Investing in Our Schools

BOULDER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT



New Vista High School 700 20th Street | Boulder, CO 80302 Gross Square Footage: 77,966 sq. ft. Original Construction Date: 1953 Estimated Additional Funding Needed for Project: \$36,000,000* *Final budget will be determined during the design phase.

Overview of work to be completed:

The New Vista High School building will be replaced with a new building on the same site. The building has aged to the point where the cost to repair and renovate is significant enough, it makes more financial sense to replace the school rather than continue to invest in a worn out, out-dated building. New Vista High School is housed in a building that was originally constructed in 1952 as Baseline Jr. High School. New Vista moved into the building in 2003. In the 2014 Bond Program, planned improvements were put on hold to allow staff to have discussions with the University of Colorado (CU) about partnership options related to both the University Hill and New Vista campuses. After further discussions, neither the BVSD Board of Education nor the community was supportive of the proposed options.

Since 2014, there has been substantial deterioration in the condition of the building, particularly related to structural integrity. In addition to the structural issues, there has been storm and groundwater intrusion into the interior of the building and major systems (electrical, plumbing, HVAC) and materials (carpet, flooring, paint) are at the end of their service lives. New Vista is the only non-mountain school without permanent air conditioning and experiences extreme classroom temperature fluctuations throughout the year. There are also significant ADA issues throughout the building which creates inequity.

New construction would provide the district with a building that will serve students for 70 years with significantly better energy efficiency and reduced ongoing maintenance costs. In addition, a new building would be designed to support the educational program better, with features such as a modern performance space/auditorium, outdoor learning spaces, and flexible learning spaces.

A portion of the project budget in the 2014 Bond program was used for design of the new building, and the remainder will be used toward new construction. Additional funding is needed to combine with 2014 bond dollars to complete construction.



Learn more

BVSD Facilities **Critical Needs**

At a Glance

Where students learn matters. This fall, Boulder Valley School District voters will cast ballots on a \$350 million bond-funded school building investment proposal. Our 2022 Facilities Critical Needs Plan outlines a strategy for investing in all BVSD schools to address major maintenance needs in aging buildings to extend their useful life; replace New Vista High school; plan for enrollment growth; create more Career and Technical Education opportunities; and make it easier for students of all physical abilities to enjoy our playgrounds.



Aging Buildings

All students will benefit from safe, functional, comfortable schools; Taxpayer investments are optimized by extending the useful life of facilities.

BVSD owns and operates 61 buildings constructed in nearly every decade of the last 140 years. Over time, building materials and equipment age, wear out, and become outdated. BVSD must invest in maintaining and updating facilities **on an ongoing basis** to ensure they are safe and functional and can continue to serve students for decades to come.

In some cases, when a building has aged to the point where the cost to repair and renovate is significant enough, it makes more sense to replace the school rather than continue to invest in a worn out, outdated building. As such, the Facilities Critical Needs Plan calls for the 70-year old New Vista High School building to be replaced with a new building on the same site.



Overcrowding

Continued growth, driven by new housing developments, has already caused overcrowding in some of our schools in the northeastern part of the district, especially Meadowlark School. BVSD's only school in Erie is already over its enrollment capacity at the elementary-level. With additional subdivisions planned for the area, a new school campus, serving grades PK-5 will be needed in coming years.



Expanding Educational Opportunities and Post-Graduation Readiness | Career and Technical Education

BVSD has recognized the need to expand Career and Technical Education (CTE) opportunities, and is ready to transform the student experience in college and career preparedness. In this plan, we are proposing renovations at PK-8, middle, and high schools that will expand or create flexible, agile spaces where students can experience industry-inspired environments with the latest equipment, helping them acquire valuable technical skills along with the real-world, hands-on experiences that lead to high-wage and high-growth jobs that are in high-demand.



Improving ADA Access on Playgrounds

So that students of all physical abilities can benefit from play and exercise, playground mulch on a number of elementary playgrounds would be replaced with rubberized solid surfaces that are wheelchair friendly.

Arguments in support of and opposed to this ballot question can be found in the blue book mailed with ballots.