

Candidate	Background/Platform	What are the top 3 issues facing BVSD?	How do you feel about the "healthy lunch" program? Should the district focus on nutrition or on reading, writing and math?	What is your position on the teachers union contract, performance pay and merit pay?	Where should the district make budget cuts in the next year?	What is your position on focus schools? What is your understanding of desatratification?	Do you support school choice, open enrollment and charters? Did your own children go to neighborhood schools?
Tom Miers District E	Wife is a special ed teacher; he is a Ball employee. All 3 sons went to BVSD. Running because he has an interest in volunteering; has served on a couple boards: HOA, church, boy scouts. Ready to give back to the community.	Budget. 90% of budget is for staff compensation. Need to become more efficient and make unpopular choices. Need trust with the community.	Really questions whether this is a good use of money. \$15,000 for menu printing?	Must understand each others' needs and limitations. Teacher morale is very low right now - they are not feeling appreciated. However, teachers get step pay each year.	How to retain core educational skills? How do we prepare students for a future we cannot conceive of?	Focus and charter schools have a lot of potential to innovate. However, accountability is a problem there. They tend to cause segregation. These are very emotional issues, and community trust around them is an issue.	All his children went to neighborhood schools. He also realizes that some children have needs that not all schools can provide for - so choice is important.
Jennie Belval District F	Her family (2 children) benefitted from BVSD; she wants to give back. Has been a volunteer in the schools, worked on capital improvement and bond issue; chair of citizen's bond oversight committee. Primary goal: excellent education for all levels of children. Wants more parent involvement.	Budget; achievement gap (a "civil rights issue"); need to address TAG, too; relationship with teachers.	Favors good nutrition, excited by offering breakfast at schools. May need some tweaking - more choices, more food.	Mediation is good; teacher morale is important. Merit pay is iffy because teachers may not know how to raise achievement without outside support and solutions.	If economy recovers, the school budget will not because of constitutional constraints. She wants community input because ALL taxpayers fund schools.	Supports parent choice, but also neighborhood schools. Charter schools have a lack of accountability. Voters have no control over these schools. We need to have neighborhood schools provide some resources that charters do. She applauds desatratification to strengthen neighborhood schools and communities.	Supports both choice and neighborhood schools. Her kids went to neighborhood schools. Doesn't believe in one-size-fits-all education. Charters have an accountability problem.
John Kettling District B	Has volunteered many hours for years with children and engineering programs. His main position: settle the teacher's contract. Needs to be a good basis for communication between District B and superintendent's office.	teacher contract; seek a positive mode to spend limited \$; Columbine/Uni Hill mess; communication with Board.	Shouldn't assume one size fits all. If you take certain foods off the table, may be sorry.	Teacher pay increases are NOT optional. They must be part of any increase in district income.	Glad we have competent management at superintendent level; the Board is just advisory. We need to fill every seat, every building; draw people back to the district. Need to do more with less, and gather every possible \$ from donors.	Focus schools need to bring in outside professionals to enhance teaching. Focus schools WITHIN a larger school can work. Desatratification is NOT working for Columbine and Uni Hill. Need to draw high scorers in.	Supports open enrollment because kids need to have options. Charter schools are okay if there is a good reason for them, but why add more?
Louise Benson District F	Has lived in Broomfield for last 20 years, been on many committees, involved in local politics. Time to give back now that children are done with school. Was inspired by solving a problem at a BVSD school with a small group. She supports small neighborhood schools, "far-flung" communities, elementary summer school to help close achievement gaps. In favor of "restorative discipline", not "zero tolerance"	Achievement gap - plan is not fleshed out enough and we can look at other, similar plans; listening to community to restore trust; budget	Hopes program will be self-sustaining if kids eat and pay. Absolutely YES - teach children about healthy eating IN school.	Would like teachers to accept offer now and when economy improves, add a professional pay scale. Walking out is unprofessional. She is not a fan of merit pay.	Should freeze all high salaries at the administrative level. Or reduce them by 5%. Try to draw enrollment back into the district. Transportation can be cut since it's redundant with RTD. People have to work harder.	Desatratification works if neighborhood families come BACK to the schools, so resources need to be put back in to attract population back.	Open enrollment and school choice is the law in CO. The charter movement is because of failing public schools. BUT neighborhood schools are best for the community. In focus schools, there can be a "balkanizing" of the schools. Accountability is an issue with charters.
Jim Pollicita District E	Has a PhD in Education, has worked in Universities (assistant Dean at CU), Peace Corps, non-profits. Running now because new people need to step up and serve. No current platform because is listening to people's ideas. Biggest complaint he gets is people don't feel heard. Need to address budget. Focus on excellence, equity, integrity, engagement.	Coming to terms with teachers is most immediate, important; excellence is not spread around evenly; fiscal picture.	Not sure effort is palatable, but is laudable. We should educate children, but also need to recognize cultural difference. We may be missing this.	Need to mutually commit to being in classroom and supporting teacher in the classroom. Merit pay is problematic because measuring outcomes is hard.	BVSD has steady to dropping student enrollment so state funding per student could drop. Most \$ go to salaries. Look as far away from the kids as possible to make cuts.	Focus and charter schools are about providing options. Desatratification involves making these options understandable and available to everyone. He would like to see every student bilingual.	He is all for choice. BVSD has done a great job providing options. But doesn't want to add more. Public schools DO give children what they need. The wealthy always get what they want, but all kids should get what they need. His kids went to neighborhood schools.
Lesley Smith District B	Been in Boulder for 20 years as a scientist and educator. Does outreach education w/NSF money to place science grad students in schools. While on school board, served on the desatratification taskforce. Worked on the bond issue, hired Chris King, worked on equity issues. Her focus is science education K-12. Did nutrition study and changed the food service. Outlook for budget is grim, with cuts coming up. She will visit school communities to find out priorities before making cuts. Wants a sustainability policy as good as CU's.	Budget is where all issues stem from; contract for teachers for next year to bring up salaries; achievement gap - we need to look at successful schools	School lunch program came out of a grass roots effort. Community building process was good; she was excited by this. Her children like the new food.	"Alternative compensation" is the new term for merit pay. We need to find new ways of getting \$ for this. Need to emulate other districts.	Already made painful cuts in the spring. The main parent concern is to keep class size small - but that is expensive.	Was on desatratification committee; found that open enrollment caused stratification. If you have 40% low income and 60% high, the scores of the lower income students get better. It's good to diversify incomes.	We have very educated parents in BVSD that want to make choices. We have a portfolio of schools with differing environments. She does not want to pit charter/focus schools against neighborhood schools. Her kids open-enrolled.