PTA Community Meeting Minutes
3.27.2026

Attendees: Jen Bryan, Liz Dial, Lauren Hanson, Anne Badger, Yvonne Steinberg, Luisa Rosen, Alexa Cares, Jeff VanIwarden, Sara Remington, Danielle Weiss, Chandra Valenza, Shannon Mihaly, Alex Bullen, Jeni Moller, Jon Kutas

1. **Welcome**

2. **Volunteer needs – to sign up, visit the CCE Help at Schools page**
    - May 8: Fun and Fitness set-up
    - May 15: Spring Carnival leads
    - May 21: 5th grade promotion (4th and 5th grade parents needed)

3. **Upcoming events**
    - April 10: Family Disco Silent Disco @Relish from 5:30-7:30 PM
    - April 22: Walk/Bike/Roll to school
    - April 22: BVSD Community Engagement Session for Louisville/Superior
    - April 23: Kindergarten Orientation Night
    - April 28: CCAT Meeting

4. **BVSD bond project overview – Stephen Henry**
    - Stephen is the BVSD Project Manager for the Bond, which was passed in 2022.
    - There was $350m to be used across the district; a lot of that went to building the new New Vista, and the rest was spread across schools.
    - Now the funds go to critical needs, such as HVAC, flooring, outside areas, etc.
    - Jeff, Luisa and Mrs. Sowash are on the design team.
    - Most of the money will go toward construction costs into summer 2027.
    - CCE has a nice facility, and we already have the bond funding amounts for our building.
    - Stephen doesn't have any different information about declining enrollment. Programmatically, the district cannot move money between schools, so there is a lot of uncertainty with the declining enrollment decisions.

5. **Enrollment and FTE updates – Jeff VanIwarden**
    - Enrollment updates for 2026-27
        - The official capacity for CCE is 492; we house the district OT office, so that square footage comes off our capacity report (the true number without OT is 516).
        - We are currently at 249 instead of 256 (the previous projection) for next year.
        - Districts are experiencing a 2% decline rather than a 1% decline, as previously projected.
    - FTE updates for 2026-27
        - Jeff received the updated FTE information right before spring break.

- CCE lost an instructional para, which was expected, as well as some Gifted and Talented time. They will redistribute that work and notify those staff who are impacted. The PTA will be able to provide funding to supplement those roles.
- CCE was also staffed at three rounds across the 4th and 5th grades, rather than two rounds for each grade.
    - 4th grade has 36 kids enrolled, and 5th grade has 48 kids enrolled. The maximum contracted number of students is 33 students per class for 4th and 5th grade.
- There are three options:
    - Three straight 4th/5th mixed grade classes where the grade level ratios are even across classes.
        a. During math, for example, kids go to the appropriate content area person, which would require additional staffing.
    - One class of 4th/5th mixed and then one 4th grade class and one 5th class.
    - One big class for 4th grade and two traditional classes for 5th grade.
        a. The school would then be out of contract for staffing because 4th grade would be over 33 students.
        b. We would still need additional staff.
        c. With the advanced math block, students are pulled out anyways so that reduces the number of students during math.
        d. Students would still be split out for specials.
        e. There is an option for a double-sized classroom to accommodate a large class.
- There are about 9 BVSD schools that will have mixed grades for 2026-27.
- To get the fourth round added back in, CCE would need about 87 students total across the two grades. Ideally, we would get more 5th graders to push to three rounds.
- Decision-making process
    - Jeff will work with grade-level staff and instructional leadership to determine the best student experience. Jeff also wants input from parents. We will not know the final decision until CCE staff return in August because student numbers may change over the summer.
- Communication strategy:
    - Jeff will send an email that shares information about the potential options.
    - The goal will then be to share the first-choice option but recognize that numbers may change over the summer and the strategy may change.
    - Jeff will schedule another meeting with parents in the next couple of weeks in the evening to discuss this further.
- Potential attrition:
    - In theory, there is late open enrollment, but there would have to be an opening at another school that would not change the number of rounds.
    - Students could also leave for private schools or other academic institutions.

- Jeff met with the other principals who are experiencing this impact. Other schools have said it is good that CCE has options for a large class to avoid mixed grades. Some schools do not have the same options or flexibility.
- CCE could have had to move to mixed grades a long time ago because this is all tied to declining enrollment (low birth rate, cost of living, etc.).
- Paraeducator support:
  - Some paras are licensed teachers.
  - Paras cannot go with a small group for more than 30 minutes, contractually.
  - It would cost about $15,000 of supplemental funding from the PTA to support a para for five hours per day.
  - There are also the retired teachers, who are licensed.
  - The instructional leadership team will review options and the cost of benefits to identify what level of support is needed.