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NEW TEACHER COMPENSATION MODEL VOTED ON BY BOARD

On Thursday, Sept. 4, members of the Jefferson County Board of Education voted to implement the plan put forward last week by board president Ken Witt. The plan will have the vast majority of Jeffco teachers taking home larger paychecks this year. Recognizing that Jeffco teachers took salary reductions and furlough days in the last few years, the board felt that this plan would benefit more teachers than a traditional "step" increase. In addition, the board increased by over 50 percent the amount available for compensation increases this year. Original budget projections had \$11.7 million allocated for the compensation increase. The board raised that to over \$18 million. The details of the plan are:

- Increasing the minimum pay for a Jeffco teacher to \$38,000.
- There will be pay increases for all teachers rated effective or highly effective during the 2013-14 school year.
 - Probationary teachers (those who have taught less than three years) rated partially effective will receive a salary increase of one percent.
 - Teachers with an effective rating will receive a salary increase of 2.43 percent.
 - Teachers with a highly effective rating will receive a salary increase of 4.25 percent.

(These percentages are preliminary.)

• Employees who are at the top of the pay scale will receive a stipend of the same percentages above as opposed to an ongoing salary increase.

"This compensation model supports our goal of having an effective teacher in every classroom and helps us be more competitive with surrounding districts. We want the best and brightest teachers in our classrooms because our students deserve nothing less," said Jeffco Superintendent Dan McMinimee.

There are still details to be worked out with the plan and the board will discuss it again during their meeting on Thursday, Sept. 18.