

## Chapter 7

# EDUCATION

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The Jerome Joint School District #261, serving the residents in the western portion of Jerome County and limited areas of Gooding and Lincoln Counties, maintains an average enrollment of approximately 4,000 students. Schools within the district are located in the City of Jerome. Students residing in the eastern end of the County attend school in Valley School District #262--located in eastern Jerome County. There are also private schools, an alternative high school, and local ties to the College of Southern Idaho (CSI) community college servicing Jerome County.

### **Jerome School District # 261**

The Jerome School District offices are located at 125 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. West in the City of Jerome.

- Jerome Early Education Program (J.E.E.P.) serves special-needs preschool students ages three to five.
- Horizon Elementary serves kindergarten through third grade students.
- Jefferson Elementary serves kindergarten through third grade students.
- Summit Elementary serves fourth and fifth grade students.
- Jerome Middle School serves sixth through eighth grade students.
- Jerome High School serves ninth through twelfth grade students.
- Northside Jr/Sr High School provides alternative education for sixth through twelfth graders.



### **Valley School District # 262**

The Valley School District education facility is a single building serving pre-school and kindergarten through twelfth grade. The building housing Valley High School, Valley Middle School, and Valley Elementary is located on Valley Road midway between Eden and Hazelton. The single-school concept is unique to Idaho and works well in a rural area.



### **Minidoka School District # 331**

Some students in Jerome County attend Paul Elementary, West Minico Middle School, and Minico High School. Full public educational services from preschool and grades K-12 are provided. A new school called Minidoka Virtual Academy serves all of the Magic

Valley (with open enrollment) and provides virtual education for grades K-8. These students also have full access to alternative, extra-curricular, and special-education programs and services of the district.

### **Shoshone Joint School District # 312**

The Shoshone School District boundaries extend into Jerome County. The Shoshone Joint School District does not service any students from within this boundary.

### **College of Southern Idaho (CSI)**



The College of Southern Idaho is a collaborative effort of the citizens of the Magic Valley--formed when the citizens of Twin Falls and Jerome counties voted to form and join a junior college district. CSI offers a variety of educational opportunities for continuing education, vocational programs, enrichment courses, professional education, and academic two-year degrees. Through satellite programs, CSI offers bachelor, master, and doctoral degrees through partnerships

with Idaho State University, Boise State University, Northwest Nazarene University, and the University of Idaho. CSI has off-campus educational centers in Burley, Gooding, Jerome, and Hailey.

### **Heritage Academy**

Heritage Academy, a publicly funded charter school, first opened their doors for the 2011-2012 school year. Heritage Academy welcomes kindergarteners through 8th grade. Charter schools are independent schools that are free to be more innovative yet are held accountable for improved student achievement.



### **South Central Head Start**

South Central Head Start provides federally funded preschool and family support programs for low income families.

### **Private Schools**

Private Schools are an alternative to public schools and are typically founded by religious organizations. Facilities and transportation are usually required for these schools.

### **Vocational Schools/Career Colleges**

Vocational schools are government-owned, or at least government-supported, institutions and usually occupy two full years of study with credits that are by and large accepted elsewhere in the academic world. The term "career college" is generally reserved for post-secondary for-profit institutions. Currently CSI fills the gap for "vocational schools." There are no "career colleges" currently located in the County. While transportation may not be required, certain facilities would be required--from parking and classrooms to potential living quarters.

**Home Schooling**

Home Schools are an alternative to public schools and are typically found in individual homes as an ancillary use to the residence where attendees are a part of the immediate family. Facilities and transportation are usually not required for home schools.