

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Written comments were accepted by online form submission from 12 p.m. on Friday, August 8, 2025 through 12 p.m. on Tuesday, August 12, 2025. The following comments followed all the posted guidelines listed on the form and below.

- Comments are limited to 1,000 characters. One comment per person, comments listed oldest first.
- The board will not hear charges or complaints against any district employee. District staff and board members cannot be named specifically in testimony.

First Name	Last Name	Association with BSD	Comments
Charlie	Henderson	Parent/Guardian	I am writing today regarding the ongoing investigation against a Beaverton school board member as it relates to posting pro Palestinian content online. When I heard about this investigation, I was completely floored that this Board would not only use tax dollars to go after a fellow Board member, but that it was done so over online comments calling out the ongoing genocide of the Palestinians. From my perspective, this illustrates a major problem that many in this community have, which is that they are more concerned with decorum and language than calling out literal war crimes being done with our tax dollars. Thus, as a Beaverton taxpayer, I demand to know precisely what it is that the five members saw that they thought that was worthy launching a McCarthy style investigation against one of their peers. Lastly, if the findings and decision from this investigation are not held publicly and in person, it shows a clear cowardice and lack of moral and intellectual clarity.
Rebe	Colasurdo	Parent/Guardian	I urge you to seriously consider all options prior to closing schools. I suggest you strongly consider the ramifications the district will endure should multiple school closures occur. I fear many families will choose to leave the district over sending their children to a 750 student elem, & this will hinder the Beaverton public school system even more when declining enrollment is already an issue. A few of the schools up for closure are Title 1 and it should be taken into consideration how a large school will impact the districts ability to serve all parts of our community. I recommend you find edu experts that will revise the outdated "ed spec" of 750 students per elem school. We must explore all alternatives before closures. This includes boundary changes & a RH K-8. The LRFP should present MULTIPLE

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			proposals and allow AT LEAST 6 wks of public input prior to any board vote. The voices of the community & the lives that will be affected by closures matter and deserve to be heard.
Jessica	E	Parent/Guardian	<p>As you continue to have conversations about facility usage, I encourage you to look at redrawing boundaries for ALL schools before closing schools. Several overcrowded schools in the district could have students transferred to lower-enrollment schools, allowing both buildings to remain open and benefiting all students. Options that were previously shared also showed closing schools causing enrollment at other schools to be over 100% capacity. We should not be closing schools when there are buildings that are or could be over 100% capacity.</p> <p>On another note, I would also encourage you to look at how FTE is allocated for school counselors. Currently, counselors are staffed at elementary schools 1:750 students. School counselors are essential to students and having proper availability to meet the needs of students is important. This staffing ratio does not allow that - especially for buildings with 700 students who are then only allocated 1 school counselor.</p>
Ryan	Richardson	Other Community Member	Beaverton School District exists for the betterment of the community. That's through good education, not private sell-outs. Through working with teachers and unions, not against them. Through listening to the voices in our community, not silencing them like the "investigation" into [REDACTED] The district only has so much money that is spent on education, it's irresponsible to waste that precious little on undermining our students, teachers, an administrators on expensive private sell-outs, poor teacher conditions, and private witch hunts. That's not what the school should be for. Those working for BSD should be serving the community, not self serving. We're raising the minds of the next generation. We must give them their best chance for their sake, not just our own.
Lizzie	Russell	Parent/Guardian	The proposal to close small elementary schools , specifically Raleigh park, is absolutely ludicrous. The gaslighting of bsd officials claiming that mega schools like Raleigh hills are an improvement is insane. Children, especially elementary aged, need focused, small-group support and instruction. Five, six and seven year olds are not equipped to face a school of 750 kids. Has anyone on the board making these recommendations ever actually spent any time with a child of that age? I understand you want us to buy into "bigger is better" bc it fits your budget goals, but bigger is WORSE and will result in lower school performance, higher carbon impact (think of all the walkers that would then have to drive or bus), loss of community, and more. Think of the title 1 kids that will be completely lost in the giant shuffle. I've attended large schools and small schools, small is superior. We will move out of district if RP closes and many others we know will too. It's not money, it's community.
Christine	Meliza	Parent/Guardian	I feel it is IMPERATIVE to look at boundaries for schools before closing schools. The boundaries on the east side make no sense anyhow, splitting peer groups 2-3 times as they progress through elementary, middle and high school. Let's redo boundaries to alleviate overcrowding at some schools, and fill schools that have seen enrollment decline. While student experiences may not be different between

			large or small schools, parents are the ones supporting those students. If the parents aren't having a good feeling about their child's school, they are more likely to pull them out all together. As a parent of a child at these small schools, I feel more able to support teachers and staff because I have more interaction with them. Parents can support students that are not their own because families create support groups at these small schools to support each other and student success. Surveys are not capturing what SMALL COMMUNITIES can do and ARE DOING holistically to support kids.
Brad	Russell	Parent/Guardian	Kids that are struggling get lost in big schools. If any kid is esl, coming from a challenging home life, or struggling in any other way, they will disappear and fall through the cracks at a large school. You may advertise "big school = more resources" but we all know that is not true. Your budget concerns will ruin the lives of children who don't have the parent support necessary to navigate bc the giant school is too busy managing the masses. Nobody wants a big school. We all want small community schools. You are blatantly ignoring the best interests of every kid in the district if you close small community schools. It is clear that you are selfish and want to pursue your own interests. There are so many other options. Rework boundaries, offer vouchers, convert RH back to k-8. You are insane to think that anyone wants a mega school. This is not Texas or California, we are Oregon. Listen to the families not your greedy management. Families do not want the mega school. How is it a ????
Nicole	Betz	Parent/Guardian	Last week I attended the Long Range Facility Planning Committee. As a parent who actively attended several BRIC Meetings last spring I felt that the LRFP committee's agenda does not align with the goals BRIC was presenting. BRIC presented the need to find a solution for the whole district. However at the LFRP meeting when members asked about a whole district solution, they were redirected to think about it as a solution for the south part of Beaverton School District. There was also a focus on elementary schools, the committee was given no information on Middle or High School needs. Can you please clarify the goal of the Long Range Facility Planning Committee? If the district needs to reduce costs with shrinking enrollment then the LRFP should be looking at how we can best use all of our facilities and not just the elementary schools?
Sarahlynn	Betz	Student	I was sad and frustrated that they separated us into two different Middle schools. The transition from Elementary to Middle school would not have been as intimidating if I knew I would have my friends to help me feel like I belong. Having friends to lean on as we went through the transition would have allowed me to be more successful. I worked hard to make new friends, but it is sad to realize that in another couple years I would lose those friends when they will go to different high school than me. I will then have to make new friends all over again. How does this help me feel like I belong and that the administration is thinking about students like me?
Patrick	Abell	Parent/Guardian	Facilities should not lead the discussion on school closures. Let's reevaluate the outdated 2014 Ed-spec. Let's consider redrawing district lines. Building 750 kid mega elementary schools is bad for

			students, bad for teachers and bad for parents. Let's be honest and collaborative about ways to create schools that are optimally sized for student success.
Peter	Jewett	Other Community Member	Raleigh Park is a wonderful school. The students have a diversity of needs and backgrounds, but all are known as individuals and supported by multiple adults, be they teachers, staff, or parent volunteers. The smaller size of the school facilitates this "knowing" and I believe it is really important for each student's development both academically and socially. I worry that in a larger school many of these students might fall through the cracks. Thank you for considering the many stories being shared by the Raleigh Park community. The school is a special place for many and I hope that you find a way to keep it in operation.
Marie	Soller	Other Community Member	Raleigh Park Elementary is a school that works for kids, families and the community. Please don't close it down without considering deeply what is best for kids and the community, and if there is actually a rational reason to shutter a school that has been so successful for so long.
Vicki	F	Other Community Member	I am greatly concerned about the potential closure of community schools. Had I known this was what the fine print meant, I would have voted no on the school bond measure. This has felt like a bait and switch and the cart is in front of the horse right now. Please update K-5 School Size Standards first. The 2014 "ed spec" of 750 students is outdated. Facilities and finance should not be the deciding factor rather student outcomes should be. More alternatives (e.g., boundary changes, program moves, and staffing updates) should be considered first. The LRFP should present multiple proposals and allow at least six weeks for public input before any board vote. Public comment periods should not coincide with the busy winter holidays. The LRFP should be required to provide recommendations that improve conditions for all students, including those in overcrowded large schools. Closures are a last resort. Public trust needs to be rebuilt and your work transparent. Thank you.
Mitzi	Sandman	Other Community Member	<p>As BSD moves forward with the building of Raleigh Hills to a 770+-student capacity and considers the repercussions of an elementary building of that size, I urge the Administration and the Board to make any and all decisions regarding the usage of that building and others in our District not just from a facilities point of view, but a holistic view centered on student learning, belonging, and achievement.</p> <p>My understanding is that the current Long Range Facility Planning Committee (LRFP) is focused on the physical facilities in BSD but will be making recommendations that obviously greatly affect the education and overall success of our students. Educators and specialists in Teaching and Learning need to be consulted, not just facilities and operations specialists scoped with the efficient management of the physical buildings.</p>
Leticia	Gomez	Parent/Guardian	School Board, you must do all in your power to prevent the sale of Beaverton school land. We're talking hundreds of acres on the chopping block, land that our community can't afford to lose to private equity. School land and their facilities and assets MUST stay in the hands of the public IN PERPETUITY. Do

			<p>NOT sell off public land. There are an invaluable amount of public assets located on our school grounds, like trees, sports fields, community gardens, and not to mention our historic school buildings. Other school districts like Portland and Hillsboro manage to reuse any closed school facilities for a community use. It is absolutely rotten that BSD is looking to sell off schools after they close them, which is terrible by itself. It's also outrageous that the Board has so far rubber stamped everything the BSD staff have put in front of them. Don't sell out your constituents for a quick buck, especially the students in the neighborhoods you are planning to destroy their schools.</p>
Lindsay	G	Parent/Guardian	<p>In recent communication regarding Long Range Facilities Planning committee's conversations, it seems that the scope of focus is very narrow. It is imperative to consider student outcomes and student well-being in the decision. I understand that financial concerns need to be considered, but making a decision to close schools without considering alternatives, as well as not including other points of data, such as student success, is a disservice to students. The mission of the district to Belong. Believe. Achieve. does not appear to be truly valued if a decision regarding school closures does not consider what students need to belong, believe, achieve. I implore the district to consider the students and families and the significant impact that school closures will have when making the decision. This should be more than a narrow, financial decision.</p>
Isaac	Lamb	Parent/Guardian	<p>Based on the last Long Range Facilities Planning Committee meeting minutes, I am troubled to see that the LRFPC is already focusing their work on small schools mostly in the SE quadrant before settling on "north stars" from the community listening sessions. This directly flouts promises the district made about the deliberate steps of this process, and it further erodes the trust that parents like me have that this process isn't a smokescreen for school closure/consolidation. As Board Members have said publicly, school closures should be a LAST resort, not a first. Why are other solutions - boundary changes, open enrollment, staffing models - not being considered? Why is the LRFPC plowing ahead as if the under enrollment of schools isn't tied to the over enrollment of other schools? The LRFPC should be looking at the district as a whole, as stated in their charter, and finding solutions that address all needs. And they should be looking at qualitative data, not just dollars, to do so!</p>
Stephanie	Silver	Parent/Guardian	<p>As a member of the LRFP Committee, I'd like the district to direct us to form a separate, education-expert-led group to update the 2014 K-5 educational specification. The spec was written in 2014 when a prior LRFP committee struggled to find land in a growing district, and needed to find a way to build two schools on one plot. This dynamic has changed and enrollment is now shrinking, and we must reevaluate whether 750 really is the optimal size to build in our district. Beaverton's ed spec is an outlier in the region, 20% larger than the next largest (Portland, Seattle, Salem-Keizer all build between 400-600). If this spec does not change, Beaverton will struggle to remain competitive in attracting and retaining families. Education experts who understand how to center and achieve optimum student outcomes should lead; facilities/finance should advise. The community is calling for this review, with ed spec changes mentioned in 30% of comments gathered in the recent LRFP survey.</p>

Claire	Reneau	Parent/Guardian	<p>Dear Board Directors,</p> <p>I am writing to you as a concerned parent and educator.</p> <p>As a former deployable sub. I had the opportunity to sub in over 40 schools in 2.5 years. The sites that had the smallest footprints and class sizes were without a doubt the most stable environments for students and staff. These elementary, middle, and high schools felt like second homes. In a world where our communities are divided by increasing demands on parents' limited free time, intimate learning settings are crucial for ensuring each child is seen, heard, and known by every adult on campus.</p> <p>I have been on several large campuses where an announcement is made about a "special guest" from the central office, and that's the cue for the dog and pony show to begin. Extra hands are on duty to help the students with explosive behaviors, and all other children are incentivized with treats to be their best selves. None of this is needed at the smaller, fully staffed schools.</p> <p>Please, keep schools small.</p>
Sara	S	Parent/Guardian	<p>BSD is severely mishandling the entire facilities topic. Community trust has only further eroded after clearly biased videos were released, then despite comments largely challenging BSD's position, the LRFP Committee continues to charge ahead on its mission to close schools. The committee has not been open to clear data, discussion about student impact, unintended consequences of these decisions, a broader look at the whole district instead of narrow scope on SE elementary schools, or a revisit of the Ed Spec to confirm the right size for a school — which is probably somewhere in between the tiny schools and mega schools. BSD's blatant disregard for facts, logic, and families only serves as a further reminder that you were never listening. Enrollment will continue to decline, but it is a reflection of how BSD chooses to operate as a tax-payer funded public school district. Families with means will remove their students, and the district will be left in an even worse situation.</p>
Megan	McMillan	Parent/Guardian	<p>I have yet to hear an answer on how the district is planning to address the transportation nightmare that is the new Raleigh Hills school. Our walking and biking route would now cross a highway and require walking through a huge parking lot. Our driving route requires navigating a notoriously dangerous intersection followed by waiting in standstill rush hour traffic on a one lane road. Did no one consider the implications of building a massive capacity school in that location? Doesn't give me any confidence in the district's decisions when you can't even get the basics right.</p>
Karin	Stark	Parent/Guardian	<p>Hello members of the board. I sincerely believe that you all are here for the students and want what is best for them. I am concerned though, that we will not get what is best for students when the LRFPC considers closures as first resort, operates on a non-research-backed ed spec, and does not include experts in education when making its recommendations for the superintendent. With the board's history of never voting against recommendations brought forward, this feels like a forgone conclusion.</p>

			Despite several of you telling me that schools will not close, I--and the community--does not believe you. We do not see authentic consideration and exploration of "all other options". We have not seen the board exercise checks and balances. I hope with all my heart--for the schools overcrowded and under-enrolled schools and all the others that are in danger of being closed on this trajectory--that I am wrong. Please prove us wrong. Even out the enrollment distribution by changing boundaries.
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