Students “Lift Off” to Space Camp

Two Aurora Public Schools students and one teacher enjoyed an experience this summer worth bragging about when they attended Space Camp 2012.

Boston P-8 math and science teacher Kate Curra accompanied students Michael Johnson of Murphy Creek P-8 and Joanna Mendy of South Middle School to the week-long camp at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama. While there, crew trainers guided participants through the past, present and future of space exploration. They saw the first rocket that put an American in space, the massive Saturn V rocket and the capsules early astronauts used during their missions. Typically, all activities during the camp correlate to national science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) standards.

This is the first year that Northrop Grumman, normally a student sponsor, has been able to send a teacher to the camp. Ironically, Curra was a student participant 15 years ago, and she appreciated the opportunity to go back as an educator.

Aurora Celebrates New Look for Altura, Elkhart and Lansing

The Aurora Public Schools community recently celebrated building remodels at Altura, Elkhart and Lansing elementary schools. Thanks to bond dollars approved by Aurora voters in 2008, all three schools received building additions and improvements over the summer.

Altura’s remodel included additions to house new classrooms, a media center and a cafeteria. Elkhart’s remodel added a new front entrance, gymnasium, cafeteria, media center and classrooms. Lansing’s bond project allowed for a new front entrance, classrooms and an addition to house the APS Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program.

To read more and view slideshows of the remodel celebrations, visit aurorak12.org.