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***New Members Are Sworn In to the Jeffco Public Schools Board of Education***

**Golden, Colo. (November 20, 2015)** – At last night’s Board of Education Meeting, Jeffco Public Schools bid farewell to outgoing Board members Jill Fellman, John Newkirk, Julie Williams, Ken Witt, and Leslie Dahlkemper, and welcomed the five new Board members elected earlier this month.

New Board members Brad Rupert, Susan Harmon, Ali Lasell, Amanda Stevens, and Ron Mitchell spoke to an audience of community members in the Jeffco Education Center on Thursday night. After taking an oath of office administered by Philip J. McNulty, Chief Judge of the 1st District Court, the Board of Education selected Ron Mitchell as President, Ali Lasell as Vice President, and Susan Harmon as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. In addition, the Board appointed Amanda Stevens as Secretary, and Brad Rupert as Treasurer of the Board of Education.

Following the audience’s applause in recognition of both the incoming and outgoing Board members, the new Board of Education laid out its vision for the future, outlining, among other things, a theme of collaboration, respect for differing views, and the shared priority of teacher performance and compensation.

“We will disagree at times, but we can listen and consider diverse opinions in a respectful manner,” commented Board President Ron Mitchell. “This board will continuously deal with an unlimited list of student needs and limited resources to meet those needs. We will have to prioritize and allocate resources wisely to maintain and improve the quality of education that we provide to our students.”

Superintendent Dan McMinimee welcomed the new Board of Education to Jeffco Public Schools, saying, “I look forward to working with our new Board members. We will work collaboratively to continue striving for excellence in education and serving the diverse needs of our Jeffco community.”

**About Jeffco Public Schools**

Jeffco Public Schools has been providing educational excellence for more than 60 years. Approximately nine percent of all the K-12 students in Colorado attend a Jeffco School. Our mission is to provide a quality education that prepares all children for a successful future. The district has 155 schools on 168 campuses. Additional information about Jeffco Public Schools can be found at [JeffcoPublicSchools.org](http://JeffcoPublicSchools.org).

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