



October 2026 Board Updates



JA Elementary: Bringing our Strategic Priorities to Life

At this month's board meeting, JA Elementary Principal Brendon. Feddema was joined by Assistant Principals Arley Blanco (K–2) and Mark Abling (3–6), Dean of Climate and Culture Sabrina Chapman, and Instructional Coach Caylyn Firth to share campus highlights through the lens of JA's four strategic priorities. To start, their **talented team** of teachers is collaborating closely to strengthen instruction and respond to student learning needs. They recognized 161 **successful students** for first-quarter growth, and students continue to access a wide variety of before- and after-school clubs, activities and intramural sports year-round.



With regards to **financial fortitude**, our school leaders saved \$6,000 on Chromebook purchases and obtained a set of new-to-us instrument lockers for the band program for free (an estimated \$10K+ value – BIG thank you to our band director, Mr. Hollis!). Community volunteers played an important role in many efforts, contributing everything from trucks for moving lockers to mural painting in the refreshed library space. **Community connection** was on further display at the annual Fun Run, which welcomed more than 730 visitors and raised an impressive \$135,000 — far exceeding the PTO's \$80,000 goal. Go, Jags!



Planning for Student Success: Our 2026–27 Improvement Plans

How do we turn student performance data into meaningful improvements in the classroom? Each year, our schools develop Unified Improvement Plans (UIPs) to identify what's working, where students need additional support and how we can continue strengthening student learning. Required as part of Colorado's school accountability system, these plans bring together student achievement data, an analysis of underlying challenges, targeted improvement strategies and measurable goals.

Our 2026–27 plans have been shared with staff, School Accountability Committees (SACs), and the Colorado Department of Education. We encourage families to explore their campus' plan to better understand the priorities guiding instruction and student achievement this year. You can find a copy of your school's improvement plan—known in Colorado as a Unified Improvement Plan (UIP)—online through the [SchoolView Frameworks Portal](#) [Colorado Department of Education UIP Dashboard](#).

Open House Events: Help Spread the Word

Many of our families first discovered JA through a friend or neighbor. Our upcoming open house events give prospective families the chance to meet school leaders, learn about our programs and get a feel for what makes each campus unique.

Please share these dates with friends, neighbors and anyone else exploring school options. Your recommendation means more than any brochure or pamphlet:

- **JA Coal Creek Canyon:** Tues., Nov. 3 | 6 PM (virtual)
- **JA Elementary:** Tues., Nov. 10 | 6 PM
- **JA Secondary:** Wed., Nov. 11 | 6 PM
- **JA Summit Academy Westminster:** Wed., Dec. 16 + Wed., Jan. 13 | 9 AM



Summit Academy South will host its open house events in January. We'll share dates and details as soon as they're confirmed.

Community Cares: Connecting Families with Local Resources

For many years, JACS' Community Cares program helped families facing difficult circumstances by connecting them with local organizations, food banks and coordinating an annual holiday giving program. In 2025 alone, these efforts supported 27 JACS families and staff members. Because this work was led by a dedicated staff position that is no longer part of our organization, JACS leadership and the Foundation for Jefferson Academy took a careful look at the best way to continue supporting families going forward.

What we found is that our community is home to organizations whose core purpose is serving families in need, with the expertise, capacity and year-round reach to do it well. **Our strength is education, so we'll focus on connecting families with those partners rather than duplicating their work.**

We'll begin by sharing our [Holiday & Family Resources](#) guide, highlighting the wide range of assistance available in our community. Our PTOs, Boosters, clubs and student organizations will also continue to lead their own giving efforts, and we're proud to champion them. Watch for ways to get involved, both this holiday season and throughout the year.

✓ Stay Informed. Speak Up. Vote.

There are important opportunities to advocate for public education in the coming weeks.

State Board Advocacy — Speak up for

Homeschool Enrichment: Could new state regulations leave students with fewer educational opportunities? That's the concern at The Summit Academy, which serves more than 1,000 JACS families annually between its two campuses. On October 15, [Executive Director Dr. Ann Schultz](#) spoke before the State Board of Education about the proposed changes, which include increased instructional hour requirements and limiting access to concurrent enrollment. Our leadership team is actively advocating for solutions that protect our students, and you can help! [Learn about the proposals](#) and share your perspective with State Board members before they meet again in December.



Email written or video comments directly to state.board@cde.state.co.us.

November Election — Measures 5A and 5B: The upcoming election includes two measures affecting Jeffco Public Schools: [a mill levy override and a special purpose mill](#). We've included a [factual overview of both measures](#) to help families understand what's being proposed.

Sincerely,

Your JACS Board

Jeremey DuVall, Kim Daly, Ryan Ingram, Leah McGahee, Christopher Robbins, and James Suckow

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