

1. John Sullivan- Option 5- Allendale/Vanderhoof- Jennifer- Opposed to partner schools. No financial sense. Yearly savings of \$58,000, onetime cost of \$300,000. \$47,000 can be realized by accepting option 4. Options 4 would reduce disruption to students and staff. Additional savings not enough if families pull their students. If district loses two students, that savings is turned into a loss. 4 families are planning to pull their students already if that happens, that is an 8 student loss. This count would likely be higher. Would be disruptive to transition. Research shows negative impact on students when disrupted (scores, graduation rates, etc). They would like to see options reduced to 10-15 before sent to board. Eliminating temps - do not need to merge schools to make this happen. Could instead move boundaries. In favor of Option 4. District should manage enrollment. Could reclaim two classrooms currently used as office and lab to allow for more students. Options 5 is not good for Jeffco or Allendale. Not as substantial of savings as presented. Could erase savings by having to undo if needs change (such as due to redevelopment). Would cause upheaval again at a later date if reversed. Could have an impact on property values (5-10%), would anger voters. Gathered 600 signatures in petition against Options #5. Impact on property taxes would impact revenue, which is an issue here. Allendale could lose Title I status which supports programs, like free summer lunch. Tradition issues with different programs. Issue at critical time for students by disrupting transition.
2. Suzann Ghais- Option 3C- Dual language program at Foster. Jeffco success story. Would like to see program continued to 8th grade. Possible in two of the options. Opposed to Option 3b, taking away 6th grade. Current facility serves students well already. Remodeling would be needed if moved. Would like to minimize disruption. Dual language is a win-win for everyone. CSAP scores up at Foster since dual enrollment came. The program accounts for 50% of enrollment. Choice enrollment is high. Dual Language has proven benefits- diversity and inclusion. Parents - families really want to have this program. Please keep dual language option for them. Happy with program, children learning well, giving opportunity and helps them grow. Extending through 8th would be even better; lifelong knowledge. Want to keep as a great option for community; ability to give kids these tools. Would like them to have for longer. Parent- fell in love with program; fully engaged, want to keep them there, great facility, neighborhood success. Draws families in. Don't close Foster, bad for families, students and community. Parent - also choice enrolled. Came from a private school, didn't compare to the program at Foster. No current option in JeffCo for Dual Language program at the middle school level. This is an important option to have in the district. Want to see Foster extended into 6-8, JeffCo should have this option. There is a need in the area. Denver school has program, it is so full that it turns away families.
3. Shelley Cook- City of Arvada- Three issues: 1. Significant change already in place, 2. Options have disparate impact and 3. Neighborhood schools and community health. We have growth from turnover, focused on future needs. Arvada Middle- Gold line, this area will see a surge of new young families. 2,000 new homes being planned. Families will be attracted to new transportation related community, seen elsewhere. 5 year timeframe just misses this effect. Mothballing facility will create vacant facility. Low and moderate income families are served by these schools- Foster and Russell. These schools are home to Caring Clinic and other programs. Transportation issues associated with move. Foster has Dual Language program, only school in that area. Scores improving at Russell, main way of getting there is walking. Allendale and Vanderhoof Elementary schools should not be consolidated. Have seen improvement in scores. Savings are minimal. School could provide for new students. Cost savings would take too long. Support closing cottages and temps. Against moving 6th grade to middle schools; negative impact and early exposure. Arvada areas disproportionately affect low income communities. Greater impact on low income families with transportation issues makes it harder to be involved with school.

4. Susan Chapla- Principal at Russell- highly impacted school, high needs- full time psychologist on site. Caring staff, families trust and appreciate relationships built. Russell provides stable environment, meals. Strong bounds with community, services, and parents appreciate support of school. Dedicated school resource officer who has positive on students and parent perception of the Arvada police department. History as village working together would be destroyed. Parent/alumni - would not be as successful without Russell. Positive impact on students and families. If Russell closes it would negatively impact the families and community. 100% of families want to stay open, pleased with Russell education and services. Transportation is a major issue. School is a walking school, transportation would create barriers. Russell able to provide free sports and programs after school for their kids. Keep Russell open. Teacher- Russell is a tough school, but with an amazing dedicated staff to serving neediest families. Seen remarkable transformation. 9 schools have come to observe teacher practices. 7 hour day, 20 min longer than others. Know population has significant value, know need to save dollars and be efficient- as long as it don't negatively impact kids. Temp - do-solution. Don't get school back if change mind. Don't do anything that can't be undone. School doing its part, keep school open.
5. Representative for Arvada Middle school/parent- if JeffCo believes in equal options, close school across the board. Options seem biased against Arvada area with four closure options, more impact on low income area. Why not close adult only buildings first before neighborhood schools? If close 1 school, should close 1 in each area. Equal arguments for all. Permanent solution for short temp prob. Taxpayers will be less supportive in the future. Should consider all other options first. Closing any school negatively impacts community. Closing schools with high needs populations is even more inequitable. Scores have improved, received recognition. Students would lose opportunities. Trans would cost money. Would hurt families who have older siblings watching others. Would displace community programs and others. If any changes need to be made, in support of 6th graders being moved up. As of 2008, 75% of all middle school models are 6-8. Only one study that says it is bad for students. A middle school 6th grader makes for a better 7th and 8th grader. Closer to 7/8 as 6th graders than younger kids. More identity as community, more options, more well-known, access to content specialists. Transition done before in middle of puberty. Don't close school. Fair not necessarily equal. Move 6th up.
6. Robert Lopez- Principal at Zerger- District in tough place, but need to do what's right for kids. One of the finest elementary schools in the district. Parent - chose home for close proximity to school, pleased to be a part of the school. Moved to other house, but stayed close to Zerger. Believes son's desire to be a teacher was result of Zerger teachers. New families are coming into area with young children. Would recommend Zerger. 50% of teachers have sent their own kids there. Teachers teach students how to contribute positively to community, be leaders. Strong community of volunteers, for own school and Pomona. Teachers are supportive. Small but mighty. Dedicated to honor students, their education, and their community. Teachers lead and inspire. Shame to halt progress, splitting community, families leaving district. Please give opportunity to continue. Please consider the following - while under capacity, but will see growth. Large kindergarten class. Academically strong, higher median growth rate (top half, #1 in some). Geographically isolated, would lead to be broken into chunks and split up. Committed to student success.
7. Katherine Scully- Option 20- Moving 6th up would mean before and after child care would end after 5th grade. A satellite program is not possible. Too young to be staying home on their own. Administration has talked about added additional hours, but no plan in place. Few temps. Moving to middle would have no cost savings. Three issues- 1. Potential confusion about articulation - how would it affect their school?, 2. Criteria used are only financial; don't talk to academic impact, higher issues at middle school than elementary, 3. No

cost savings. Would lose teaching positions. Even with all 6th move ups presented would have a net loss not savings. If buildings are to be closed, need to look at other districts to see if buildings were able to be sold. Concerned with implementation and immediacy. Seems to be an irrational and irresponsible option. Lack of concern about how transition will occur and affect students. How will options benefit the students? Are savings worth the negative impact? Temporary fixes for long term problems. Eliminating temps will cause overcrowding at some schools. Just shifting issue. Harm to students cannot be undone. Many districts across United State are reversing moving 6th grade up.

8. Preston B- Options 10 & 20 - parents have met- no immediate concern, but long term. School built in anticipation of future growth. Eliminating temps is a temporary solution at Sierra, then later needing them at Meiklejohn. President of Sierra PTA- School has received 200 responses; don't believe demolishing temps, changing boundaries and moving students is in best interest of community. Schools can't be treated as businesses. Can't only consider short term solutions. Savings don't outweigh negative impact. Enrollment at Meiklejohn is only down due to economy. 643 is wrong, 562 is actual enrollment (right at capacity). Do not have capacity issue at Sierra. Moving students will weaken community at school. School is high achieving even though in an older facility. Need to consider long term impact. Families have chosen to move into community because of school. Loss of students would hurt after school programs, like scouts, parent volunteers. Will lose vital connections. Could also lose teachers who are loyal to school. Will cost a lot more than \$22,000. Over past 5 years Sierra has already been hurt by other district choices. When Meiklejohn was built, asked to rebuild Sierra instead. Not enough students to support new school, still under enrolled. Sierra students still needing work at Sierra.
9. Coreen McMurray- Parr Pre-school- Parent/childcare provider- had children that go to that preschool (past and present) against moving preschool - not best option for community. One of largest preschools in community; qualifies for tuition assistance for 38% of children - families would not be able to go otherwise. School draws children from Adams County district, who later attend JeffCo elementary schools. Area needs Early Childhood Education program; essential for their later success. Families would have very few options without. High quality ECE leads to later success in school that follows them, increases grad rates. Families look for options for the children, name recognition and rep influences. The school has been there for 30 yrs and built reputation in area. Serves broad socio-economic base. Sends students to many schools in district. Needed to serve students in community and draw students in from other district, helps JeffCo's success. Need to continue tradition of excellent service in comm., not good for kids, families, area.
10. Deann Rehr - parent at Arvada W preschool- 130 children served- Important to continue to serve area families, what happens to families if moved? Will families follow? Letter from parent community- can touch on four of criteria - choice- chose school for small community not attached to elementary school, makes more welcoming. Toddler-minded school that stands out against others. In cottages currently; they are a community. Want families to be a part of JeffCo and this begins at the preschool. It is only preschool with PTA, hosts events that really important to children, raised money (paid for new playground, upgrades). Current later start time is beneficial to families, lets children sleep more, not be rushed in the morning. Academic achievement- curriculum is beneficial. Teachers are supported as development experts, top notch teachers. Program not fluff, it teaches valuable skills. Impressed with administration. Other child not as prepared after attending another preschool.
11. Vicki Buchmann- Parent at Vanderhoof- against option 5 - strong and consistent leadership important, lack of this at Vanderhoof in the past has hurt school- revolving door for principal. Given history was told they would be left alone, no more change. Option 5 is disruptive. Need more time for current principal to turn around.

Revolving door has hurt instruction, been confusing to families. New principal is now supportive of staff and families. Strong and resilient community would like to stay together.

12. Joseph - Student at Dual Language program at Foster- first gave speech in Spanish, like being bilingual because he can speak to both English and Spanish speakers, want to stay at Foster, awesome school, would like program to go to 6-8 too. Abe- Dual Language program- parents don't speak Spanish, wanted him to learn. Kids come from lots of different places. If 6th graders moved, it would be hard because he doesn't live in area, would miss out on program; have to go to other school instead. Then gave speech in Spanish.
13. Eddie Saliman- 6th grade teacher- moving 6th grade up- concerned that this is not what is best for kids, which is district mission. Data shows to academic and behavior issues- test scores drop, discipline issues increase. Believes this would move kids from childhood a year earlier than necessary. They play instead, no dating yet. Kids can be kids. Don't need to grow up any faster. Middle schools are great places, but not yet. Don't sacrifice last year of their childhood for budgetary reasons.
14. Sharon Sorenson- take kids from Lawrence to Vanderhoof, area citizen - volunteerism is down, Title 1 schools do not have luxury- do not have resources and time. Ask that city council promote volunteering and struggling schools. How many families are leaving Title schools? Should encourage them to move back. Students at Title schools would benefit from families that have time and resources to be involved at school.
15. Senator Evie Hudak- would be harmful to close these schools. Can't ask little kids to cross Wadsworth. Best option would be to move 6th graders to middle schools, especially in Arvada articulation area. Keeps families together for three years, increases family participation. Make Arvada middle Dual Language 6-8, would attract more families. Important to continue Dual Language through 8th grade. Lots of options for Arvada because it is difficult to make decisions there. Shouldn't do something in each articulation area, this area has higher need. Don't balance budget on backs of kids that need the most.
16. Dave Runyon- Rep area churches- spent time identifying most needed areas, most of the closure options are in the neediest communities. Asking for these schools not to be closed because they are often the healthiest resources left in these communities. How will you restore hope to these communities? How will you keep it going if schools in this area are closed?
17. Marilyn Chappel- this is heartbreaking. Speaking on options that affect GT - parent, served on state advisory committee on GT- should not focus on students with most needs for cuts; GT students also have high need and are at-risk. Cannot afford for GT students to be disengaged. Would not serve students, meet goals of maximizing capacity, would not result in significant cost savings. Please reconsider.
18. Melanie Harrison- Sierra- 19- PTA Pres Elect- looked for right area to move to continue at Sierra- two questions- confused regarding articulation - would students have to move to 4 diff schools in 4 yrs? 2. Conflict with open enrollment date, will not know decision before that time, won't know if they need to open enroll their students to stay at Sierra.
19. Carol Park- Moved to area because they did not want children to be in middle school at 6th grade. Believe 11-12 yr olds are too young for freedoms at middle, exposure would be too much. 2007 Duke study- more problems when in middle school- lower scores, negative impact of older students, schools are larger; smaller is better, middle schools farther away. Do we have to put children's future at stake? Would hate to have to consider sending student elsewhere.
20. Karen Bear- not parent at school directly impacted, here as a homeowner- against Allendale and Vanderhoof partner schools Option #5. Would have additional staff challenges, hurts principal's resume by not serving whole elementary students, lose out on having older students there as role models or being role models. Love

home and neighborhood, concerned about declining home values. Families will choose K-6 over split schools so less families coming in.

21. Karla Davidson- Foster student- great school because teachers, principal kids, three playgrounds, Dual Language program. Important people come to visit school. Would like to see school stay open, expanded to 8th grade.
22. Tripp B- parents- our group has found nothing that addresses impact on students by options, specifically Option 20. Trying to save money, but this option has huge onetime losses; how will they recoup? Committee notes say need to balance what they don't like versus something wrong. Room full of people that don't like but there are still things wrong with the options. Against options where costs exceed savings. Need more time; too compressed of a timeframe.
23. Chrissy Duran- teacher- opposed to any option that closes any Arvada area school- vertical relationships are valuable. Will lose kids if any schools are closed, will lose teachers. Challenges in area, but teachers are very willing - would be lost. Closing schools before they can develop programs is offensive. Currently working, have grant, in middle of process. Need time to improve. Willing to take furlough days, keep my schools open.
24. Deborah Bacon- teacher at Arvada - community support strong in Arvada area. Want to keep Arvada Middle School open. Many of her advanced students come from Arvada Middle program offers rigor and flexibility. If Arvada is closed, might lose families. In favor of closing temps. Bond and mill initiatives did not pass; hope to see them there in the future. Would gladly take furlough days.
25. Heidi- alumni, parent, homeowner- renovated home, chose area because of school system. Seen district change over the 30 years. Would like to see Dual Language in middle school. Children were supposed to go to Foster, but didn't want Dual Language for her children. School transient at that time. Tired of seeing tax dollars going to west side. Keep Arvada middle school program; gives her choice to send child to program without Dual Language, primarily in English.
26. Lisa Abrams- parent- Option 5- child also very against option, children have special needs, found support at Vanderhoof, child likes going to school. Concerned about affect on Special Education program at both schools, would mean moving to 4 different schools in 4 yrs. Transition will be harmful. Please consider damage to Special Education families at both schools. Support special education comm., against option 5.
27. Mrs. Miller- brought paper-PhD- Abraham- student- Want for Dual Language to go to 8th grade- Dual Language program is important and beneficial to all, good to cross language barriers, join two communities.
28. Tracy Sullivan- parent- investing in human capital is important, merits close inspection of impact, children only have one chance at each grade - affects for lifetime, there is no redo, only one time, affects developmental building blocks, affects attitudes, future goals. District choices will impact. Please look beyond line items, consider human capital impact. Reconsider other options- furlough days, cutting expensive remodels (atriums).
29. Against moving 6th graders- alumni- child may not have benefit of transition year, not having opportunity to be top dog at elem. Want child to have same opportunities she did. Could have irreparable damage to students. Keep 6th grade in elem.

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31. Lisa B- How would Title funds be affected by Option 5? How will they have for two services at both schools? How will afterschool be affected? If schools split will translator services need to be duplicated? What about length of busing? What if meal program is lost? How to keep mentor program if students split? What about collaboration of students in programs? What about splitting parent involvement resources? How does it affect their development going to two schools? Should consider option 4, any other cost savings in other areas being considered?
32. Sylvia- Thomson Elementary school teacher- addressing 6th grade move- believe would be one of the most detrimental options to students- often lose sight of what is working when looking for solutions to other problems. What is working is having 6th grade there. Academic success, skills being learned. Consider this - are these cuts impacting or changing what is not working or what is? Keep 6th grade where it is working.