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## **Jeffco Board of Education Passes 2014-15 Budget, Welcomes new Superintendent**

The Jefferson County Board of Education at a public meeting on Thursday, June 19, approved a \$1 billion budget for the 2014-15 school year, which reflects the district's increased investment in student achievement and the commitment to effective teachers in every classroom.

The Board of Education has been working on the budget since January 2014 when it began receiving public input through a series of community meetings and a public survey. In addition, the board received input from the district's Strategic Planning and Advisory Committee, Financial Oversight Committee, staff, parent groups and employee associations.

"Developing the budget is an intensive process. We must look at the needs of our students and balance those needs against available local and state funding. We feel confident that the adopted budget will move the district forward and support improved student achievement," said Board President Ken Witt.

The adopted budget includes a compensation increase placeholder for teachers and staff. The board, which is still in contract negotiations with the Jefferson County Education Association (the teachers' union), added nearly \$5 million to compensation as part of last night's adjustments to the Adopted Budget. The 2014-15 budget includes an \$18.2 million compensation placeholder across all employee groups pending a contract resolution. This represents a salary increase averaging approximately 2.5 percent across the district.

The board also increased funding for charter schools in order to move toward equalized funding for charter school students. During the 2014-15 school year, charter schools will see an increase in funding from the district totaling \$5.5 million, or approximately \$874 per student in addition to the funding increase from the state of \$360 per pupil.

The [presentation to the board](#), featured other budget highlights including increased funding for math and literacy programs, school security and technology. Additional information regarding the district's budget can be found online at [www.jeffcopublicschools.org/finance](http://www.jeffcopublicschools.org/finance).

At the public meeting, the Board of Education also welcomed incoming Superintendent Dan McMinimee. McMinimee has signed a three-year contract with the district and begins work on July 1.

