Trish De Fries, Gavan Goodrich, Tina Marquis, Yvette Salas, Mamta Saxman, Jessica Seevers, Cori Shaff, Della Smith, Caleb Starbuck, Jim Topping, Ezra Veno

Staff Members in Attendance: Rob Price, Dan Ryan, Robbyn Fernandez, Sierra Espinoza, Glen Segrue, Susan Cousins

Board Members in Attendance: Kitty Sargent

I. Welcome
Chairperson Yvette Salas opened the meeting and welcomed the committee.

II. Public Comment
No members of the public were present.

III. Committee Governance

A. Upcoming Important Dates
   a. Next LRAC meeting - Mar. 10
   b. Next Update to the Board - Feb. 11
   c. Upcoming BOE Meetings on Enrollment
      i. Enrollment Dashboard Worksession - Feb. 11
      ii. Annual Enrollment Trend Report - Feb.11
      iii. Attendance Boundary Review - Mar. 11

B. The November 18, 2024 Minutes were approved.

C. Committee Communication
   a. Members of the committee expressed concern that the community may not be aware of the recent boundary work session. Internal communications are happening but may not be reaching parents. Staff shared that there will be enrollment information in the upcoming issue of The Spot. Additional efforts may be needed.

IV. Information/Discussion

A. Sr. Planner Glen Segrue presented an Overview of the Annual Enrollment Update.

Key takeaways were:

a. Enrollment declined by 141 students or 0.5% over last year, but was better than expected.

b. Elementary and high schools declined in 2024 but the middle level had a second year of gains. Kindergarten (1,609) was the largest since the pandemic.

c. Stronger resident student gains at middle school may still be from students re-entering the system after the pandemic.

d. Out of District contributions to enrollment in 2024 were close to last year's historic high.

e. Boulder, Louisville, and Superior largely are driving enrollment declines, but Lafayette/Erie showed modest growth in 2024.

f. Births showing signs of leveling after a period of steep declines in Boulder.

g. Stronger student "net migration" in 2024

B. Segrue also gave a presentation on the Process that Develops the Annual Enrollment Trend Report. Many key factors contribute to the process such as:

a. Using past rates and projecting them into the future, new residential development, and school program capacity.

b. Overall projections are higher than last year. We have a larger kindergarten class and births are leveling off.

c. More seats are available at schools due to declining enrollment.

d. BVSD has taken several measures to improve enrollment.

e. Comments and takeaways from the committee included::

i. The community still does not seem to be concerned, and we don't think the public is taking this as seriously as they should.

ii. We need to ensure our timing is in sync with the budgeting process.

iii. There may be the need for Open Enrollment help or more understanding.

C. Assistant Superintendent, Rob Price gave a presentation on the Attendance Boundary Review process. There were several observations that were presented to the Board:

a. Non-contiguous areas - Creekside in Whittier, Whittier in Columbine

b. Dual enrollment areas - Bear Creek/Creekside, Bear Creek/Mesa, Boulder/Fairview

c. Split feeders

d. Elementary schools with fewer than 300 resident students.

e. Comments and takeaways from the committee included:

   i. Housing type makes a difference for student yield.

   ii. We need to bring to the Board situations that they need to be aware of.

   iii. The odds of predicting how parent population is going to react to changes is 0%.

   iv. The Board should prioritize its primary objectives and avoid engaging in speculative or aspirational initiatives that may detract from their goals.

   v. Now is the best time to change attendance boundaries because there is room in the district to move students.

   vi. There has been talk with the Board that current students can stay where they are but the new students coming in would not.

   vii. Can Transportation help kids get to a school if it is closer to them, rather than parents OE them to another school? All kids ride free with RTD and we have a wonderful relationship with them.

V. Agenda Setting

A. The committee would like to have more discussion around the middle level, particularly K-8 schools.

VI. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

LRAC Membership **LRAC Website**