

Jeffco Performing Arts Advocacy Coalition May, 2014 Newsletter

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What We've Been Up To

Over the past few months, the Jeffco Performing Arts Advocacy Coalition has been quite busy. We have spent a lot of energy on growth and ensuring our public presence is easily accessible. We created our new web site onto which we continuously add new content. We have focused on news and events, research & data, and links to both local and national groups of interest. We have even made it mobile enabled! We created a Facebook page for those who like to stay informed via Facebook and we post there every few days. We added a Twitter account for those who prefer to follow via Twitter. Finally, we updated our back end e-mail list signup process. All of this has taken a very large amount of our time.

At the same time, we have been working to grow membership and to build important relationships. We have spoken at Board of Education meetings, we have interviewed Jeffco Board of Education Members, (profiles are on the web site under the "Helpful Links" section), and we have begun dialog with organizations such as the Colorado Music Educators Association and the Colorado Department of Education. There is a long journey ahead to make all the necessary connections to enable strong advocacy. If you have contacts which would be helpful, please let us know.

May 20th Meeting With Jeffco Board of Education Members

We are pleased to announce our next general meeting to be held on Tuesday, May 20 at 6:30pm. The location will be the Community Room at the Arvada Police Department West Woods community station located at 6644 Kendrick Dr., Arvada, CO 80007. **(Please note that this is a change of location from the original announcement.)**

Our guest speakers will be Mr. Ken Witt and Mr. John Newkirk, two members of the Jeffco Public Schools Board of Education. They will be presenting and discussing their views on the importance of Performing Arts as a part of a well rounded education. We will follow their presentations with a Q&A session. John is a musician and both played when they were in school. They are very excited about speaking with our group.

In addition, we will present information about what this organization has been up to for the last couple of months and solicit your input about areas in which you would like to see the organization focus.

While this venue is larger than what we had previously, we still only have room for around 40 people, so please come early to get a seat.

Upcoming AMP webinar

The Association of Music Parents May 22 Webinar is entitled, "All Politics is Local - How Parents Play a Part in Their Community". This is all about positively advocating for the importance of Performing Arts at the local level. For more details, see the "News and Events" section of our web page.

Get the Word Out/We Need You!

We need your help to continue to spread the word of the good work this organization is doing on behalf of our kids. While people who receive this newsletter and people following us on both Facebook and Twitter have been growing, most of that has been in the North Jeffco area and mostly at the high school level. We need your help to pass this newsletter and our contact information below on to others. In addition, if you would like one of our board members to show up and speak with your organization or parent group, contact us at our e-mail address below.

We need you! We still need a couple more volunteers to help lead the organization. Time commitments are minimal. If you have an interest in helping, please reach us at our e-mail address below.

Request for Information

We are always on the lookout for good information to include on the web site. Whether it is good research and data, links to relevant community organizations, or links to Jeffco music booster clubs, we want to get it posted. Please send us anything you have which would be beneficial to others.

In What Areas Would You Like to See us Focus?

As we look forward to the next school year, we need to start planning. That planning starts with you, our stakeholders. What would you like to see the organization focus on with respect to Performing Arts Advocacy. Send us your thoughts at jeffcopaadvocacy@gmail.com.

Remember, it's all about the students,

Kent Micho
President, Jeffco Performing Arts Advocacy Coalition

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Our Contact Information:

- Website: <http://www.jeffcopaadvocacy.org>
- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/jeffcopaadvocacy>
- Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/jeffcopaadvocac> (no "y" at the end)
- Email: jeffcopaadvocacy@gmail.com

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<http://www.jeffcopaadvocacy.org/stay-informed-or-volunteer.html>