RESOLUTION
EXPANDING CAREER READINESS IN JEFFCO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, Board Ends policy 3 states, “Every student will graduate career and workforce and/or postsecondary ready;” and,

WHEREAS, Ends 3 goes on to reference college remediation rate goals and Colorado ACT score ‘college readiness’ benchmarks; and,

WHEREAS, Board Governance Process policy, GP-1, states, “Our community requires that the Board...Set high standards and ensure that students can be successful in the next phase of their lives whether they go to college, attend technical school, join the military, begin an entry-level job, and/or serve as community members;” and,

WHEREAS, many, if not most, of our counselors have limited time and resources to delve into current labor market statistics to support individual student career pathways; and academic attention in our secondary schools is often oriented to college preparation, testing, selection and application, yet only 61% of students enroll in a two-year or four-year college; and,

WHEREAS, the Board reaffirms its dedication to our Ends and recognizes the need to prepare ALL students for careers after graduation whether they attend college or not; and,

WHEREAS, employers in the private and public sectors are indispensable partners in providing students with different career exploration options and preparing students for the workplace.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Jeffco Public Schools Board of Education that:

1. All middle school and high school students shall engage in interest and skill assessments and participate in career exploration opportunities such as industry presentations, career events, and workplace visits.
2. High school career centers include a work space for a career services coordinator to provide services for students as well as training for school staff related to workforce development needs; and, district personnel cooperate with employers and workforce organizations for the coordination and administration of career education and workplace learning opportunities.
3. The district and secondary schools shall maintain equitable access to career and college learning through uniform schedules and structures so that students can include work-based learning, CTE coursework, and concurrent enrollment opportunities within their school day.
4. District cooperation with employer partners is maintained for the monitoring and administration of a comprehensive career readiness and development pipeline with the expectation that the employer community will lead all activities that occur outside of schools in alignment with school and district support of the work with the career services coordinator.
5. District cooperation and participation in a uniform public advertising campaign is supported to educate and attract students, parents and employers to this broad-based community-wide effort to better prepare students for careers and better prepare the employment base of the future.

6. The superintendent or designee is authorized to work with the Colorado Department of Education as necessary to facilitate the foregoing direction.

Adopted, signed, and approved this 4th day of November, 2021.

(SEAL)

Susan Harmon
President, Board of Education

ATTEST:

Stephanie Schooley
Secretary, Board of Education