

April 8, 2008



**Update from Susan Cousins,
Communications Specialist**

New Casey Middle School begins to take shape

After months of nearly weekly meetings, this week the Casey Middle School design advisory team got to see the concepts and ideas they've been discussing take shape in the schematic design. The schematic design is still preliminary in nature and subject to change, but it is a good representation of how the final building will likely look and function.

The proposed design for the new school shifts the main entry to High Street and creates an educational plaza in front of the school on the southeast corner of the lot. High Street is far less busy than 13th where the main entrance currently faces and was seen as a safer access point. The proposed design for the plaza includes an amphitheatre, outdoor classroom space, and formal and informal play areas. The plaza also provides areas for students to gather before and after school.

This idea of a commons area for students is repeated just inside the main entry with a large open space with tables and chairs which will provide seating during lunches and space for students to gather and study or socialize at other times of the day. The entryway is designed with security in mind—visitors will not be allowed through locked doors until they've checked in and received badges from the receptionist.

One of the prominent features in the design is the incorporation of natural daylight into learning spaces which has been shown to increase health and productivity. To make the best use of available light, most of the core classrooms in the new school are located on in a three-story section on the north side of the building where lighting is more consistent and glare free.

The new building incorporates the south and west facades of the original 1924 structure and behind these walls are the art room, library and electives rooms.

Some of the more innovative features of the design are a rooftop garden, small group spaces, and flexible indoor/outdoor space that converts with a garage-door like feature. The green roof will reduce storm drainage and keep the building cooler.

With the Casey project, BVSD is aiming to achieve LEED gold certification. LEED is an acronym for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. It is the industry-recognized, voluntary rating system that defines high-performing green buildings. The rating system provides proven strategies for achieving a green project.


A number of features in the proposed design will help the school gain points toward certification. Some of these are more obviously 'green,' like the array of photovoltaic panels stationed on the south side of the school. Others, are less obvious, like the garden-level parking garage to be located under the gym. Locating the parking in the same footprint as the building will reduce the hard surface area on the site, which creates less run-off and reduces the 'heat island' effect. Less hard surface area also means more space is preserved for student play areas or outdoor learning. This is especially important on a small site like Casey's. The parking lot reserves priority spaces for alternative fuel vehicles and carpools.

The landscape design calls for the use of pervious materials in paved areas and utilizes low water vegetation throughout the site. The play fields at the school will be replaced with synthetic turf which requires less water and maintenance and fewer chemicals. Because there is only one play field at Casey, it receives much more use than fields at other middle schools in the district. The synthetic turf will allow the field to endure this heavy use.

The opportunity to pursue this certification has been made possible by partnership with the City of Boulder which has committed up to \$1.8 million in Educational Excise Tax (EET) funds. The EET is a voter-approved 14-year-old municipal tax on new Boulder residential development for "development of public education facilities and services."

Casey will be BVSD's first LEED certified school.

An open house to share more information about the design is scheduled for April 23, 6:30 p.m. in the Casey auditorium. All are invited to attend.

For more information on the 2006 Bond Program, go to: <http://bvsd.org/bondproject/Pages/default.aspx> 

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Under New Management

Miguel Villalon, Principal, Pioneer Elementary, effective July 1, 2008.

Board approvals

Bob Jamieson, Benefits Director, was appointed as the BVSD representative and Beth Collins, Workers' Compensation Specialist, was appointed as the alternate representative serving on the Joint School Districts (JSD) Workers' Compensation Pool Board. BVSD is in the Joint School Districts Workers' Compensation Pool with Cherry Creek School District, Aurora Public School District, and Littleton Public School District to provide workers' compensation coverage for its employees.

Suzanne Gage, (d.b.a. Precision FiberOptics, Inc.), substitute teacher, was granted permission for her firm to be placed on a district bidder list to be eligible to perform communications cabling services for the district. She is authorized to sell communications cabling services on an as-requested basis through the term of the 2006 Bond Program.

A resolution was approved that allows for increased purchasing thresholds and additional delegations of authority for the 2006 Bond Program in order for these projects to proceed efficiently and expeditiously.

A lease agreement with Boulder Investment Association was approved for temporary office space at 1630 North 63rd Street, Units 6 - 8. The district has a need for temporary office space as a result of movement of staff members from district programs currently housed in nine classrooms at Platt Middle School. These classrooms are needed to accommodate the majority of Casey enrollment within the building during the 2006 Bond Program construction work at Casey. There is insufficient vacant office space at the Education Center to absorb this staffing move.

Beacon Communications was awarded the bid for two wireless clock systems; one for Southern Hills Middle and one for Fairview High schools. Both schools have: the original clock systems from when the schools were built and both of these systems are continually failing; have portions of the building that are not working properly and are nearing complete failure mode. Both clock systems will be installed during the month of June when school is out. These two projects are in the 2007-08 capital reserve budget.

Several contracts were approved:

RTA Inc. will provide architectural and engineering services for the Arapahoe Ridge High School/Boulder Technical Education Center project in the 2006 Bond Program. As Phase 1 projects have been successfully launched, a decision to accelerate the implementation of appropriate school projects has been made and the Arapahoe Ridge/Boulder TEC project has been moved forward to Phase 1. RTA shall commence its work immediately - with consideration being given to the school's visioning process which began in early 2007

Larson Incitti will provide architectural and engineering services for the Flatirons Elementary School project in the 2006 Bond Program. This project has also been moved forward to Phase 1. The additional classrooms anticipated in the Educational Facility Master Plan will allow more efficient and additional space in which the educational program can be delivered.

Whitestone Construction will do the construction of the Professional Development at the Education Center.

C-Comm., LLC will perform the installation of data and telephone wiring to provide data and telephone connectivity in the areas being added and remodeled at Foothill Elementary School, as well as to upgrade the existing wiring throughout the rest of the school. This is part of the 2006 Bond Program.

Interface Communications CO will provide the installation of data and telephone wiring to provide data and telephone connectivity in the areas being added and remodeled at Fairview High School, as well as to upgrade the existing wiring throughout the rest of the school. This project is part of the 2006 Bond Program.

Kumar & Associates, Inc. will perform materials testing for the Bond projects at Centaurus High School, Lafayette Elementary School and Manhattan Middle School. Material testing includes compaction tests for soil, strength tests for concrete and visual inspection of structural steel. H&H Data Services, Inc. will perform the installation of high speed data wiring at the IT Data Center servicing the entire school district, through the 2006 Bond Program.

Four grants were also approved:

BVSD Special Education - IDEA Part B - Colorado Department of Education - 08

Learning Services - Assessment in Math and Science - National Science Foundation - 08

Learning Services - Title II-A Supplemental - Colorado Department of Education - 08

Special Education - IDEA Preschool - Colorado Department of Education - 08





At the March 18 TAC meeting, we learned the following:

* School Board President Dr. Helayne Jones joined our meeting, offering valuable information on discussions at the state level on a variety of topics, including high school graduation requirements, and possible changes regarding CSAP. BVSD policies relating to these areas are on hold, pending state decisions and mandates.

* Deputy Superintendent Dr. Ellen Miller-Brown joined Dr. King in illustrating the New Reorganization Plan for Intervention and Support. (Read details on the website at bvsd.org/frontnews/Pages/default.aspx.) They explained these changes as an effort to bring expertise “closer and under the control of school decision making teams.” Interventionist “coordinator”

positions will be phased out, freeing up additional FTE for each site. We don’t yet know the “formula” for determining how much FTE goes to each school, but when your building is allotted this interventionist FTE, how it is used will be a site-based decision.

*BVEA is accepting applications from teachers who are interested in serving on TAC. Please contact Wendy Rochman wendy.rochman@bvsd.org or Melissa Tingley mtingley@nea.org for details.



Games Program Gives Girls a Feel for Science

Groups of fourth and fifth-grade girls are learning about bugs, dinosaurs and exotic plants from CU professors in an innovative program designed to encourage their interest and excitement about science. Impact on Education is partnering with the University of Colorado Museum of Natural History to bring BVSD female students to the museum to explore the various fields of science through the after-school GAMES (Girls At the Museum Exploring Science) Program.

Each GAMES session consists of seven weekly after school visits to the University of Colorado Museum of Natural History. While there, the girls explore the sciences of archaeology, botany, entomology, paleontology, and zoology through hands-on activities using real museum specimens and direct interaction with female scientists and museum professionals. In addition to the sessions, the GAMES Program provides transportation to and from school, snacks, follow-up activities, and tool kits for the girls. The program is geared toward low-income students and students of color who are typically underrepresented in scientific careers and the museum-going public, but is open to any fourth or fifth-grade girl in the BVSD.

Maria, who’s in fourth grade, said “[GAMES] was the most fun I ever had doing science.” Flora, also in the fourth grade, said “I wish that science could be like this at school,... no boys to answer all the questions and be distracting.” During the 2007-08 school year, groups from University Hill, Lafayette, Emerald, Escuela Bilingüe Pioneer, Eisenhower, Creekside and Crestview Elementary Schools participated in the program. These schools were funded by Impact on Education. For more information or to learn about how your school group can participate in the GAMES program, contact Cathy Regan at cathy.regan@colorado.edu

Impact on Education is dedicated to increasing student learning and support for public education in the Boulder Valley School District. The organization’s three focus areas are supporting and motivating **excellent teachers**, increasing student interest and achievement in **science, technology and math** and creating opportunities for **“at-risk” students**.

For more information, visit www.ImpactOnEducation.org. 🌱

Donate Blood - Save Lives

BVSD is hosting a blood drive 1:00 to 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 14, in the Education Center Boardroom at 6500 East Arapahoe Road, Boulder. Bonfils Blood Center needs more than 4,000 volunteer donors each week to meet Colorado’s needs. Please contact Susana Aguirre at 303-447-5022 or at susana.aguirre@bvsd.org to schedule an appointment to donate blood. If scheduling an appointment online, please reference site code 2721 and the date of the blood drive when searching for a donation location.

It takes just a little time to make a big difference in the lives of patients in our community. One blood donation can save and enhance the lives of up to three people and your donation can help a kid with cancer feel better or save the life of a car accident victim. Giving blood is one of the easiest ways to volunteer, with each donation typically taking less than an hour.

For more information about Bonfils Blood Center, visit www.bonfils.org. Click "Am I eligible to donate?" for general information about blood donor eligibility. To contact Bonfils’ Donor Relations department, go to www.bonfils.org/contact_us/ 🌱

Hats off!

Congratulations to this week's Superintendent's Honor Roll recipients:

Boulder High Wrestling Head Coach Glenn Kingsley was named the “Camera Wrestling Coach of the Year” after guiding the Panthers to their first Centennial League wrestling title in years.

Boulder High School Boys Basketball Head Coach Alan Schulz was named “Camera Coach of the Year” with good reason. Under his strong direction, the Panthers are once again emerging as force to be reckoned with in Colorado 5A boys’ basketball.

Boulder High School’s Girls’ 200 Medley Relay Team won the **2008 State Swimming Championship:**

Sophie Allen Mackenzie Cooke Alex Scrimgeour Ellie Shetter Alex Kahn Curt Colby, Head Coach Junior Sophie Allen led off with the backstroke and put the Panthers in the lead from the start. A narrow lead was kept over Creek with Senior Makenzie Cooke swimming the breast stroke followed by Alex Scrimgeour swimming the butterfly leg. Anchor, Senior Ellie Shetter swam the freestyle just touching out the team from Cherry Creek by .01seconds. Junior Alex Kahn swam the relay in the prelims to help the Panthers get a solid seed. She generously gave up her spot to allow a senior to swim in the finals. Boulder’s time set a school record with a time of 1:48.92 and is an automatic All American mark.

Congratulations also to **Coach Colby** named the “Camera Girls Swim Coach of the Year” as well as “Colorado Swim Coach of the Year” by the Denver Post. Curt is in his 10th year as coach of the Panther swimmers.

2008 Broomfield High School’s Gabe Gomez won the **4A 112-pound State Wrestling Championship this year.** A junior this year, Gabe has been a top three placer each of his three years. Gabe also just finished seventh ranked in the country, and was recently named as an All American this year. His coach is **Eagles Varsity Head Wrestling Coach Travis Masse**

Broomfield High School’s Girls’ Basketball team won the **2008 4A State Championship.** They concluded their successful defense of their 2007 state title winning after defeating Silver Creek High School this year. The girls’ combined record during the last two years is an amazing 54-2. The highly talented senior core of this extraordinary team will be missed next year, but the Eagles are planning on continuing their proud basketball tradition with the fantastic young talent on the team.

Team members and coaches for the **2008 4A State Champion Eagles** are:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|---|
| Alyssa Bonham | Deborah Davies | Mike Croell, Head Coach |
| Autumn Chase | Alex Biegner | Gary Davies, Assistant Coach |
| Mariah Metoyer | Sophia Rhodes | Liz Davies, Assistant Coach |
| Maddie Reeves | Sarah Hix | John Long, Assistant Coach |
| Ashley Snow | Chaundra Sewell | Brittany Mecham, Assistant Coach |
| Chloe Bouhana | Rena Waters | Bonnie Most, Assistant Coach |
| Bre Burgesser | Anna Prins | Ben Vagher, Assistant Coach |
| | | Malorie Barnes, Manager |
| | | Peyton Wilpolt, Manager |



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Past issues are available on the website at <http://www.bvsd.org/C5/Newsletter>

Centaurus High School’s **Garrett Lanham** and **Dominique Valenzuela** each won a **2008 5A State Wrestling Championship.**

Dominic won the 5A state championship at 125 pounds. He is a three time state placer finishing fourth as a sophomore and second as a junior. In the finals, Dominic faced an opponent from Ponderosa High School that was a three time finalist. He managed to hand him only his second finals loss by a score of 6-5 capping off a terrific high school career.

Garrett won the 5A state championship at 160 pounds. He is a three time state placer finishing third as a sophomore and fourth as a junior. In the finals he beat an opponent from Lakewood that had defeated him the previous weekend at the regional tournament. Garrett scored a convincing 4-0 shutout win to cap off a remarkable high school career.

Congratulations also to their **Varsity Head Wrestling Coach Cisco Gonzales.**



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