



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact:  
Michelle Lyng  
[mblyng@novitascommunications.com](mailto:mblyng@novitascommunications.com)  
202-380-7114

### ***National ACT and AP Test Scores Show More Jeffco Students Are Ready for College***

**Golden, CO – August 28, 2015** – New test results showed that Jeffco Public Schools had exceeded state and national performance in ACT college readiness scores.

The 2015 Colorado ACT results revealed that Jeffco Public Schools surpassed the state in overall composite score and in every subtest. The ACT composite showed the Jeffco score was 21.1, only a slight decrease of 0.4 points, while the state score declined overall from 20.3 in the previous year to 20.1 in 2015.

ACT and Advanced Placement (AP) assessment scores are strong indicators of academic success beyond secondary education, and fulfilled the key objective of preparing students for post-secondary learning that was outlined in the Jeffco 2020 Strategic Plan.

“Our Jeffco 2020 Vision defines the characteristics of a successful graduate for 2020 and beyond,” said Dan McMinimee, Jeffco Public Schools Superintendent. “ACT and AP test scores can help us measure progress toward that objective. As Jeffco works toward the Jeffco 2020 Vision with our strategic plan, we will continue to prepare each of our students for college and career success.”

“Meeting ACT readiness benchmarks is a testament to the hard work of teachers and students across the district,” McMinimee said.

Over the five-year trend, the percentage of Jeffco’s graduating seniors who met ACT readiness benchmarks reached its highest levels in 2015 for English and science, and met all four of the ACT readiness benchmarks.

The percentage of graduating seniors meeting ACT readiness benchmarks in 2015 also improved in every content area and overall compared to 2014. In total, 71 percent of seniors graduating in 2015 reached the ACT readiness benchmark for English, while nearly half reached the ACT college-level course work readiness benchmark for algebra, social science, and biology.

Jeffco has increased the total number of AP exams taken annually over the past three years -- approximately 9,300 AP exams were administered in the 2014-15 school year compared with about 8,200 in 2012-13. Additionally, the number of AP exams with scores of three or above increased by about 200 exams in 2014-15. The percentage of scores in performance level one also increased in 2014-15.

**About Jeffco Public Schools**



*Building Bright Futures*

Serving more than 86,000 students, Jeffco Public Schools is one of the largest districts in the nation, with 18 public high schools. Jeffco's mission is to provide a quality education that prepares all children for a successful future. Jeffco values integrity, teamwork, people, and exemplary performance in order to fulfill its mission.

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