



**BOULDER VALLEY**  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Coal Creek CCAT Meeting | February 25, 2022

# School Finance Matters

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# State Overview: School District Funding

- How does BVSD receive money? How's that decided?
  - Funding vs. Revenue
    - **Funding - How much and how it is decided?**
      - Total Program Funding
        - Per Pupil Revenue - October 1 Student Count
        - School Finance Act Funding Formula
      - Categorical Funding - reimbursements
      - Mill Levy Overrides - local elections
      - Grants - state and federal
      - Capital Bonds - local elections



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# State Overview: School District Funding

- How does BVSD receive money? How's that decided?
  - Funding vs. Revenue
    - **Revenue - Where does the money come from?**
      - Total Program Funding
        - Local Property Tax - 26.023 mills (2.68 - 27.0)
        - Specific Ownership Tax (car registrations)
        - State Share
      - Local property tax elections
        - Mill levy overrides
        - Capital bonds
      - Other state revenue (categorical revenue, grants)
      - Federal revenue (grants, Medicaid reimbursements)



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# State Overview: The “Negative Factor”

- What is the negative factor and why do we still have it?
  - Renamed the “Budget Stabilization Factor”
  - Mechanism to reduce the state’s General Fund investment in K-12 education
  - Competing needs for government services
  - Constitutional restrictions for increasing revenue
  - Colorado voters are generally tax averse



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# State Overview: Colorado Funding Adequacy

- Why are we a state that is so underfunded? Is there anything we can do about that?
  - Competing needs for government services
  - Constitutional restrictions for increasing revenue
  - Direct voting on state-wide revenue increases
    - Failed ballot measures - direct K-12 funding
      - Proposition 101 - 2010
      - Amendment 66 - 2014
      - Amendment 73 - 2018
      - Proposition CC - 2019
    - Successful ballot measures - indirect K-12 funding
      - Amendment B - 2020 (Gallagher repeal)



# State Overview: District Funding Variance

- When I've looked at data BVSD receives less money than other cities why is that? Eg. Colorado Springs

<b>2021-22 Funding</b>	<b>Boulder</b>	<b>St. Vrain</b>	<b>Colorado Springs*</b>
Funded Pupil Count*	28,828.9	30,848.5	24,035.3
At-Risk Count	5,934.7	8,829.5	14,043.7
At-Risk Percent	21.1%	28.4%	53.2%
At Risk Funding	\$6.7M	\$9.6M	\$16.4M
Total Program*	\$260.1M	\$271.7M	\$257.3M
Per Pupil Revenue	\$8,834	\$8,745	\$8,780

\*Net of state Charter Institute students



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# BVSD Overview: Funding Our Schools

- How does BVSD fund our schools?
  - Staffing (FTE) allocations
    - Classroom teachers
    - Art/Music/PE specials
    - Paraeducators (instructional and healthroom)
    - Student support services (teacher librarians, counselors)
    - Administration
    - Custodians
  - Differentiated Funding Support
    - Weighted and differentiated by student and school need
  - School Resource Allocation
    - Operating dollars



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# BVSD Overview: Funding Our Schools

- How does BVSD fund our schools?
  - Program allocations (staffing/FTE)
    - Special Education
    - English Language Development
    - Career and Technical Education
    - Gifted and Talented
    - Preschool
    - Athletics





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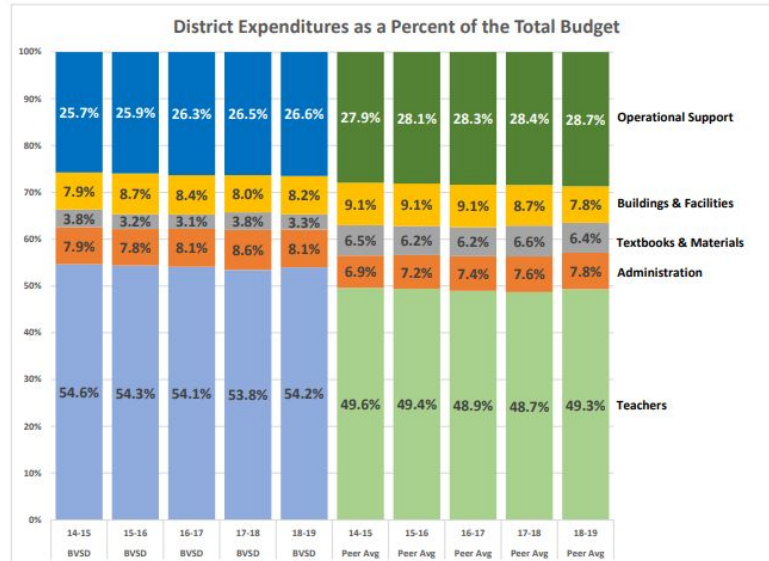
# BVSD Overview: Funding Our Schools

- How does BVSD fund our schools?
  - Operational expenditures
    - Maintenance
    - Utilities
  - Food Services
  - Transportation
  - Technology
  - Property & liability insurance
  - District services
    - Human Resources
    - Communications
    - Business Services
    - Legal



# BVSD Overview: Staff Compensation

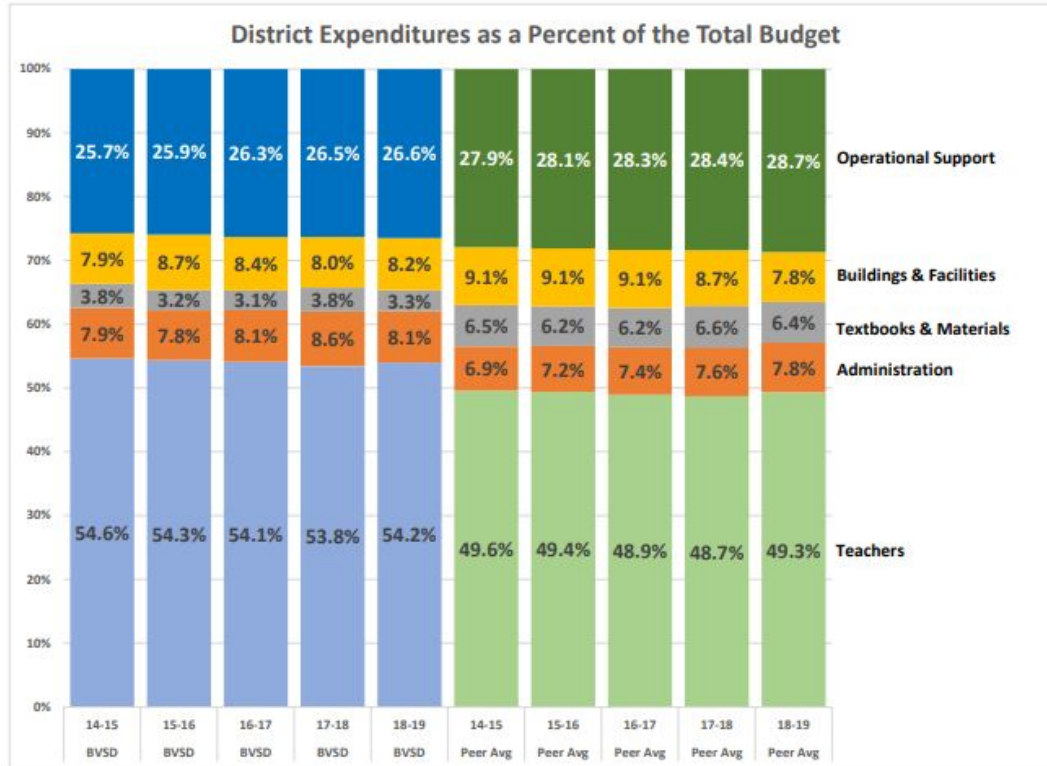
- How are we able to pay our teachers so much compared to everyone else and how do we keep that going (to get the best and brightest which we definitely have) and lower class size?



Source:  
 Colorado Department of Education:  
 School Accountability Report  
 Pupil Membership  
 District Staff Statistics



# BVSD Overview: Staff Compensation



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# BVSD Overview: Staff Compensation

- How are we able to pay our teachers so much compared to everyone else and how do we keep that going (to get the best and brightest which we definitely have) and lower class size?
  - 25% General Mill Levy override - \$74.4M
  - Transportation override - \$7.3M
  - Operations and Technology override - \$31.3M



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# BVSD Overview: Funding Priorities

- What are your main focus areas for funding schools? For example we keep on hearing that people are frustrated by the high student to teacher ratio; can we do anything about that?
  - Staff compensation for hiring and retention
  - Targeted student needs and populations
    - Differentiated funding model



# BVSD Overview: Staff Retention

Position	2019-20 Head Count	2020-21 Head Count	Diff	People Returned	People Left	New People	Turnover Rate
Administrators	69	68	-1	63	6	5	8.7%
Crafts/Trades/Services	642	588	-54	541	101	47	15.7%
Instructional Support	209	203	-6	168	41	35	19.6%
Office/Administrative Support	281	265	-16	241	40	24	14.2%
Other Support	154	151	-3	135	19	16	12.3%
Paraprofessional	832	801	-31	613	219	188	26.3%
Principals	101	104	3	96	5	8	5.0%
Professional-Other	188	193	5	170	18	23	9.6%
Teachers	1,873	1,832	-41	1,706	167	126	8.9%
Total Staff	4,349	4,205	-144	3,733	616	472	14.2%



# BVSD Overview: Staff Retention

District	2018-19 Teacher Turnover	2018-19 Avg Teacher Salary
Poudre	8.6%	63,155
BVSD	8.9%	82,972
Cherry Creek	10.5%	76,759
Adams 12	11.0%	68,038
St. Vrain	11.3%	64,708
Littleton	12.0%	70,044
Jefferson County	13.6%	64,077
Douglas County	13.7%	60,649
Colorado Springs D11	13.9%	57,440
Denver	15.3%	68,522
Aurora	15.8%	67,532

Average teacher salary is a combination of pay scale, workload, educational level and teaching experience. Attracting experienced staff with a higher pay scale, having higher retention long-term and hiring staff with a greater concentration of advanced degrees will lead to higher average salary.



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# BVSD Overview: Funding Priorities

- What are your main focus areas for funding schools? For example we keep on hearing that people are frustrated by the high student to teacher ratio; can we do anything about that?
  - Strategic Plan and Strategic Initiatives
  - Academic Return on Investment - Review programs to ensure the best use of resources
  - Declining enrollment - Boulder, Front Range, Colorado and national trends





# BVSD Overview: Funding Priorities

Challenging, engaging,  
relevant instruction



Responsive and  
customized supports to  
best serve students



Engage the talent  
and passion of our  
community



Positive and inclusive  
culture



## Strategic Initiatives

- Standards based scope and sequence
- Common aligned Instructional practices
- Maximize school-based administrators' leadership capacity
- Adaptive Assessment Framework

- Tiered system of school requirements, supports, and accountability metrics
- Needs-based allocation system
- Monitor and assess academic return on investment (ARO I)

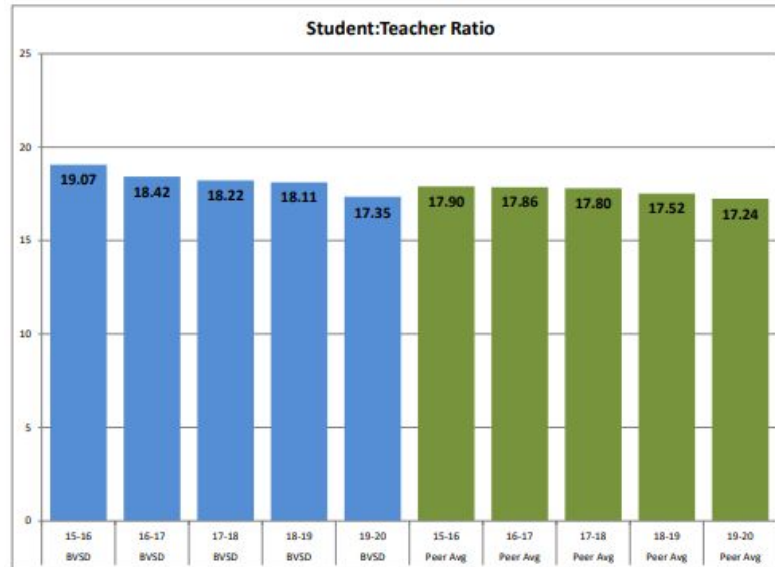
- School-family connectedness
- Strategically manage existing partnerships and build new partnerships
- Meaningful career discovery and postgraduate preparation

- Culturally responsive principles and best practices that challenge inequity and bias
- Employee wellness and student efficacy



# BVSD Overview: Student:Teacher Ratio

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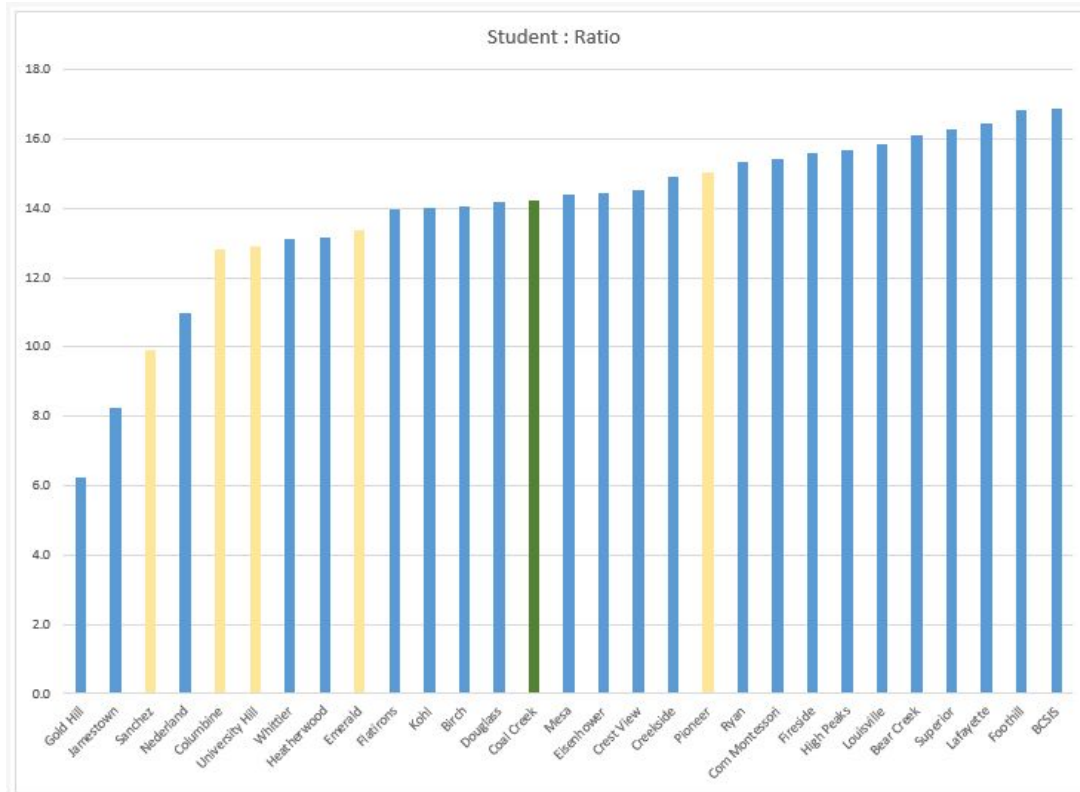


## CDE data include:

- Preschool-12 student membership;
- All district schools, inclusive of charter schools;
- The CDE category of “Teachers” captures all Regular Education Teachers, Special Education Teachers and Title I Teachers.



# BVSD Overview: Student:Teacher Ratio



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# BVSD Overview: 2014 Bond Program

- How has the bond been going?
  - 97% complete
    - expenditures compared to total program
  - 62 projects completed
    - of 63 in master plan
  - \$677M
    - expenditures through December 31, 2021
  - Final Citizen's Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC) - 03/08/22
  - [bond.bvsd.org](http://bond.bvsd.org)



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# BVSD Overview: Local Funding Options

- Do you see us asking for more money?
  - Limited local funding options
    - Transportation Mill Levy Override
      - \$7.3M current mill
      - ~\$6M additional funding available
    - Operations and Technology Override
      - 4 mills and \$31.3M
      - Additional funding for new items
  - State funding options
    - Legislative advocacy
    - 2022 ballot measures



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# Call To Action: Stay Engaged

- As a parent community what can we do? How can we help?
  - Advocate for all students
  - Communicate with friends, family, and community members
  - Seek and share information from reliable sources
  - Help change the narrative about public education

