



## Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Diana Wilson

Executive Director, Communication Services

[Diana.Wilson@jeffco.k12.co.us](mailto:Diana.Wilson@jeffco.k12.co.us)

303-982-6808

## Jeffco Postsecondary Progress and Success

**GOLDEN, Colo. (March 13, 2019)** – The recently released [State of Colorado Department of Higher Education Postsecondary Progress and Success of High School Graduates](#) annual report shows 63.1% of the Jeffco Public Schools Class of 2017 went on to a post-secondary school, which is well over the 56.4% state average.

Jeffco students from almost all sub-categories are enrolling in some type of post-secondary school at higher than the state average rate. For example:

- Hispanic – 50.9% (45.8% state)
- American Indian – 51.4% (38.1% state)
- Asian -- 83.9% (75.2% state)
- Black -- 56.5% (54.8% state)
- Female -- 68.2% (61.9% state)
- Male – 58.1% (50.8% state)
- Free/Reduced lunch -- 62.8% (56.4% state)

Jeffco continues to expand concurrent enrollment opportunities, for example, Jeffco Virtual Academy offered the first online concurrent enrollment courses in the state in partnership with Red Rock Community College. The report shows students are taking advantage of the option. In 2011, 18.9% of students attempted 7.9 hours of concurrent enrollment classes. In 2017, 33% of Jeffco students took advantage of earning college credit while in high school, for an average of 13.8 hours attempted.

Post-secondary credential achievement of Jeffco students is higher than the 56.6% state average as well, with 61.8% earning their degree or credential within six years. The higher education report also shows Jeffco Public Schools students are taking more classes and attaining better grades since 2009.

There is some room for improvement in Jeffco. That Jeffco students on free and reduced lunch are going (62.8%) and completing (61.4%) college at almost the same rate as all students is a positive trend, but the completion rate for Jeffco's largest minority group, Hispanic students (46.4%), indicates an area that needs attention. FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) completion is at 81%, which is a bit below the 84.3% state level, though it may be a reflection of socio-economics of the county, not lack of opportunity.

### About Jeffco Public Schools

Jeffco Public Schools has been providing educational excellence for more than 65 years. The district serves over 85,000 students at 155 schools. Jeffco Public Schools is dedicated to changing the classroom experience through Readiness for Learning, Conditions for Learning, and Learning as outlined in the [Jeffco Generations strategic vision](#). Find [Jeffco Public Schools](#) on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#).

# # #