



# Partnership for Fiscal Sustainability Committee

## Meeting Minutes

April 6th 2026 – 5:00-7:00 pm  
Warren Tech Central, Founders Room

### Partnership for Fiscal Sustainability

Members include staff, parents, business leaders, educators, students, residents - voices who care deeply about the future of Jeffco schools.

### Board Liaisons:

Tina Moeinian, Board of Education

### Staff & Consultants:

Tracy Dorland, Superintendent  
Brenna Copeland, CFO  
Tara Pena, Chief of Family and Community Partnerships  
Matt Palaoro, Chief of Staff  
Jeff Gatlin, Chief Operating Officer  
Renee Nicothodes, Chief Academic Officer  
Amanda Pierorazio, Chief Human Resource Officer  
Kimberly Mahugh, Flourish Communications  
Ryan Winger, Magellan Strategies  
Heather Waldron, Director of Postsecondary Workforce Development

### Attendees

- Ang Anderson
- Akela Edwards
- Allison Halprin
- Amanda Pieroazio
- Amy Perry
- Anna Alarid
- Astrid Sanchez
- Brenna Copeland
- Brooke Schubert
- Bryan Martin
- Caroline Wolfrum
- Cheryl Sekorski
- Christine Talley
- Crystal Marine
- Dale Munholland
- Daniel Oakley
- David Fulton
- Devin Mills
- Don Hargis
- Emily Park
- Emily Richardson
- Eric Romero
- Gregory Gibson
- Heather Waldron
- Jeff Gatlin
- Jon DeStefano
- Karen Gordey-McFarland
- Katie Zaback
- Kia Ruiz
- Kimberly Mahugh
- Kiya Krier
- Kiyana Allen
- Krista Spurgin
- Kristin Seyboth
- Leah Saieg
- Leigh Pytlinski
- Lexi Jackson
- Lisa Yoakum
- Lyric Johnson
- Maggie Hesketh
- Mallory Hamilton
- Matt Cormier
- Matt Palaoro
- Meghan Teegarden
- Melia Ortiz
- Michael McCoy
- Michele DeAndrea  
Austin
- Mike Villanueva
- Nancy Murray
- Noah Hyde
- Randy England
- Renee Nicothodes
- Rick Rush
- Ron Miller
- Sara Kuntzler
- Sarah McClintock
- Shannon Vigil
- Susan Lopez
- Tara Pena
- Tina Moenien
- Tracy Dorland
- Zander Kaschub

## April 6 Agenda Items

- Reground: The Role of the Partnership, Project Values, What a Recommendation Would Include
- Brenna Copeland, CFO - Financial Analysis of Funding Options and Compensation History
- Jeff Gatlin, COO - Property Disposition
- Heather Waldron, Director of Postsecondary Workforce Readiness - What a CTE Investment Could Look Like
- Ryan Winger, Magellan Strategies - Polling Results
- Adjourn

## Welcome, Introductions, and Recap

*The meeting was called to order at 5:02 pm.*

- A review of the committee's role was provided:
  - Collaborate with Jeffco staff to develop a revenue-generation recommendation for the Board of Education
  - The Partnership will present its recommendation to the Board on May 11
  - Components of the recommendation include:
    - Mission, vision, and values statement
    - Review of ballot measure options
    - Investment priorities
    - Assessment of options
- Last month, the Partnership received ballot language education from Jeffco's bond counsel, previewed state-level ballot measures, learned about ballot measure finance options and projected cost to property owners.

## Funding Options Analysis and Compensation History

*Brenna Copeland, Chief Financial Officer, Jeffco Public Schools*

Presented an overview of ballot measure options, including estimated taxpayer cost, funding coverage and priority uses. Discussion takeaways included:

- Compensation increases have outpaced revenue growth.
- Investment in staff supports educator retention, student stability, and strong relationships.
- Sustainable funding enables long-term planning and continued investment in student experiences and safe, modern facilities.

## Property Disposition Update

*Jeff Gatlin, Chief Operation Officer*

Provided an update on property disposition efforts, including process, market dynamics, and financial outlook.

### Overview:

- The initial portfolio included 21 vacant buildings.
- Process guided by principles including community benefit, financial return, and neighborhood compatibility.
- Partnership with a real estate consultant to support evaluation and sales.

### **Discussion Takeaways:**

- Estimated total revenue from property sales ranges from \$20M–\$51M, less than half of one year of capital funding needs.
- Property values vary significantly due to zoning and use restrictions.
- Rezoning can increase value but adds time and uncertainty.
- Sale proceeds will be realized over multiple years and are reinvested in capital needs per Board policy.
- Community benefit is an important consideration alongside financial return.

### **Key Questions & Themes:**

- Timeline variability for properties under contract
- Balancing current sales with future district needs (e.g., CTE, charter use)
- Impact of local rezoning dynamics
- Ongoing holding costs (estimated ~\$150K annually per property)
- Need to increase community awareness and nonprofit engagement
- Importance of updating the district's strategic capital master plan

### **What a CTE and Career-Connected Investment Could Look Like**

*Heather Waldron, Director of Postsecondary Workforce Readiness, Jeffco Public Schools*

#### **Overview:**

- CTE supports college and career readiness through industry certifications, transferable credit, and work-based learning.
- High outcomes for CTE concentrators, including a 96.2% graduation rate.
- Strong impact on closing opportunity gaps across student groups.
- Student demand for CTE continues to grow.

#### **Discussion Takeaways:**

- CTE provides important “why” and relevance for high school students.
- Programs support both academic and social-emotional outcomes.
- Future investment needs include staffing, transportation, equipment, and programming.

#### **Funding Considerations:**

- Career hub coordinators connect students with real-world experiences and industry partners.
- Pilot programs show increased student awareness and significant growth in industry partnerships.

## **Polling Results**

*Ryan Winger, Magellan Strategies*

Magellan Strategies presented findings from a recent community survey of Jeffco residents.

### **Methodology:**

- 932 respondents surveyed (March 19–April 1)
- Approximately 70% of voters do not have children in schools

### **Key Takeaways:**

- 62–63% baseline support for a ~\$75M mill levy override (MLO)
- 55% support for a ~\$135M MLO after additional context
- Support declines as cost increases; tax fatigue is a major barrier
- Lower support when a bond measure is included

### **Drivers of Support:**

- Teacher and staff compensation (primary driver)
- Student programming, including CTE
- Class size and student-teacher ratios

### **Capital Priorities (high importance among respondents):**

- Building maintenance (87%)
- HVAC and climate control (79%)
- Modern facilities and equipment (79%)
- Safety and technology updates (73%)

### **Themes from Respondents:**

- Strong desire for competitive teacher pay
- Expectation that funds go directly to classrooms
- Demand for fiscal accountability and transparency
- Ongoing concerns about cost of living and taxes

## **Discussion: Funding Strategies & Campaign Considerations**

The committee discussed potential ballot strategies and community engagement considerations.

### **Key Themes:**

- Need for clear, specific messaging on use of funds
- Importance of educating the community on funding gaps
- Balancing scope of need with likelihood of voter support
- Recognition of trust challenges and tax fatigue

**Polling Feedback from Committee:**

- Continued interest in both \$75M and \$135M MLO options
- Recognition that additional community education is needed

**Wrap Up and May Meeting Preview**

The Executive Committee will develop a draft recommendation for review at the May meeting, which will focus on facilitated discussion, feedback and refining next steps. The meeting ran ~20 minutes over, but the group conducted a straw poll at the end to gauge the Partnership's thinking. Of those still present, 38 members supported a combined \$75M general-purpose MLO and \$60M special-purpose mill, none supported a \$75M general-purpose MLO alone, and five members abstained.

Meeting materials, notes, and updates will be sent out via email and can be found on the Partnership webpage. The May 7th meeting will be located in The Warren Tech Central Founders Room, 13300 W 2nd Pl, Lakewood, CO 80228 from 5-7 p.m.

*The meeting adjourned at 7:16 pm*