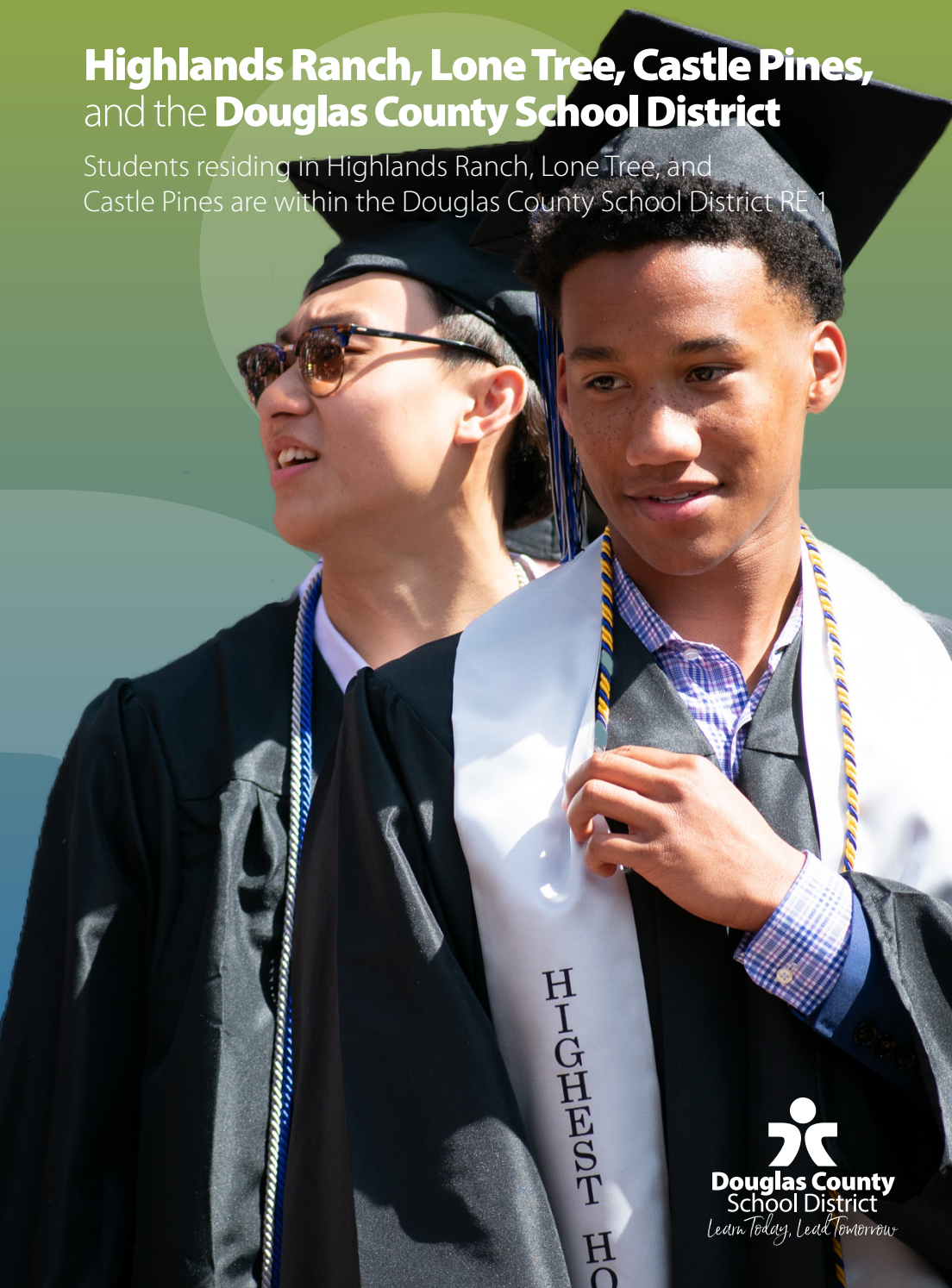


Highlands Ranch, Lone Tree, Castle Pines, and the **Douglas County School District**

Students residing in Highlands Ranch, Lone Tree, and
Castle Pines are within the Douglas County School District RE 1



For 65 years, the Douglas County School District (DCSD) has strived to provide innovative educational approaches tailored to every student. In Highlands Ranch, Lone Tree and Castle Pines, DCSD has four school feeders: Highlands Ranch High School, Mountain Vista High School, Rock Canyon High School, and ThunderRidge High School. Each feeder features amazing middle school, elementary school and preschool offerings.

Families in these areas can access the educational options within our schools that best meet their students' needs. DCSD schools offer a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment where students can discover their strengths and talents and develop their unique potential.

Programs include:

- **College and Career Readiness**
- **Honors and Advanced Placement Offerings**
- **Concurrent Enrollment** (students earn college credits while in high school)
- **Career and Technical Education** (preparing students to enter the workforce directly after graduation)
- A variety of **sports, clubs and extracurricular activities**
- **Advanced Education** (such as gifted and talented programs)
- **Special education** and related services in alignment with the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Colorado's • Exceptional Children's Education Act (ECEA)
- **Early Childhood Education/Preschool**
- **Before and After School Enterprise** (B.A.S.E.)
- **Parent engagement** committees and programs

Quick Facts

- **Number of Public Schools in this Region - 37**
- **Number of students enrolled in this Region (PreK-12) - 27,995**

Douglas County School District is one of this Region's largest employers

- **# of DCSD employees who work in Highlands Ranch, Lone Tree or Castle Pines 2,862**
 - **# of DCSD Teachers who work in Highlands Ranch, Lone Tree or Castle Pines schools - 1,451**

Many Douglas County School District Teachers and Staff are also residents

- **# of Douglas County School District employees who are Highlands Ranch, Lone Tree or Castle Pines residents - 2,262**

Douglas County School District Funding Needs in Highlands Ranch, Lone Tree, and Castle Pines

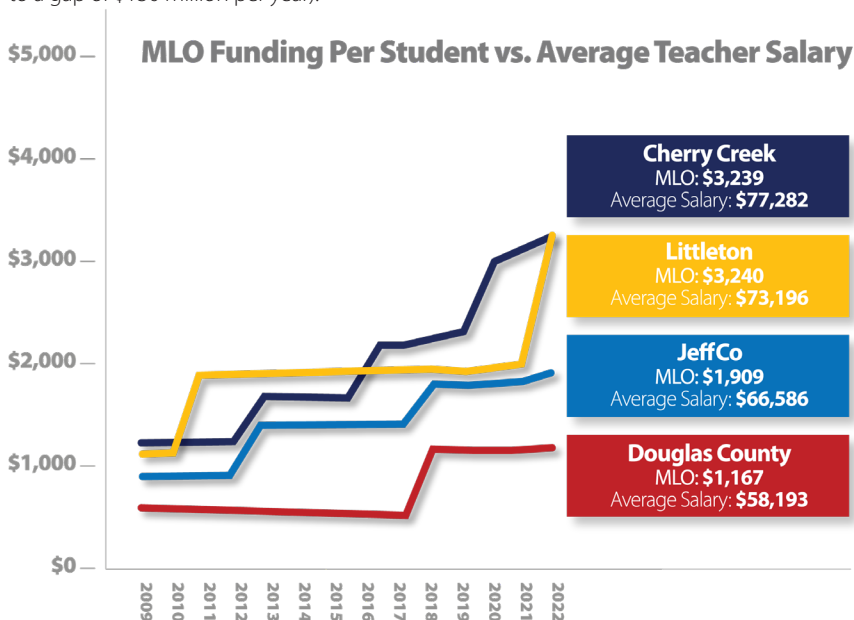
When Home Values Go Up Does School Funding Automatically Increase?

An increase in local funding due to economic growth and rising property taxes does **NOT** provide our schools with more money, it just means the state contributes less.

Mill Levy Overrides (MLO)

Each school district can request additional local funding through a local Mill Levy Override (MLO). This funding is generally used for operations, including salaries, staffing, and student programming. A potential 2023 MLO for the Douglas County School District would provide teachers and staff in every Highlands Ranch, Lone Tree and Castle Pines public school (neighborhood and charter) with more competitive pay and would provide more security (including School Resource Officers) in Highlands Ranch and surrounding area schools.

Because other school districts in the Denver Metro area have continuously passed voter-approved local measures to increase their funding, our school district now receives \$2,000 less per student than Cherry Creek School District and Littleton Public Schools (equivalent to a gap of \$130 million per year).



*MLO per student is total MLO divided by funded pupil count; Average teacher salaries are from CDE data for the 2021-2022 school year.

Per Colorado Department of Education, Douglas County School District's General Administration Spending Per Student is \$63 vs. \$149 in Littleton Public Schools and \$189 in Denver Public Schools.

High-Quality Schools Benefit Our Community

- Provides High-Quality Education for our Children
- Keeps Our Home Values Strong
- Builds the Future Workforce for Our Community
- Attracts Businesses to Highlands Ranch, Lone Tree, and Castle Pines - Provides Jobs and Economic Growth
- Serves as a Hub for Community Events and Gatherings

Award-Winning Schools in Highlands Ranch, Lone Tree, and Castle Pines

2022 John Irwin Schools of Excellence Award Recipients:

- American Academy
- Arrowwood Elementary
- Bear Canyon
- Ben Franklin Academy
- Buffalo Ridge Elementary
- Copper Mesa Elementary
- Cougar Run Elementary
- Eagle Ridge Elementary
- Eldorado Elementary
- Heritage Elementary
- Lone Tree Elementary
- Mountain Ridge Middle School
- Northridge Elementary
- Platte River Academy
- Ranch View Middle School
- Rock Canyon High School
- Saddle Ranch Elementary
- STEM School Highlands Ranch
- Stone Mountain Elementary
- Summit View Elementary
- Timber Trail Elementary
- Trailblazer Elementary
- Wildcat Mountain Elementary

2022 Governor's Distinguished Improvement Award Recipients:

- Arrowwood Elementary
- Heritage Elementary
- Lone Tree Elementary
- Northridge Elementary
- Stone Mountain Elementary
- Summit View Elementary
- Timber Trail Elementary
- Trailblazer Elementary

2022 High School Academic Growth Award:

- Rock Canyon High School

Career and Technical Education Programs in Highlands Ranch (and surrounding area) High Schools

Highlands Ranch High School:

ACE- Alternative Cooperative Education, Aviation/Drone Science, Business and Marketing, Cosmetology, Family and Consumer Studies (FACS), Education, Interior and Fashion Design, Filmmaking, Broadcasting/Media Production, Multimedia and Photo, Information Technology, Coding, Cyber Security, Theater Tech, STEM/Engineering - Project Lead the Way

Mountain Vista High School:

Broadcast Journalism, Business and Marketing, Family and Consumer Studies (FACS), Education, Hospitality and Foods, Interior and Fashion Design, Filmmaking, Health Science, Information Technology, Multimedia and Photo, STEM / Engineering, Theater Tech

Rock Canyon High School:

Biotechnology, Business and Marketing, Criminal Justice, Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), Fire Science, Multimedia/Filmmaking, STEM/Engineering

ThunderRidge High School:

Business and Marketing, Construction, Family and Consumer Studies (FACS), Hospitality and Foods, Interior and Fashion Design, ProStart, Multimedia and Photo, Welding

Investing in the Douglas County School District Benefits Our Community

Additional funding to the Douglas County School District via potential future Mill Levy Overrides and Bond initiatives benefits our town in many ways, for example:

- Provide more competitive pay for teachers and staff, so that Highlands Ranch, Lone Tree, and Castle Pines keep their high-quality educators here in our communities.
- Increase and maintain school security support such as School Resource Officers, and implement school safety and security upgrades.
- Provide additional Career and Technical Education opportunities for students.
- Keep Highlands Ranch, Lone Tree, and Castle Pines school buildings safe and adequate for students and staff, and increase capacity to reduce overcrowding.

Additional funding would enable DCSD to build a new elementary school in the Sterling Ranch neighborhood.



Learn More

For more information on how schools are funded in Highlands Ranch, Lone Tree, and Castle Pines, go to [**http://www.dcsdk12.org/funding**](http://www.dcsdk12.org/funding).

Bonds

Local voter-approved general obligation bonds are used by school districts for capital needs such as constructing new school buildings or additions to existing school buildings, facility repairs and upgrades, security upgrades, classroom equipment, buses, and technology.

How Highlands Ranch and surrounding area schools would benefit from additional funding:

• New Elementary School for The Canyons

• New Elementary School for Sterling Ranch

• **Acres Green Elementary:** Replace RTUs originally installed in 2000 • Replace boiler(s) • Install new IP intercom system for building • Student/Staff device refresh • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff • Addition of Campus Security Specialist

• **American Academy - Castle Pines:** Playground replacement • RTU units • Replace BAS System (for HVAC) • Door hardware upgrades • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff • Additional security support

• **Arrowwood Elementary:** Replace chiller • Replace boiler(s) • Install new IP intercom system for building • Replace original epoxy floor • Student/Staff device refresh • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff • Addition of Campus Security Specialist

• **Bear Canyon Elementary:** Upgrade control system • Upgrade fire alarm system • Install new IP intercom system for building • Replace generator and associated equipment • Re-support gas piping • Replace sink countertops • Recaulk expansion joints • Reseal CMU • Student/Staff device refresh • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff

• **Ben Franklin Academy:** Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff • Addition of Campus Security Specialist

• **Buffalo Ridge Elementary:** Replace boiler(s) • Install new IP intercom system for building • Resurface asphalt parking lot • Resurface playpad • Recaulk control joints • Student/Staff device refresh • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff • Addition of Campus Security Specialist

• **Copper Mesa:** Replace carpet • Install new IP intercom system for building • Replace generator and associated equipment • Replace poured acrylic flooring in all restrooms • Replace gym carpet • Replace VCT • Student/Staff device refresh • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff • Addition of Campus Security Specialist

• **Cougar Run Elementary:** Replace boiler(s) • Install new IP intercom system for building • Upgrade gym sound system • Replace floor with poured acrylic • Replace sink countertops with single surface • Replace VCT • Replace sheet vinyl flooring in art room • Replace VCT in classrooms • Student/Staff device refresh • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff • Addition of Campus Security Specialist

• **Coyote Creek Elementary:** Replace carpet • Upgrade control system • Upgrade fire alarm system • Install new IP intercom system for building • Replace original panels and transformers • Replace main switchgear • Replace flooring • Replace poured acrylic flooring in all restrooms • Student/Staff device refresh • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff • Addition of Campus Security Specialist

• **Cresthill Middle School:** Replace carpet • Upgrade control system • Upgrade fire alarm system • Install new IP intercom system for building • Replace original panels and transformers • Replace kitchen flooring, original poured acrylic • Student/Staff device refresh • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff

• **DCS Montessori Charter School:** Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff • Additional security support

• **Eagle Ridge Elementary:** Install new IP intercom system for building • Replace epoxy floor with MMA • Student/Staff device refresh • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff • Addition of Campus Security Specialist

• **Eldorado Elementary:** Install new IP intercom system for building • Replace cooling tower • Replace kitchen floor • Replace sheet vinyl flooring with MMA • Replace sink countertops with single surface • Replace VCT in classrooms • Student/Staff device refresh • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff • Addition of Campus Security Specialist

• **Fox Creek Elementary:** Upgrade control system • Upgrade fire alarm system • Install new IP intercom system for building • Replace original panels and transformers • Replace main switchgear • Replace kitchen flooring with MMA • Replace VCT in classrooms • Student/Staff device refresh • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff • Addition of Campus Security Specialist

• **Heritage Elementary:** Install new IP intercom system for building • Replace poured acrylic kitchen flooring • Replace VCT • Student/Staff device refresh • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff • Addition of Campus Security Specialist

• **Highlands Ranch High School:** Addition of Automotive CTE Programming • Resurface asphalt parking lot • Replace VCT • Resurface track and field • Install new IP intercom system for building • Upgrade lighting and sound systems • Replace kitchen flooring • Replace sheet vinyl with MMA • 4 student restrooms, coat tile restrooms with MMA • Student/Staff device refresh • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff

• **Lone Tree Elementary:** Replace .045 EDPM ballasted roof with .060 EDPM fully adhered • Upgrade control system • Install new IP intercom system for building • Upgrade fire alarm system • Replace sink counter tops in all restrooms • Recaulk control joints and seal masonry CMU • Repair VCT at cafeteria entrance • Student/Staff device refresh • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff • Addition of Campus Security Specialist

• **Mountain Ridge Middle School:** Replace .060 EPDM ballasted with .060 fully adhered • Replace carpet • Install new IP intercom system for building • Replace generator and associated equipment • Student/Staff device refresh • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff

• **Mountain Vista High School:** Replace RTUs • Install new IP intercom system for building • Replace carpet in classrooms and offices • Upgrade lighting and sound systems • Replace VCT in pod hallways, classrooms as needed • Replace VCT • Replace flooring in all restrooms • Student/Staff device refresh • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff

- **Northridge Elementary:** Upgrade fire alarm system • Install new IP intercom system for building • Replace ceramic floor tile with MMA • Student/Staff device refresh • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff • Addition of Campus Security Specialist
- **Platte River Academy:** Replace plumbing fixtures • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff • Additional security support
- **Ranch View Middle School:** Replace chiller • Replace boiler(s) • Install new IP intercom system for building • Overhaul elevator • Replace domestic hot water system, heaters, pumps, and storage • Replace generator and associated equipment • Replace VCT • Replace original sheet vinyl flooring with poured acrylic in all restrooms • Replace sink counter tops in all restrooms • Student/Staff device refresh • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff
- **Redstone Elementary:** Replace carpet • Install new IP intercom system for building • Replace generator and associated equipment • Replace poured acrylic flooring in all restrooms • Replace gym carpet • Replace VCT • Replace sink countertops with single surface • Seal CMU Repair cracks at joints left of main entrance and other areas • Recaulk control joints • Student/Staff device refresh • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff • Addition of Campus Security Specialist
- **Rock Canyon High School:** Replace RTUs • Replace carpet • Resurface track and field • Install new IP intercom system for building • Upgrade lighting and sound systems • Replace VCT • Replace poured acrylic flooring in all restrooms • Replace generator and associated equipment • Reseal CMU, recaulk control joints • Replace sink counter tops in all restrooms • Student/Staff device refresh • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff
- **Rocky Heights Middle School:** Replace .060 EPDM ballasted with .060 fully adhered • Replace carpet • Install new IP intercom system for building • Replace generator and associated equipment • Replace VCT • Replace sink countertops in all restrooms with single surface • Replace sheet vinyl with poured acrylic (some restrooms complete) • Recaulk building control joints • Student/Staff device refresh • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff
- **Roxborough Intermediate:** Upgrade control system • Upgrade fire alarm system • Install new IP intercom system for building • Recaulk expansion joints • Reseal CMU • Student/Staff device refresh • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff • Addition of Campus Security Specialist
- **Roxborough Primary:** Replace carpet • Upgrade control system • Upgrade fire alarm system • Install new IP intercom system for building • Replace original panels and transformers • Replace main switchgear • Replace kitchen flooring with poured acrylic • Replace generator and associated equipment • Student/Staff device refresh • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff • Addition of Campus Security Specialist
- **Saddle Ranch Elementary:** Install new IP intercom system for building • Replace epoxy floor with MMA • Replace sink countertops with single surface • Student/Staff device refresh • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff • Addition of Campus Security Specialist
- **Sand Creek Elementary:** Replace carpet • Install new IP intercom system for building • Replace domestic water heater and associated piping • Student/Staff device refresh • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff • Addition of Campus Security Specialist
- **SkyView Academy:** Replace HVAC units • Replace fire alarm system • Install new HVAC controls • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff • Additional security support
- **STEM School Highlands Ranch:** Elementary school roof top unit repair/replacement (5B and 6B) • RTU # old 7A Carrier 10 ton • RTU # old 5A Carrier 5 ton • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff • Additional security support
- **Stone Mountain Elementary:** Upgrade control system • Upgrade fire alarm system • Install new IP intercom system for building • Recaulk expansion joints and reseal CMU • Student/Staff device refresh • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff • Addition of Campus Security Specialist
- **Summit View Elementary:** Replace carpet • Upgrade control system • Upgrade fire alarm system • Install new IP intercom system for building • Replace original panels and transformers • Replace main switchgear • Replace VCT flooring in staff restrooms • Student/Staff device refresh • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff • Addition of Campus Security Specialist
- **ThunderRidge High School:** Resurface asphalt parking lot • Replace boiler(s) • Resurface track • Install new IP intercom system for building • Upgrade lighting and sound systems • Recaulk control joints • Re-seal CMU • Replace small stage curtains and cracked seats in auditorium • Student/Staff device refresh • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff
- **Timber Trail Elementary:** Replace carpet • Install new IP intercom system for building • Resurface asphalt parking lot • Replace generator and associated equipment • Replace poured acrylic flooring in all restrooms • Replace gym carpet with sport flooring • Replace sink countertops with single surface • Replace VCT • Student/Staff device refresh • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff • Addition of Campus Security Specialist
- **Trailblazer Elementary:** Install new IP intercom system for building • Replace kitchen flooring with poured acrylic • Replace VCT • Student/Staff device refresh • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff • Addition of Campus Security Specialist
- **Wildcat Mountain Elementary:** Replace chiller • Replace boiler(s) • Install new IP intercom system for building • Replace kitchen flooring • Replace VCT • Replace VCT in classrooms due to building movement • Student/Staff device refresh • Safety and security upgrades • Pay increases for teachers and staff • Addition of Campus Security Specialist



Learn More

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