

 BOULDER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

# Popular Annual Financial Report

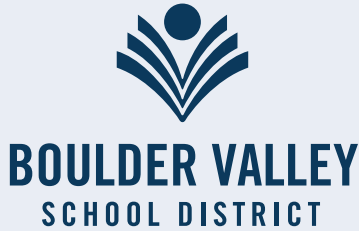
for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024

Boulder, Colorado • Boulder • Broomfield • Gilpin Counties

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**Bill Sutter, SFO**  
**Chief Financial Officer**  
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To the Citizens of the Boulder Valley School District,

The Boulder Valley School District (the district or BVSD) is committed to ensuring residents have access to and understand the district's finances. In pursuit of this commitment, the district has developed a Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. This report intends to convey the district's finances in an easy-to-understand format that provides citizens with an overview of how their tax dollars are managed and spent. It is designed to be readily accessible and easily understandable to the general public and other interested parties without a background in public finance.

The PAFR summarizes the financial results of the operations reported in the district's audited Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR). This information does not replace the ACFR which outlines the district's financial position and operating activities each fiscal year presented in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The PAFR is unaudited and not presented in GAAP format, but it is suitable for those readers who prefer an overview of the district's financial condition.

The most recent and previous ACFRs are available on the district's Financial Transparency website (<https://www.bvsd.org/about/financial-transparency/annual-comprehensive-financial-reports>). The PAFR is part of the district's ongoing commitment to keep citizens informed about finances in the district and be accountable for the receipt and expenditure of public funds.

Respectfully Submitted,



William A. Sutter, SFO  
Chief Financial Officer



Government Finance Officers Association

Award for  
Outstanding  
Achievement in  
Popular Annual  
Financial Reporting

Presented to

**Boulder Valley School District RE-2  
Colorado**

For its Annual Financial Report  
For the Fiscal Year Ended

June 30, 2023

*Christopher P. Morill*

Executive Director/CEO



## BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Alex Medler (Treasurer)   Kitty Sargent   Beth Niznik (Vice-President)   Nicole Rajpal (President)   Lalenia Quinlan Aweida   Jorge Chavez   Jason Unger

## SUPERINTENDENT'S CABINET

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Rob Anderson, Ed.D.	Superintendent
Lora De La Cruz	Deputy Superintendent
Frankie Elmore	Chief Information Officer
Bill Sutter, SFO	Chief Financial Officer
Kathleen Sullivan, J.D.	Legal Counsel
Rob Price	Asst. Superintendent of Operational Services
James Hill, Ph.D.	Asst. Superintendent of Human Resources
Robbyn Fernandez	Asst. Superintendent of Schools
Nativity Miller	Asst. Superintendent of Opportunity
Randy Barber	Chief Communications Officer
David Stewart	Boulder Valley Education Association President
Ginger Ramsey	Broomfield High School Principal

## STRATEGIC PLAN

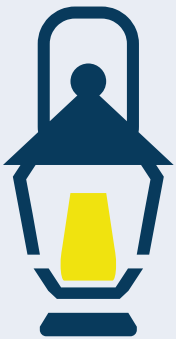
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Our work is focused by the [All Together For All Students Strategic Plan](#), which aims to Inspire a love of learning in every student, Equip them with the knowledge and skills that will help to make them successful and give them the opportunities and connections so that they can Soar after high school in the college or career pathway of their choice.

Launched in 2019, the effort has resulted in great success, including incredibly high student achievement and increased access for students.

We, however, will not be satisfied, until we reach our Long Term Student Outcomes:



### INSPIRE

All students benefit from challenging and relevant educational opportunities



### EQUIP

Reduce disparities in achievement



### SOAR

Every student graduates empowered with the skills necessary for post-graduate success

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

We are building on the success of the BVSD Strategic Plan through four Key Objectives



### No Limits

All students experience grade-level, standards-based instruction.



### Next Best Step

Educators and administrators implement & track tiered supports and instructional strategies to engage and grow all students, and monitor success in doing so.



### Define the Destination

Throughout their PK-12 career, all students access career exploration opportunities and earn at least one of the following: College Credit, Industry Certification, Work-Based Learning Experience or Seal of Biliteracy.



### Valued & Included

All students feel included and valued in their learning environments, schools engage in restorative practices with students when appropriate, and schools consistently apply recommended resolutions for specific disciplinary events (i.e., discipline framework).



BOULDER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT



"We believe that Boulder Valley is uniquely positioned because of its resources and outstanding educators to overcome the challenges we face, including an achievement gap that educators across Colorado and the nation have struggled to address."

-Dr. Rob Anderson, BVSD Superintendent

## DISTRICT OVERVIEW

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Boulder Valley School District RE-2 is a public school district and body corporate, organized and existing under the School District Organization Act of 1965, Article 30, Title 22, and Colorado Revised Statutes. The district has the authority to determine its own budget, levy taxes or set rates or charges, and issue bonded debt without approval from the state or by another government, making BVSD fiscally independent.

Originally organized in 1860, the district was reorganized in 1961 to include numerous smaller districts. There is a seven-member Board of Education, elected by the citizens of Boulder, Broomfield, and Gilpin Counties, that govern the district. Board members serve four-year terms, with four members elected every two years; they are term-limited at two terms.

BVSD is located in Boulder County near the foothills of the Rocky Mountains, approximately twenty miles northwest of Denver. Its boundaries encompass approximately 500 square miles in Boulder, Broomfield, and Gilpin Counties and contain a population of approximately 211,000. The communities of Boulder, Louisville, Lafayette, Erie, Superior, Broomfield, Nederland, Ward, Jamestown, and Gold Hill are served. Residents within the district, particularly in the more densely settled urban areas where most of the population resides, participate in the large and increasingly diverse front-range economy, which includes the cities of Denver, Boulder, and Fort Collins and the growing communities in between. The city of Boulder is home to the University of Colorado, Boulder Campus, and is a significant stabilizing force for the local economy. Other major employers in the area include Google, IBM Corporation, numerous federal research laboratories, and other smaller software, research, manufacturing, and pharmaceutical firms.

BVSD provides a full and challenging range of educational programs and services authorized by Colorado State Statute including kindergarten through grade twelve education in elementary, middle, and high schools; Special Education; Career and Technical Education; an Online Education program; Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Education; and numerous other educational and support programs. In addition, the district offers preschool programs through the Colorado's Universal Pre-K Program, Community Montessori focus school, and the Special Education program. The district also has five charter schools that comprise the Charter Funds of the Boulder Valley School District: Summit Middle Charter School, Horizons K-8 School, Boulder Preparatory High School, Justice High School, and Peak to Peak Charter School.





## DEMOGRAPHICS



### 56 Schools

56 schools reside in the Boulder Valley School District



### 28,000 students

27,913 students attend BVSD schools



### 4,000 employees

More than 4,000 staff are employed by the district.



### 2.4 million miles traveled

BVSD bus drivers travel nearly 2.4 million miles per year.



### 15,000 fresh meals

BVSD serves more than 15,000 healthy, cooked from scratch meals daily with locally-sourced ingredients



### 500 Square Miles

The Boulder Valley School District covers more than 500 square miles and 11 communities.



### 92% Graduate On-Time

The on-time graduation rate for the class of 2024 was 92.3%



### 1121 Average SAT Score

The average SAT score for BVSD juniors in 2024 was 1121.



### Top School District in Metro Denver

According to Niche, BVSD is the #1 School District in Metro Denver and #2 in Colorado



### Accredited with Distinction

BVSD is only one of 17 school districts across the state to be Accredited with Distinction by the Colorado Department of Education and the only one in Metro Denver to earn the honor.



### Launched the careers of three NASA astronauts

Our graduates are our nation's leaders, serving as federal judges and standing out as actors, journalists, musicians, athletes and three NASA astronauts: Jessica Watkins (Fairview '06), Jack Fischer (Centaurus '92), Scott Carpenter (Boulder '43).

## UNDERSTANDING SCHOOL FINANCE IN COLORADO

Every homeowner and business owner in Colorado pays property taxes for schools, along with sales taxes for police, fire, and other local public services. The Colorado state government is responsible for funding other public services such as prisons and transportation, in addition to determining the funding for schools.

Each year the state budget is crafted by the governor and legislature to determine how much of the total budget will be allocated to K-12 education.

### Constitutional Amendments that affect school funding:

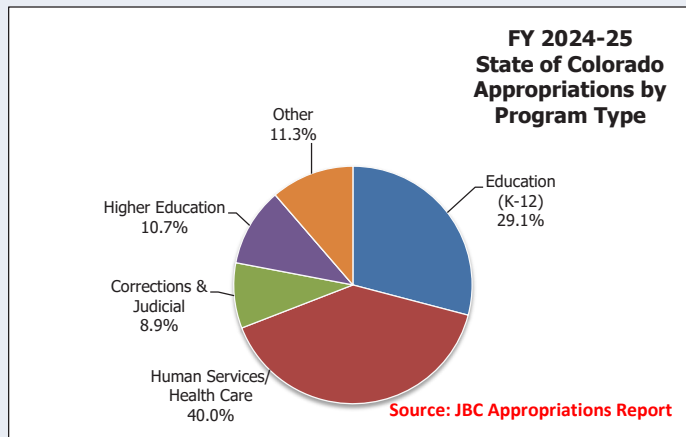
#### TABOR:

Colorado's "Taxpayer's Bill of Rights," also known as TABOR, sets taxing and spending limits on all levels of government in the state, from special districts such as fire protection and schools to county and state governments. TABOR's primary objective is to "restrain the growth of government" as stated in the Colorado Constitution. TABOR has many provisions that impact school funding from the state. The most significant limitations are:



- TABOR requires voter approval of tax increases.
- TABOR limits revenue collections.
- TABOR limits spending.

TABOR also impacts district spending as the law requires that a school district hold 3 percent of expenditures in reserve. This reserve can only be spent in an emergency, which excludes economic conditions, revenue shortfalls, or salary and fringe benefit increases.



#### Amendment 23:

In November of 2000, Colorado taxpayers approved Amendment 23 to the Colorado Constitution. This amendment identifies increases in funding to public elementary and secondary schools at a rate of inflation plus 1 percent for a total of 10 years, through the 2010-11 fiscal year, and then at the rate of inflation thereafter. The amendment's stated goal was to restore public education funding back to 1988 levels.

#### Referendum C:

In November 2005, Colorado voters passed Referendum C, which temporarily overrides the current TABOR revenue formula that limits annual growth in state revenues to the rate of change of inflation plus population. With no increase to current tax rates, Referendum C allows the state to keep and spend the revenue it collects under current rates for five years. The revenue retained by this change will be used to fund healthcare, K-12 and higher education, pension plans for firefighters and police officers, and specifically identified Department of Transportation projects. The referendum's stated goal was to restore state budget cuts since 2001 and reset the base funding level.

## CAPITAL PROJECTS HIGHLIGHTS

In support of the district's critical needs related to aging infrastructure, overcrowding in areas of growth, expanding opportunities for college and career preparedness, and addressing playground accessibility for all, the district has the following capital projects:



### NEW VISTA HIGH SCHOOL

The New Vista rebuild project is on schedule for students and staff to take occupancy during Winter Break 2024. Following the move-in, the final phases of the project will occur in 2025, including asbestos abatement, demolition and site work.

### NEW SCHOOL FOR ENROLLMENT GROWTH IN ERIE

Additional capacity is needed in the northeastern area of the district, which is still growing. Construction of an elementary school in Erie will accommodate new students and relieve overcrowding in other schools within the district.



### CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

BVSD has recognized the need to expand opportunities for college and career preparedness. The plan includes renovations that will 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.

### PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS

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



### BVSD recognized as national leader in sustainability



### SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE

As a leader in whole district sustainability, BVSD creates healthy learning environments and experiences that equip all students and staff with the knowledge and skills to create more equitable and sustainable communities. Learn more about BVSD's sustainability efforts and progress on the [greenBVSD](#) website.

# FINANCIAL RESULTS: GOVERNMENT-WIDE

The government-wide statements provide a broad overview of the district's long-term and short-term financial activities using accounting methods similar to a private-sector organization.

## Statement of Net Position

This is a balance sheet that provides a snapshot of what the district owns in assets and deferred outflows of resources and what the district owes in liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. The net position represents the district's investment in the assets it uses to provide instruction and support services to its students. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the district is improving or deteriorating.

## Statement of Activities

This is an income statement that summarizes amounts received (revenue) and amounts spent (expenses).

GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES			
	2023	2024	
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION			
Total Assets and Deferred Outflows	\$ 1,412,863,616	\$ 1,488,873,846	5.4%
Total Liabilities and Deferred Inflows	\$ 1,818,349,017	\$ 1,882,986,860	3.6%
Total Net Position	\$ (405,485,401)	\$ (394,113,014)	2.8%
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES			
Total Revenue	\$ 572,121,999	\$ 620,692,502	8.5%
Total Expenses	\$ 557,156,208	\$ 609,320,115	9.4%
Change in Net Position	\$ 14,965,791	\$ 11,372,387	-24.0%

## Government-wide Highlights

The net position deficit is due primarily to a June 30, 2024 net position liability of \$760.9 million, related deferred inflows of resources of \$45.1 million, offset by related deferred outflows of resources of \$212.5 million, as required by GASB No. 68, which established reporting requirements for governments that provide their employees with pension benefits. The district reports its proportionate share of participation in PERA, the State's cost-sharing multi-employer defined benefit pension plan. Overall, the net position increased by 2.8%. Total revenue grew by 8.5% due primarily to an increase in property tax revenue of \$59.4M. The 9.4% increase in total expense is due primarily to an 8.0% cost of living adjustment and a 3.4% increase in health insurance costs provided by the district.

## FINANCIAL RESULTS: GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using governmental accounting methods. The figures summarized below are taken from the district's ACFR but are presented here in a non-GAAP format.

### Balance Sheet

The summarized balance sheet below reports the assets available to provide services along with the liabilities (amounts for which the district is obligated to pay in the future) and deferred inflows (primarily assets that do not finance the current fiscal year). The excess of assets over liabilities and deferred inflows provide the fund balance, or net worth, of the district's governmental funds.

### Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance

This is an income statement that provides a summary of receipts and resources received by the district compared to the disbursement and services provided by the district that are accounted for in the governmental funds.

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS			
	2023	2024	
BALANCE SHEET			
Total Assets	\$ 445,391,065	\$ 445,040,249	-0.1%
Total Liabilities and Deferred Inflows	\$ 43,757,739	\$ 69,281,633	58.3%
Total Fund Balance	\$ 401,633,326	\$ 375,758,616	-6.4%
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE			
Total Revenue	\$ 571,250,477	\$ 614,122,916	7.5%
Total Expenditures	\$ 566,000,640	\$ 648,690,921	14.6%
Other Financing Sources (Uses)	\$ 201,614,833	\$ 8,693,295	-95.7%
Net Change in Fund Balance	\$ 206,864,670	\$ (25,874,710)	-112.5%

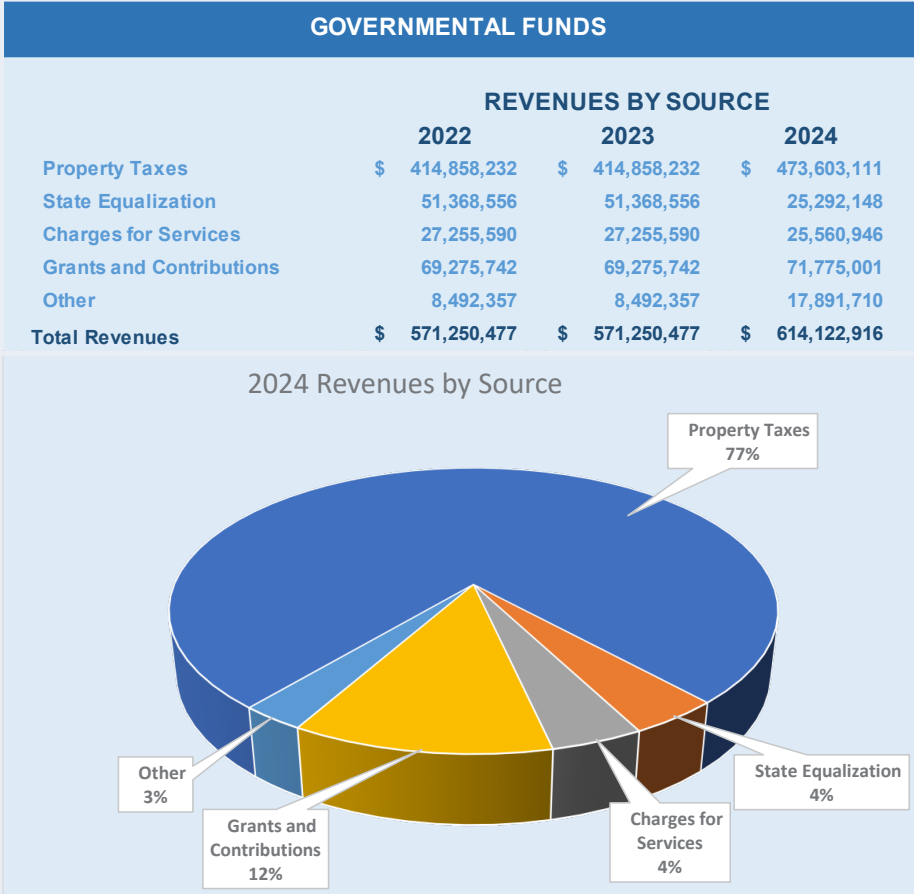
### Governmental Funds Highlights

The 58.3% increase in the district's liabilities is primarily due to \$16.6 million of accounts payable and \$3.4 million of arbitrage payable related to construction projects. The 7.5% increase in revenue is due to an increase in property tax rates. The 14.6% increase in expenditures is due to an increase in capital outlay of \$44.6 million related to construction projects in the Building Fund and \$17.8 million increase in debt service payments. The 95.7% decrease in Other Financing Sources (Uses) is due to the bonds issued in 2023.



# REVENUES: WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM

Boulder Valley School District receives revenue from a variety of sources, described below.



**Property Taxes** are comprised of Local Property Taxes and Specific Ownership Taxes collected by Boulder, Broomfield and Gilpin Counties from which the district receives its portion.

**State Equalization** from the School Finance Act represents the distribution of funding from the State and is determined by the funded pupil count of the district, adjusted by various factors representing district-specific characteristics such as cost of living, enrollment size, etc.

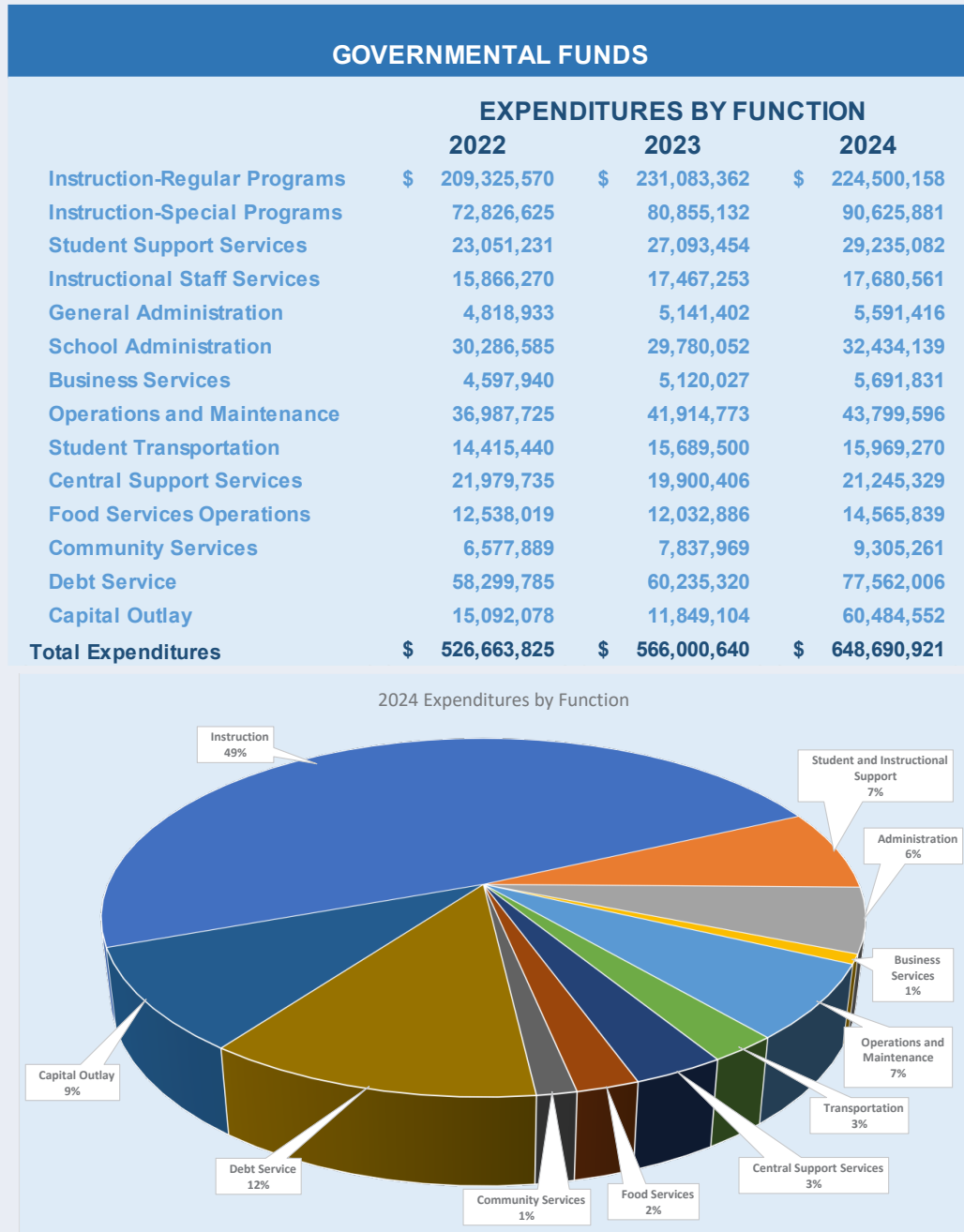
**Grants and Contributions** are resources received from external entities and are generally restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function.

**Charges for Services** are payments received directly by the district for goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function. These revenues include tuition, admissions, rentals, and fees.

**Other Revenues** are derived from a variety of sources including investment earnings and insurance proceeds.

## EXPENDITURES: WHERE THE MONEY GOES

Information on how the district uses the revenue it receives to provide education to its students is provided below.



## **EXPENDITURES: WHERE THE MONEY GOES (continued)**

**Instruction** includes all activities directly associated with the interaction between teachers and students. This consists of teacher salaries and benefits, instructional assistants, and classroom supplies (such as textbooks).

**Student Support** includes activities designed to assess and improve the well-being of students and supplement teaching, such as counselors, nurses, and psychologists.

**Instructional staff services** include activities associated with providing learning experiences for students, such as librarians, curriculum development and professional development.

**General Administration** includes activities concerned with establishing and administering policy in connection with operating the district (superintendent, assistant superintendents, and legal counsel).

**School Administration** includes activities concerned with overall administrative responsibility for a school (principals, assistant principals, and clerical staff).

**Business Services** include activities such as accounting, budget, payroll, purchasing and risk management.

**Operations and Maintenance** relates to maintenance, grounds, custodial and security services of buildings and schools.

**Transportation** includes student transportation for school and extra curricular activities.

**Central Support** includes activities such as planning, research, data processing, and human resources.

**Food Services** include activities to prepare and serve approximately 10,000 meals per day. Community Services provide educational and enrichment opportunities through extended use of BVSD facilities to the community.

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**Debt Service** includes activities related to servicing the long-term debt of the district, including payments of principal and interest.

**Capital Outlay** includes expenditures that result in the acquisition of or addition to capital assets.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report may be addressed to:

Boulder Valley School District, Business Services  
6500 Arapahoe Road, Boulder, CO 80303  
303-447-1010, [www.bvsd.org](http://www.bvsd.org)

# Popular Annual **Financial Report**

 **BVSD Education Center**

**6500 Arapahoe Rd.,**

**Boulder, CO 80303**

**303-447-1010**

**[bvsd.org](http://bvsd.org)**