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***Jeffco Schools and Jefferson County Education Association Sign Agreement for the  
2015-16 School Year***

*New agreement emphasizes school-level decision making and professional relationships*

**GOLDEN, Colo. (August 27, 2015)** – The Jeffco Schools Board of Education voted tonight to approve a negotiated agreement that the Jefferson County Education Association (JCEA) membership ratified yesterday.

“We are glad to have an agreement in place so that teachers are free to focus on creating a positive and productive learning environment in their classrooms for Jeffco’s students,” said Jeffco Schools Superintendent Dan McMinimee. “While both sides compromised on agreement components, we believe this agreement is good for Jeffco students and Jeffco teachers.”

The agreement represents nearly 150 hours at the negotiating table by the two teams and includes wins and compromises for both sides. The negotiated agreement was created from scratch for the 2015-16 school year, and has at its foundation school-level and district-level collaboration.

Other positive features of the new agreement include:

- Updates to the evaluation processes to ensure alignment with Educator Effectiveness requirements from the state;
- Provisions to ensure that performance drives compensation increases;
- A streamlined appeals process focused on problem resolution;
- A continuation of the district and JCEA partnership at the school and district level; and
- Plans for a current leave account to address the individual needs of teachers who must be out of the classroom due to illness.

The collaboration outlined in the agreement is reflective of the efforts by the negotiating teams to develop a respectful and transparent process. For the first time, the negotiations were live-streamed in real time as well as archived on the Jeffco Public Schools website.

Past negotiation sessions can be viewed here:

<http://livestream.com/accounts/10429076/events/3542310>.

**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



*Building Bright Futures*

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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