

Subject: Important Program Updates Beginning January 2026

Dear BGCGS Families,

I am writing to share several important updates to our program structure that will take effect at the start of **Session 2 in January 2026**. I know how much your family relies on the Boys & Girls Club, and I want to make sure you have a clear and straightforward understanding of what will be changing and why.

Budget cuts and program shifts are necessary in order to remain financially sustainable. Rising operational costs, reduced and shifting funding sources, and broader economic challenges mean that maintaining our previous level of programming and staffing is no longer possible. As a self-funded nonprofit, we have been continually navigating an unsure and ever-changing funding landscape, and we are doing everything we can to continue serving our community as best as possible. Even so, we are now at a point where we have to make some difficult choices to protect the long-term stability of the organization and ensure the Boys & Girls Club can continue operating for the youth and families who depend on us.

I also want to acknowledge that changes to childcare and afterschool routines can be difficult for families. We care deeply about this community, our members, and each of you. These decisions are not being made because we want to make them, but because we have to—and we hope that by communicating openly, you will understand the circumstances behind them.

Beginning in January, the following updates will go into effect:

- **All Club sites will shift to a 5:30 p.m. closing time** — All members must be picked up by 5:30 p.m. each day. This adjustment allows us to reduce costs in a way that protects the majority of our programs and services.
- **The Sisson site will now serve 4th–6th grade only** — Daily afterschool programming for 7th and 8th graders will no longer be offered as part of our core program.

We plan to continue serving older youth through separate enrichment-based opportunities, special interest programs, and partnerships, which may include fee-based components and will be shared as they are developed.

- **Sisson capacity will be reduced from 55 to 45 members** — This reflects actual attendance patterns and ensures we can maintain appropriate and sustainable ratios.
- **Session fees will be updated** —
 - **\$150** per session for **K–6th grade**
 - **\$300** per session for **TK**

We will continue offering financial assistance as well as payment installment plans.

- **Holiday programming will be offered separately** — Holiday and school-break programming will no longer be included in regular session fees and will require separate registration and payment.

These programs will only run if financially viable, allowing us to set capacity limits in advance and staff responsibly.

We understand that these updates may require adjustments for some families, and we want you to know that we spent extensive time evaluating every option available. These changes reflect what is necessary to continue serving the largest number of youth while keeping our programs stable and safe.

We are also committed to strengthening and evolving what we offer where we can. We plan to introduce additional enrichment opportunities, creative programs, and specialty offerings that provide youth with new experiences beyond daily afterschool care. These will be developed thoughtfully and shared as they become available.

If you have ideas, connections, or opportunities that could support BGCGS—whether through partnerships, funding, or joining our Board of Directors—we would welcome those conversations. Community support has always played a major role in the strength of the Boys & Girls Club, and working together will help us continue to move forward.

Thank you for taking the time to read this update and for your continued trust and understanding. If you have questions or need clarification, please reach out. We are here to support you and your family.

Warmly,

Athena Oreck

CEO, Boys & Girls Club of Greater Shasta