Aurora Public Schools recently hosted state and national officials to showcase some of the great work the district has been doing.

**Lieutenant Governor Launches Colorado Literacy Week at Crawford**

Colorado Lt. Gov. Joe Garcia visited Crawford Elementary School to launch Colorado Literacy Week. Garcia stressed the importance of giving students the tools they need to read at the highest levels. During his visit, Garcia highlighted some of the statewide innovative community-based initiatives aimed at improving early literacy.

Garcia also read to a group of students in a classroom.

**U.S. Secretary of Education Visits APS**

U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan also visited APS. Duncan and his team participated in a roundtable discussion at Vista PEAK Preparatory 9-12, which focused on the Academic and Career Pathways in APS.

Several APS pathway teachers, staff, parents, students and partners participated in the discussion.

During the visit, students displayed some of their skills. Aurora Central High School students demonstrated suturing techniques they learned as part of the Aurora LIGHTS/Health Sciences Pathway. Hinkley students in the Arts and Communication Pathway interviewed Duncan and videotaped the presentation.

Following the roundtable discussion, several teachers and Aurora Education Association President Amy Nichols participated in the “U.S. Department of Education’s National Conversation on Teacher Effectiveness” with members of the U.S. Department of Education.

“It was a privilege to welcome Lt. Gov. Garcia and U.S. Secretary of Education Duncan. “It was phenomenal to see their genuine interest in our students.”

– Superintendent John L. Barry