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To: The Board of Education and Dr. Patrick Broncato, Superintendent
From: Curt Saindon, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services/CSBO
Date: May 15, 2026
Subject: Jefferson Junior High Challenge Course

As we move into the summer construction season, I wanted to give the Board a brief update on the Challenger Course Project that we are completing at Jefferson Junior High in cooperation with the Woodridge Park District. Working with the Park District, we identified a location this spring, near the Southwest corner of our track and a little Southeast of the Park District's sled hill. This has been incorporated into the Park District's Comprehensive Plan for the development of Jubilee Park and the area west of our school (see the attached general layout from the Park District for the proposed improvements). Ryan Borderwick from the Park District worked with Justin at JJH to poll the P.E. Teachers and Coaches as to various possible Challenge Course station options that would be available for that age group. There are approximately nine different station options that we will be considering and we would most likely put together a final layout that has 6-8 of those stations as part of the course (in addition to a two lane, forty yard dash station with automated timers). The Park District has now reached out to several challenge course component manufacturers and is soliciting proposals for a final potential layout. Once those proposals have been received and probably narrowed down to 3-4 "finalists" over the next week or two, we will poll the students at JJH for their input and assistance in selecting a final layout to bid out for installation later this summer or in the early fall.

Both the Park District and the School District had budgeted up to \$200K each for this project, but we are happy to report that it looks like there will be some State infrastructure grant funds, perhaps up to 400K, available to help cover most, if not all, of the cost of this project ☺! The Park District is working through those details and we should know soon exactly how much grant funding we will have to put toward this project (hopefully up to \$400K, if all goes according to plan). It could, however, be up to 500K, requiring both the Park District and School District to contribute up to 50K each. Details regarding this supplemental funding from the State will be made available once the State budget has been finalized and the capital program codified. The Park District will let bids in June and hopefully approve a recommended vendor(s) in July, so that the equipment can be ordered and delivered and installed in late summer or early fall. If anyone has any questions or needs additional information, please don't hesitate to let me know. Thank you.