



THOMAS JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL

HOME OF THE SPARTANS · 3950 S. HOLLY ST · DENVER, CO 80237 · 720-423-7000 · TJHS.DPSK12.COM

Dear Prospective TJ Families,

Welcome to Thomas Jefferson High School! I hope that you are doing well. I know that this school year has presented unprecedented challenges for our students, teachers, parents and even administrators and my hope is that we have all learned to have a deeper appreciation for the connections that we make at school each year.

As the father of two daughters, I look for three things when looking at the right fit for a school for them:

- 1) Relationships – are the adults in the school going to see my kids as kids and want to learn about them, or are they going to see them as a data point. At TJ we believe that building strong relationships with kids is at the forefront of what we do. We have an amazing school counselor staff, mental health support team, and teachers where our focus is on learning about your kids and what drives them.
- 2) Rigor – I want my daughters to be pushed and challenged academically and for them to have opportunities to expand socially and athletically. At TJ we believe that college is an option for every student that walks through our doors. For some kids that could mean a highly selective university, private university, state university, community college, or technical school. The reality is that now a high school diploma is not enough for our kids to be competitive in our global economy. At TJ we offer over a dozen AP and Concurrent Enrollment courses that enable students to earn college credit while in high school while remaining on our campus. We also offer internship opportunities, job training, and wealth of clubs and activities for kids to get involved in to help them find what sparks them.
- 3) Safety. I want to know that the school is serious about keeping my daughters safe when they're at school. Unfortunately, this is something that we have to take very serious and at TJ we do. We ask that all students wear a student ID on their person at all times while in the building so we can quickly verify that they are one of our students. As part of the 2016 Bond Approval (thank you voters!) we have had our lobby re-designed to ensure that any person entering the building must be allowed in by an adult. Through our Advisement classes and in partnership with the Denver District Attorney's Office, Project Blue Bench, and End Violence we have provided the students with supports around consent and how to be safe and make good decisions in our ever-changing world.

At the heart of everything that we do is for your kid. We strive to create a culture of respect, understanding, and family at TJ. We want your child's high school experience to be a positive one and one that they will remember fondly.

We look forward to seeing you in our hallways soon!

Take care,

Mike Christoff

Principal | Thomas Jefferson High School

