FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 21, 2010

For more information:

Melissa Reeves, <u>mdreeves@jeffco.k12.co.us</u>, Jeffco Public Schools, 303-982-6567 Lynn Setzer, <u>lsetzer@jeffco.k12.co.us</u>, Jeffco Public Schools, 303-982-6810

JEFFCO SCHOOLS MAKE THE LIST

Jeffco's Lakewood, Evergreen, Conifer and D'Evelyn high schools have landed on a very impressive list -- *Newsweek's America's Best High Schools* list.

- Lakewood
- Evergreen
- Conifer
- D'Evelyn

Each year, *Newsweek* picks the best high schools in the country based on how hard school staffs work to challenge students with advanced-placement college-level courses and tests.

Just over 1,600 schools—only 6 percent of all the public schools in the U.S.—made the list.

This news comes on the heels of a recent *Education Week* article that ranks Jeffco fifth in the nation for having the highest graduation rates.

"The fact that our Jeffco schools showed up on this impressive list is proof that our staff does an excellent job of providing all students with a strong foundation," said Jeffco Superintendent Cindy Stevenson. "We're very proud of that in Jeffco."

Education Week uses the Cumulative Promotion Index (CPI) method to calculate high school graduation rates for public schools. The CPI method adheres to the guidelines established under the federal No Child Left Behind Act, by counting only students receiving standard high school diplomas as graduates.