



**October 5, 2007**



## **October Bond Update**

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### **2006 Bond Program Update**

As the BVSD Key Communicator reported in July, Construction Manager General Contractors (CM/CG) have been hired for six of BVSD's phase one bond projects. The contractors have been working with the design teams to provide cost estimating, phasing plans and scheduling for the projects. This process involves a significant amount of work by both the design and construction teams with input from the school design advisory team (DAT). Working together amongst these teams will insure that the project can be built within project budget and in the desired time frame. The teams look at materials selections, systems to be used in the projects and refinements to project scope to help the district deliver what was promised to the community within the available budget. Currently, most projects are well into the design development phase. For some projects, the design development phase is close to completion. The next step will encompass the construction documents phase, which is a process of creating the drawings and specifications for the contractors to use during the building phase.

### **Implementation of Primavera Contract Manager**

BVSD has purchased licenses to use the Primavera Contract Manager which is a

collaborative, web-based, secure construction management tool helping to manage the 2006 bond program. This multi-user, multi-project database allows project teams to share information in a timely manner and work more efficiently. The district project management team, the Construction Manager General Contractors and architect teams are all trained to use the Primavera Contract Manager system. The teams are finding this new system to be an invaluable tool that helps them work more efficiently.

### **Casey Middle School Update**

The design team and community members have been working to define the overall building program, that takes into account the BVSD educational specifications and results of the school visioning process. Last week, the team visited other middle schools in the Front Range to get a feel for current sustainable design practices and trends in current Middle School design. These efforts will assist the team as they enter into the programming phase of the project.

## **Boulder Valley School District AYP compliance is 90 percent**

The Boulder Valley School District (BVSD) made annual yearly progress (AYP) as defined by the federal No Child Left Behind Act in 90 percent of its targets for the 2006-07 school year for which there are sufficient numbers of students to be counted (133 of the 148 cells), compared to 93 percent last year. The district did not make AYP in reading at the elementary, middle, and high levels nor did it make AYP in math at the high level (see Appendix A). At each missed level and content area Hispanic students, English Language Learners, Students on Meal Assistance and Students with Disabilities did not make AYP with one exception; at the high school level, English Language Learners made AYP in reading. This is the fifth year in a row the district has been placed on "District Improvement" and must develop and submit an improvement plan to the Colorado Department of Education (CDE).

Most notably this year, Angevine Middle School in Lafayette, which has not made AYP in prior years, made AYP by reducing the number of unsatisfactory students from the prior year. Manhattan School of the Arts and Academics also made AYP this year through reducing the number of unsatisfactory students from the prior year. Conversely, Pioneer, and Columbine Elementary Schools did not make AYP for this year and last year, which places these schools on school improvement and school choice options similar to those in

place for University Hill, which also did not make AYP this year.

As the Camera pointed out on October 2, 2007, "The federal law's 100 percent requirement makes it difficult for large districts like Boulder Valley because they have many chances to fail. Groups of students — minority, special-education, second-language and low-income — all are required to meet yearly achievement targets in reading and math."

All schools' results are summarized in Appendix B, [please click here to read Appendix B](#) . The schools that did not make AYP are Columbine, Gold Hill, Pioneer, University Hill, Arapahoe Ridge, Boulder High, Boulder Prep, Centaurus, Fairview High School, Justice High School (middle and high level), Casey, and Centennial. Specific targets missed for these schools and the district are listed in Appendix C, [please click here to read Appendix C](#) .

#### **PLEASE NOTE SPECIAL BULLETIN**

K-12 Camera Reporter, Amy Bounds saw that the newspaper ran a correction to a significant error in the final sentence of her article. The mistake is in this sentence:

"Though Boulder's Fairview High School is rated "excellent" by the state, for example, it failed to meet one of 31 federal targets. Boulder High, also rated "excellent," failed to meet 28 out of 34 targets." (Bold italics added)

#### **In fact Boulder High met 28 out of 34 targets!**

BVSD's experience with this reporter over the past several years has been and continues to be a very positive one – even when a story is critical of district policy or practice. A mistake of this type is extremely rare and BVSD Communications commends her for immediately promising a correction when this error was pointed out.

### **Board makes significant progress in BVSD goal setting**

The Boulder Valley Board of Education is more than half way through its intensive public goal-setting work that was highlighted in the September 2007 BVSD Key Communicator. At their retreat in June, the Board identified the need to streamline BVSD's alignment of district goals, Board policies and superintendent performance expectations.

To accomplish this work, the Board convened in a work session format on Tuesday, August 28 and again on Tuesday, September 25 and will meet again in a special public board work

session on Thursday evening, October 18. Annual district-wide goals will be in the areas of organization, achievement and equity.

These meetings will be broadcast on TV. For residents of Boulder, Erie, Eldorado Springs, Gold Hill, Jamestown, Lafayette, Louisville, Marshall, Nederland, Niwot, Superior and Ward, each of these meetings will be broadcast live on Comcast Cable's channel 22. For Broomfield residents, these meetings, like other BVSD meetings, will be recorded and broadcast by Comcast on channel 8 later in the week.

[Click here to read more about the goal setting at BVSD .](#)

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