# Long Range Advisory Committee

**MINUTES**
**Monday, November 17, 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, Tina Marquis, Susan Courson, Brooke Daerr, Trish De Fries, Yvette Salas, Jessica Seevers, Cori Shaff, Della Smith, Caleb Starbuck, Jim Topping

**Staff Members in Attendance:** Rob Price, Robbyn Fernandez, Sierra Espinoza, Glen Segrue, Susan Cousins, Rob Anderson, Randy Barber

**Board Members in Attendance:** Kitty Sargent, Beth Niznik

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

II. **Public Comment**
No members of the public were present, and there was no public comment.

III. **Committee Governance**
- A. Upcoming Important Dates
  1. Next LRAC Meeting - Jan. 12, 2026
  2. Upcoming BOE Meetings on Enrollment
     a) Enrollment update - Dec. 9, 2025
     b) Annual Trend Report - February 10, 2026
- B. The September 17, 2025 Minutes were approved.
- C. Committee Communication
  1. Several committee members shared what they are hearing in the community and their personal perspectives, including:
     a. Parents have expressed concerns that their school is going to close. The perception is out there that schools are closing and it is not a secret anymore.
     b. A surprising amount of tension is being felt between Boulder and other parts of the district such as Broomfield, Superior, Lafayette, and Louisville. There is a perception that changes will be made that accommodate Boulder, and the rest of the district will have to go along with it. This highlights a communication need as we move forward.
     c. The topic has come up at Flatirons; Principal Jessica Seevers, has been trying to get in front of it by being transparent and honest with her parents and community.

d. The Crest View community is aware of the issue; there was disappointment related to the recent boundary changes and loss of bus service; community members felt they were not listened to.
e. Some school communities that have been small for a while or were recently impacted by boundary changes are aware of the discussion; others are not. Awareness will be the initial communication challenge.
f. Board members feel the communities really need to hear the challenges we are facing.
g. BVSD is trying to do this differently and systematically vs. the approach other districts have taken. We have to do more communicating and engaging.

**IV. Information/Discussion**

A. Assistant Superintendent, Rob Price, updated the committee on the attendance boundary change implementation. Key takeaways were:
   a. Schools impacted - Bear Creek, Casey, Centennial, Creekside, Crest View, Heatherwood, Manhattan, Platt, and Whittier. There were fewer than 50 students impacted by the boundary change.
   b. The Board approved option B, which enacted the boundary changes and allowed students to stay in their current school or elect to go to their new neighborhood school.
   c. Reaching out individually to families and asking how we can support them through this change and process is something that worked well and should be used in future processes.
   d. A member of the committee reported that some parents who submitted feedback never heard anything back nor received a response from the Board.

B. Price gave a brief update on the October 21 Work Session in which the Board discussed next steps for responding to declining enrollment. In the work session, staff outlined six options available to the Board to reconfigure the district's facilities portfolio, ranging from allowing schools to stay small to closing some schools. Committee members shared their perspectives:
   a. Members of the committee described the difficulties of working in 1- or 2-round schools. Because there are fewer teachers and other adults in the building, the staff in the building have to work much harder to give students a high quality learning experience.
   b. Parents do not fully understand the difficulties of running small schools.
   c. Need to engage with municipalities early in the process
   d. Action is needed sooner than later. We do not want to wait until we are in a crisis situation—multiple districts have been forced to close several schools quickly, and we want to be thoughtful and proactive.
   e. The district needs to consider upcoming Bond projects and make decisions before construction contracts are finalized next fall.
   f. The district needs to be thoughtful about how to determine and name geographic areas for developing scenarios.

g. Should mountain schools be included? They are extremely small as well.
h. Families have a strong sense of identity connected with their schools; when the district talks about closing a school, their identity is shaken and emotions start to come out.
i. We need to think about kids' outdoor experience as well as indoor when assessing and evaluating our buildings.
j. Transportation policies will need to be reviewed as part of this work.

C. Staff asked the committee for input regarding how to run the community engagement process and members shared their thoughts:
   a. PTA is very important.
   b. The teacher perspective is powerful, and they should be engaged early.
   c. Need to share both the teacher experience and the student experience with the community.
   d. It's triggering to hear the student experience is "less than" at a small school.
   e. Bring ideas for them to respond to; they want to listen to the experts, and they want to know what your opinion is on it.
   f. Have it open ended; craft questions that are more value based vs. voting on a solution.
   g. People feel like they have been surveyed a bunch.
   h. The board is not looking for the community to make a decision; they want to know how the community feels.
   i. Heatherwood worked well because they felt engaged in the process.
   j. As a community member, the most powerful language is the student experience.

**V. Agenda Setting**

A. Jeff would like input for the next meeting.
B. Price would like to get feedback from the committee on the community engagement plan before taking it to the board.
C. This will be Kitty's last meeting as a Board liaison, next time she will be joining as a member.

**VI. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:03 pm.