

Aurora Public Schools

Vassar Teacher Helps Student Reach New Heights

Vassar Elementary School third-grade teacher Nancy Taphorn understands the value of a hand-written letter in today's tech-driven society. Every winter and summer break, she mails her students personalized thank you cards brimming with words of encouragement and praise. Wonderfully, this small gesture changed the course of one student's life forever.

When nine-year-old A.J. read Taphorn's words, "I am proud of you - so proud of you and who you are. The future is bright and I can't wait to see all that you accomplish," he took it to heart. According to his mother, A.J. now firmly believes that he has a bright future simply because his teacher said so.



In just one year under Mrs. Taphorn's wings, A.J. developed a deeper sense of confidence and empowerment that helped him unveil a treasure – his gifted mind. With Mrs. Taphorn's encouragement, A.J. passed tests to begin the 2014-15 school year as a gifted and talented student in the APS AGATE program. The program will expose A.J. to an array of opportunities that recognize his individual strengths and interests and challenge him to maximize his potential.

APS thanks Mrs. Taphorn for accelerating learning in a unique and personable way.

Please Join Us for a Special Event

Please join us for the Aurora Public Schools Community Campus P-8 groundbreaking:

Wednesday, Sept. 3

5:30 p.m.

APS Community Campus

2nd Avenue & Airport Boulevard

To address continuing enrollment growth at elementary and P-8 schools in the district, the APS Board of Education approved the construction of the new school on the APS Community Campus. The school will serve more than 900 students and will open in September 2015.

The groundbreaking will be held at the P-8 construction site, just south of 2nd Avenue. Parking will be available on 2nd Avenue and in the Aurora Quest K-8 parking lot.



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