



## Free Horizon Montessori

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Dear Free Horizon Montessori community –

At the annual State of the School meeting last night, FHM leadership shared several updates on the FHM facilities focus and strategic planning for FHM's future. One of the topics covered was the opportunity Free Horizon is evaluating to potentially move into the Pleasant View Elementary School site at 15920 W 10th Ave, Golden, CO 80401, approximately 1.5 miles from FHM's current site. It is anticipated the Pleasant View building will be designated as "surplus property" by the Jeffco Board of Education as a follow-on to the Board's January 2017 vote to close the school at the end of the 2016-2017 school year due to its low and waning enrollment.

While Free Horizon loves our current campus and has invested substantial resources and energy into cultivating it as a welcoming school home since we moved here in 2006, the Pleasant View campus has amenities such as cafeteria, kitchen, gymnasium, media center, and specials classrooms that could immediately support Free Horizon's programs in ways that our current campus does not. Many of the facilities elements and educational adequacy improvements that have been named in FHM's Facilities Master Plan for years are already available at Pleasant View's campus.

This opportunity is only preliminary at this point. There are numerous unknowns and many steps must be taken by the Jefferson County School District before we know if this option will become viable. The FHM administration, Board of Directors, and Facilities Committee will continue to closely monitor the district's decisions about the Pleasant View property and are prepared to pursue it as appropriate. If the Pleasant View opportunity does not materialize, Free Horizon is still committed to pursuing its facilities priorities at our current location, as has always been envisioned. The Learning Landscape and Play Yard improvements initiative will continue either way.

We understand that potentially significant changes like this can trigger many questions. To address your concerns and answer your questions in an open and effective manner, we are hosting a **community conversation on Monday, May 15th at 6:00p at Free Horizon**. Please join us. Limited childcare will be provided with preregistration on a first-reserved, first-served basis. RSVP at <https://tinyurl.com/PV-Mtg>

We encourage all to submit questions in advance of the meeting so we can optimize the time and discussion by having answers researched and ready to the best of our ability. Please email [ehelmke@jeffcoschools.us](mailto:ehelmke@jeffcoschools.us) with questions or topics you'd like addressed at that meeting or submit on-line at <https://tinyurl.com/FHM-PV>.

Thank you,

Beth Helmke, MNM

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