



*Who dares to teach must never cease to learn.
~ John Cotton Dana*

Gazette October 2010

Serving Kids Jean Drive

Serving Kids distributes clothing confidentially to families in need in our community. With school starting and requests at their height, Serving Kids is in need of jeans in all sizes.

Serving Kids has asked for assistance from all Jeffco PTAs (elementary, middle, and high school) to collect new and near-new Jeans in **the month of October**. They are especially in need of jeans for elementary aged-children.



We would love your support in starting a Jean Drive at your school.

October Jean Drive Donation Information:

1. Coordinate with your school administration and market the Jean Drive to your membership.
2. Gather new or near new jeans in October and put them in the collection box at your school marked with: "Serving Kids, Jean Drive"
3. Deliver the jeans to The Jefferson Foundation, 809 Quail St., Bldg #1 in the last week of October.

For more information, please contact: Ruth Annette Carter at carterca@gabrobins.com

Helping Kids Thrive

Helping Kids Thrive is a free annual parenting conference with hands-on practical information to help children and youth grow in positive ways. It's for parents of infants to teens and for other adults too! Classes include: The Early Years, Creating a BluePrint for Success; The Teen Years, Framing Boundaries and Expectations; Fuel the Body, Fuel the Mind; From Cyberbullying to Texting, How to Be a Techno-Savvy Parent; Empowering Successful Kids; and more!

This year, Helping Kids Thrive happens on October 21, 2010 at Wheat Ridge High School, 9505 W. 32nd Ave, Wheat Ridge, from 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Visit hktjcmh.org to register today!

IMPORTANT REMINDER!
Your Membership Report is due to the Colorado PTA Office on November 1st!

Forms and information are available [here](#).



JEFFCO COUNCIL PTA URGES YOU TO OPPOSE AMENDMENT 60, AMENDMENT 61, AND PROPOSITION 101

The Jeffco PTA has passed a resolution opposing Amendments 60 and 61 and Proposition 101 which will be on the 2010 ballot.

Amendment 60 cuts the school property tax mill levy in half by 2020 and would invalidate mill levy overrides already passed by local communities. This translates into a Statewide loss of \$1.2 billion - \$1.5 billion per year greatly reducing funding available to public schools. While the amendment directs the state to replace this funding from general revenues, state funding for public education was already slashed \$260 million in the current budget and if the state were to backfill this amount as directed less than 1% of the general fund would be left for other

essentials such as roads and bridges, state courts and prisons, and social services.

Amendment 61 amends the state constitution to ban all borrowing by the state and would require school districts to pay back bonds in 10 years, making it impossible to amortize school construction projects over 20 or 30 years or to address higher education construction needs.

Proposition 101 changes state law to reduce income taxes from 4.63% to 3.5% over time and slash taxes and fees on vehicles forcing huge cuts to virtually everything the state pays for including schools, community colleges, prisons, courts, and health and human services.

A copy of Jeffco PTA's resolution can be viewed [here](#).

Jeffco School Board Wants Your Input on Budget Talks

The Jeffco District must cut \$27 million dollars from their annual budget for the 2011-2012 school year (this will make a total of \$49 million cut in 2 years) and that's if Amendment 60 doesn't pass. If Amendment 60 passes, the cuts will be much higher. The School Board wants your input regarding these cuts and plans tentative meetings in each area of the district for Saturday, November 13. Details on the times and places for these meetings is forthcoming.

Jeffco Board of Education Meetings

All meetings of the Jeffco School Board are held at the Jeffco Education Center, 1829 Denver West Drive, #27, Golden, 5th Floor Board Room. The public is welcome at all meetings. Time for public comment is allowed at the opening of all **regular** business meetings of the board. Individuals are allowed 3 minutes of speaking time and groups of four or more speakers are allowed 10 minutes of speaking time. You can find board member contact information and copies of the minutes of each meeting at [here](#).

October Meetings	November Meetings
Thursday, October 21 Special Meeting 5:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Thursday, November 4 Special Meeting 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 26 Special Meeting 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Regular Business Meeting 6:00 p.m.
	Thursday, November 18 Special Meeting 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Great Education Colorado, Jeffco Chapter

Great Education Colorado, Jeffco is a chapter of Great Education Colorado a statewide, nonpartisan, grassroots organization focused on improving education in Colorado through wise, increased investment in our schools, colleges and universities. [Join them on Facebook](#) to help defeat Amendments 60, 61, and Proposition 101!

Million Hours of Power

Help Improve the Lives of Children

PTA Needs Your Vote

\$250,000 Grant to Million Hours of Power Can Benefit Kids

Do you believe that fathers and father figures make a difference in a child's life? Would you like to see more dads engaged in their children's education? Do you think male involvement can benefit children across the nation? If so, National PTA® would like you to invest just one minute a day to help it secure funding for an important initiative. National PTA and our "[Million Hours of](#)

[Power](#)" campaign earned a spot in the Pepsi Refresh Project for October. PTA has the opportunity to receive \$250,000 for this campaign with enough help from our leaders, members, and supporters.



What is Million Hours of Power?

Million Hours of Power is a campaign to inspire men to collectively dedicate at least one million hours of service to the health, education, and well-being of America's youth during this school year. The benefits to children are tremendous when parents get involved. Winning the Pepsi Refresh project will allow PTA to organize town hall meetings, create tool kits for PTAs, launch media campaigns, and promote a male volunteer of the year award. These are just some of the ways the grant can provide PTA resources to educate men on how critical their involvement is to their children's development.

How to Help

Just click [here](#) and sign up using an e-mail address. For your convenience, you can bookmark the Pepsi Refresh link on your web browser or visit [PTA.org](#) and vote from our homepage. You can also text your vote to 102484 if you do not wish to register an e-mail address.

New Tobacco Prevention Projects Underway in Jefferson County - Get Involved!

Jefferson County Public Health (JCPH) announced that it has received funding for tobacco prevention projects in four Jefferson County communities, unincorporated Jefferson County, Lakewood, Wheat Ridge and Golden.

Reducing youth initiation and access to tobacco continues to be a major public health goal in the country and in Jefferson County. Brenda Christy, Jefferson County PTA Health and Nutrition Coordinator, states "A major goal of these projects is to 'denormalize' tobacco use by increasing the number of areas and settings in which people wouldn't even think of using tobacco because of the known harm to people and the environment – similar to how we think about tobacco use at day care centers or on airplanes, now."

The community projects in Jefferson County will include effective community education and public information campaigns, coalition building and policy change initiatives to prohibit smoking/tobacco use in public places and reduce youth access to tobacco products. JCPH will continue to build upon tobacco prevention efforts already in progress in each of the funded communities and initiate new projects designed to promote health and reduce tobacco's deadly toll.

Together, as a community, we can reduce the number one cause of preventable death while also improving community health and vitality. For more information and to get involved in community efforts in Wheat Ridge, Golden, Unincorporated Jefferson County or Lakewood, please email dviveret@jeffco.us or call Donna Viverette at 303-275-7555. If you or those you know are ready to quit tobacco, the Colorado Quitline offers free coaching support at 1-800-QUIT NOW.

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.



Jeffco PTA is now on Facebook. Find us [here!](#)

Helpful Links

[Contact Us](#)
[Jeffco PTA](#)
[Colorado PTA](#)
[National PTA](#)
[Jeffco Schools](#)

Business Partners

[Jefferson Foundation](#)
[Brain Balance Centers](#)
[Mile High Banks](#)
[Western Dairy Association](#)
[Educational Products, Inc.](#)
[Beau Jo's Pizza](#)
[Jeffco Print Shop](#)
[Life Touch Studios](#)
[My Art Workshop](#)
[Outdoor Lab Foundation](#)
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Jefferson County PTA

P.O. Box 1735 • Arvada, CO 80001
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