



Additional Materials for Education Group Presentation - Feb. 2024

The Changing Face of Jeffco Public Schools

KEY TOPICS THE PRESENTATION WILL COVER

- Open Enrollment in Jeffco – the process, enrollment periods, and waitlist.
- Census and demographic data showing continued declining enrollment.
- Update on school populations by Articulation Area.
- Changes in staffing and resources following 2023 school closings.
- Changes in the district's financial status.
- Changes the School Board is expected to make in the future.

JEFFCO SCHOOL MAPS 2023-24:

- [Elementary Schools Map](#)
- [Middle Schools Map](#)
- [High Schools Map](#)

SCHOOL LISTS BY ARTICULATION AREA:

School lists by articulation area, including school closures 2021-2023 and schools that will close in 2024.

CONNECTING WITH THE BOARD OF EDUCATION:

- **Board of Education website:**
<https://www.jeffcopublicschools.org/about/board>
- **View Board meetings remotely or link to recordings of past meetings:**
<https://livestream.com/accounts/10429076/events/3542310>
- **Full calendar for Meetings and Study Sessions 2023-24:**
<https://go.boarddocs.com/co/jeffco/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CSYR4L6B4C1F>

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. How have school closures and/or the decline in student enrollment affected your community?
2. What suggestions do you have to deal with the disposition of closed schools?
3. As the North Jeffco unit learned in a discussion with the Arvada mayor, parks are not cheap or self-maintaining, and the conversion of any school property to a park would require ongoing funds. If you think the property of some of the closed schools should be converted into parks, how do you think it should be paid for?
4. Reading these two articles, what are your thoughts about how Jeffco has handled the enrollment problems with Coal Creek Canyon K-8?
 - <https://www.chalkbeat.org/colorado/2024/01/11/jeffco-charter-school-jefferson-academy-replace-closing-coal-creek-canyon/>
 - <https://coloradosun.com/2023/10/09/elementary-school-close-funding-jefferson-county-opinion/>
5. Are there changes in education policy you would like to see that could help the situation?

OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEAGUE

Opportunity 1: Civic Bee

On December 1, 2023, LWVCO approached the local leagues about working with the Chamber of Commerce to sponsor a Civics Bee for middle school students. Specifically, the local leagues were asked to contact middle school teachers about this opportunity. For the 2023-2024 year, the initial essays were due on January 8, 2024. The Jeffco Board felt that we were not given sufficient notice to participate meaningfully in the 2023-2024 Bee. We now know that Arvada Chamber of Commerce is participating in the Civics Bee. This is very much a League project, but in order for us to do this, we need members to step forward to create a plan and implement a plan whereby the League can participate in this project. The project will include (at minimum) researching more thoroughly what the League involvement would be; discussions with the Arvada Chamber of Commerce as well as other local Chambers of Commerce to encourage their participation for the 2024-2025 Civics Bee; and contacting the teachers and implementing a process to encourage students to participate.

<https://www.arvadachamber.org/?s=civics+bee>

[Civics Bee Student Flyer](#)

[Civics Bee Teacher Guide](#)

Opportunity 2: Registering Students

Jane Cates, through her service on the STEAM Committee, has discovered that every high school must have a staff member designated as a voter registration official. We know who the designated official at the district level is. We believe that there is a place for the League in this process. However, we need a team to work this.

If you are interested in either of these projects, or your unit is please let your unit leader know or Christina Manthey president@lwvjeffco.org or Sandyschuster11@gmail.com.