



Community Plan

For the Future of the Jefferson Area Schools

“Without blaming hard working educators, we need to acknowledge that Jefferson is in need of renovation and redesign. Incremental changes haven’t worked. We’ve been through too many principals.

Our children, families, and educators deserve to be part of conversations where we dream big about what could be at Jefferson.

As we enter yet another round of community conversations about Jefferson Junior/Senior High School, we are committed to amplifying the voices of students, educators, families, and the community.”

What we've heard through this process

- The two district options do not create a high school that is a fit for all our students
- Removing 6th grade students from our elementary schools will lead to drops in enrollment
- The two district options will remove bilingual education options that our community loves and increases enrollment
- The closure of Jefferson during the 2026-2027 school year will have devastating impacts on our community

“Nothing about us without us.”

~ James Charlton

Our community's vision

Keep 6th grade students at Edgewater and Lumberg, while Jefferson remains a 7th-12th grade neighborhood school

- Strengthening bilingual and bicultural programs at elementary, junior high, and senior high
- Creating unique programming and focus for junior high students
- Expanding and strengthening career pathways

Community leadership and partnerships

- Steering Team with representation of families, students, educators, staff, JCEA, JESPA, and community members would be formed to provide leadership for this process
- Steering Team would explore school models that keep Jefferson as a neighborhood school and would help Jefferson exit the turnaround process
- Edgewater Collective and Steering Team would collaborate on strengthening current partnerships and developing new partnerships for funding and program expansion
- Leadership of this effort would sign a 5 year Memorandum of Understanding so we have time for our plan to develop and be successful

Our timeline

- Steering Team begins meeting in May 2025 to discuss future plans for Jefferson and the feeder elementary schools
- Community meetings led by the Steering Team in the fall of 2025 to discuss ongoing plans for Jefferson (expanded bilingual program, junior high program, and expansion of the career pathways)
- Final plan for the Jefferson Area is presented to the Jeffco Board of Education in October 2025
- Jefferson Junior/Senior High School would be open for the 2026-2027 school year with high quality, exciting programs for 7th-12th grade students

Instead of destroying the community we love in our local schools, like is proposed in the two district options, we believe our community plan elevates the voices of those closest to our students, keeps Jefferson open as a 7th-12th grade neighborhood school, and creates a structure for our community to take leadership in developing high quality programming at Jefferson