

Framework for the Jefferson Articulation Area Student Achievement Plan Update: January 29, 2015



As we continue to work with students, staff, parents, and community partners on the development of a comprehensive plan to significantly improve student achievement in the Jefferson area, we will be sharing updates with our stakeholders. This is the first of these updates and it provides information on the leadership for the secondary school proposed in the Jefferson Area Plan.

Leadership for the Jefferson High School and the Jefferson Area Plan for 2015-16

We are excited to share with the Jefferson articulation school community the decision to have Mr. Michael James continue in his role as Principal for Jefferson High School. Mr. James has demonstrated a commitment to the Jefferson students and community in his passionate work to develop structures in support of all students. He has gained the confidence of the staff as well as the community in his two years at Jefferson High School, which was shared in feedback gathered from school staff and parent leaders. Please join us in congratulating Jefferson High School Principal Mr. James.

Additionally, Mr. Warren Blair will continue to support the Jefferson articulation area as we consider the transition of 7th and 8th grade programs from Wheat Ridge 5-8 to Jefferson High School. Mr. Blair will serve as a special assistant to the School Innovation and Effectiveness Team (SIET) for the 2015-16 school year. In this position, Mr. Blair will provide support to Mr. James and all the elementary school leaders in the Jefferson area when we begin implementation of the Jefferson Area Plan. For nearly 20 years Mr. Blair has been supporting Jeffco Schools in a variety of roles, including opening a new school and moving programs from one building to another—experience that will be vital to the success of the finalized Jefferson Area Plan. Mr. Blair will prove to be an asset to the district as well as the Jefferson area in this position in the year ahead and we are excited to have him joining our district support team.

Mr. Blair and Mr. James are working on safety, course scheduling, and supervision plans for the new Jefferson High School as outlined in the proposed Jefferson Area Plan. They will be sharing these details in the weeks ahead with our Jefferson school communities.

Next Update

On February 2, 2015, we will be conducting our first Staff Advisory Committee meeting. That meeting will help us to identify several key details of the framework for the proposed plan and we will provide an update following that conversation. Additionally, Jefferson High School and Wheat Ridge 5-8 are working to schedule additional community meetings with current and former Jefferson High School students to share their experiences and thoughts about the proposed 7-12th grade Jefferson High School. Students from Jefferson are also meeting with all current 6th, 7th and 8th grade students at WR 5-8 to gather their best hopes and any concerns they feel should be addressed. This student voice is critical to our work.