



*A mind once stretched by a new idea never regains its original dimensions.  
~ Anonymous*

## Gazette September 2010

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### **Saving Young Lives in Jeffco: 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Second Wind Fund Walk/Run/Ride**

What if a fun family event could save lives in Jefferson County? The Second Wind Fund of Metro Denver held its 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Walk/Run/Ride on Sunday, September 19 at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds. All ages and abilities mixed for this one-of-a-kind event: over 1,000 youth, as well as hundreds of families were among the 3,200 attending this marquee community event in 2009.



Second Wind was started in 2002 to serve kids in Jeffco Public Schools, and provides mental health treatment services to kids at-risk for suicide. Their annual event is the largest suicide prevention event in the nation, right here in Jeffco.

Second Wind Fund of Metro Denver believes that a young life saved is a community uplifted. What if your support of Second Wind could save a young life in your community? To donate, visit [www.swfmd.org](http://www.swfmd.org).



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### **JEFFCO COUNCIL PTA HAS PASSED A RESOLUTION OPPOSING AMENDMENT 60, AMENDMENT 61, AND PROPOSITION 101**

To learn more, visit [www.jeffcopta.org](http://www.jeffcopta.org)

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### **Don't Mess With the IRS**

Don't risk having your 501 (c)(3) status revoked! As of 2007, ALL PTAs are required to file a form 990 with the IRS. Since most PTAs have a fiscal year from July 1 to June 30, the deadline to file your 2009 Form 990 is approaching—unless you file for an extension. Which form 990 you use will depend on your annual GROSS receipts (add up all the deposits you made for the fiscal year and this will determine your GROSS receipts.)

Here are the basics on what form to use:

- Form 990-N (e-Postcard) is for PTAs with annual gross receipts of less than \$25,000 and total assets of less than \$250,000.
- Form 990-EZ is for PTAs with annual receipts of more than \$25,000 but less than \$500,000 and total assets of less than \$1,250,000.
- Form 990 is for PTAs with more than \$500,000 in gross receipts and over \$1,250,000 in assets.

The 990 in all of its forms is due every year by the 15th day of the fifth month after the close of your tax year. There is a great website: <http://efile.form990.org/> to help you do your 990 online. It is free for non-profits with gross receipts of less than \$100,000.

The Jeffco PTA offers free clinics on filing your Form 990. Send an email to [treasurer@jeffcopta.org](mailto:treasurer@jeffcopta.org) for more information.

If your PTA receives more than \$25,000 in gross receipts, you need to register your PTA with the Colorado Secretary of State under the Charitable Solicitations Act (CSA). This costs \$10.00 a year and you'll need to have your 990 EZ or 990 completed because the financial information the state requests corresponds to your 990. File your CSA online at: <http://www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/charities/charitable.htm>

Once you have completed your 990 –whatever form you file– and your Colorado Solicitations Act, remember to fax a copy to the Colorado PTA at: 303-420-7703.or email it to: [office@copta.org](mailto:office@copta.org)

## **Jeffco Schools to Pilot Strategic Compensation**

Jeffco Public Schools has received a five-year federal Teacher Incentive Fund grant to pilot strategic compensation for licensed staff in high-needs schools. The funding of \$32.8 million will allow up to 20 schools to participate.

This is the culmination of three years of collaboration among the district, Jefferson County Education Association, Jefferson County Administrators Association, parents and community leaders to develop a strategic compensation plan that rewards excellent educators and increases student achievement. The grant means Jeffco Public Schools will be at the forefront of developing new ways to compensate educators here and across the nation. The district will be testing the impact of strategic compensation on increasing student achievement, and attracting, retaining and rewarding top educators.

Strategic compensation is a cultural shift in how educators are paid and how they navigate their career paths. Instead of paying teachers solely based on years of experience and more education, they will be rewarded for outstanding performance.

Jeffco's plan is based on three pillars of educational excellence – student learning, teacher learning and teacher leadership. Educators will be rewarded for meeting individual, team and school goals as well as receiving successful evaluations and taking on leadership roles.

For updates and additional information, visit [www.JeffcoStrategicCompensation.org](http://www.JeffcoStrategicCompensation.org).

## **Reflections 2010-2011 Theme: Together We Can...**

Visit [Jeffco PTA's Reflections webpage](#) for a list of turn in dates and other important information. Questions? Email [denisebearden@comcast.net](mailto:denisebearden@comcast.net).

## **Cyberbullying Can Be Cruel - And Illegal**

From [Connect With Kids](#) Newsletter

Converge Magazine for educators reports that school districts across the country are evaluating punishments

and policies regarding cyberbullying, with 44 states now having anti-bullying laws on the books. Evidently, bullying has moved beyond the playground and onto the Internet and social networking sites. What can parents do to help their kids – the bullied and the bullies? Click [here](#) to read more.

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#### **Jefferson County PTA**

P.O. Box 1735 • Arvada, CO 80001

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