

Jeffco Public Schools launches 1st new construction project in a decade

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A rendering of the new, \$25 million elementary school in Arvada, JeffCo Public School's first new construction project in 10 years.
COURTESY HORD COPLAN MACHT

Jeffco Public Schools broke ground Thursday on the district's first new construction project in a decade, a \$25 million K-8 school in Arvada.

The Jefferson County district is the second-largest school system in the state, after Denver Public Schools.

The school, which is being designed by Denver architecture firm [Hord Coplan Macht](#) (formerly [SlaterPaul Architects](#)), will be called Candelas Elementary, named for Candelas, a growing, [master-planned community in Arvada](#) near Welton Reservoir.

Candelas has residential homes, recreation centers, community gardens, 13.5 miles of trails and 193 acres of open space.

The 100,000-square-foot school is being built on a 10-acre site at 19486 W. 94th Ave. and is slated for completion in fall 2017. An adjacent 15-acre site will be open for potential new development.

"It is being designed as a neighborhood school that will serve as a community amenity and a model for future Jeffco schools with break-out spaces for student collaboration, a learning commons and intentional connections to the outdoors," said [Adele Willson](#), principal at Hord Coplan Macht.

GH Phipps, a Greenwood Village-based construction company, is the general contractor for the school.

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