

# Aurora Public Schools

## Montview Elementary Earns \$35K Award from Foundations for Great Schools

The bar for excellence among metro area schools is on the rise, and Montview Math and Health Sciences Elementary School is doing its part to keep pace.



Foundations for Great Schools recently rewarded Montview with a \$35,000 grant to support their continued student achievement. The education coalition, made up of five private Colorado foundations, recognizes outstanding success among metro area public schools serving high proportions of students from low-income families.

Montview was one of nearly two dozen schools to earn recognition in this year's program. Foundations for Great Schools selected award recipients from a 12-district area based on a variety of factors, including academic performance and growth, high percentage of students qualifying for the federal free and reduced lunch program, school leadership, culture, and instructional effectiveness.

Foundations for Great Schools also gave an "honorable mention" grant to Aurora West College Preparatory Academy for showing strong progress and promise.

## Hinkley Student Group Uses Mobile Platform to Promote Black History Month

Students and staff at Hinkley High School have learned a new meaning to competition throughout the month of February. And they can thank one of their own student groups for the inspiration.

Hinkley's student-led African Leaders of Tomorrow group teamed up with Tagg Bozied, creator of Quizit.mobi, to launch a series of smartphone games that help students and staff members celebrate Black History Month in a new and modern way. The mobile platform engages students and staff with trivia and texting contests related to Black History Month.



"People are actually learning a lot from this game," African Leaders of Tomorrow member Elizabeth Sogunle said. "Seeing everyone's excitement for it has been great."

Using the Quizit.mobi portfolio of mobile apps, more than 200 Hinkley students and staff participated in daily trivia contests and earned points for correct answers. The individual with the highest total score at the end of February will receive a \$100 cash prize.

"I never knew a lot about African-American history," fellow group member Ethiopia Balcha said, "so that's definitely been the best part for me."



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