

Aurora Public Schools

APS Kicks Off Spring Energy Challenge

In January, APS kicked off its Compete to Reduce Energy Challenge for the spring semester. The district-wide competition offers schools the opportunity to earn thousands in cash incentives by reducing energy use.

The challenge focuses on empowering students and staff to learn about energy use and take action through energy conservation activities and projects. A new interactive building dashboard allows students to monitor energy use at their school and make changes in real time.

To learn more about the energy challenge or to view the building dashboard, visit maintop.aurorak12.org/energy-conservation.



Did you know?

- In the 2013-14 school year, APS saved more than \$750,000 as a result of energy conservation efforts.
- Schools can save up to 20 percent of their energy use simply by having students and staff turn off lights and unplug computers and electronics.
- An energy savings of 20 percent, at just two high schools, adds up to \$130,000 per year—enough to power a middle school for an entire year!

One on One with APS Students: Ayana Simpson



Aurora Public Schools is filled with great students who are role models to their peers, families and community. Periodically, we like to catch up with our students to find out interesting facts and tidbits about them.

Ayana Simpson, fifth-grader, Dartmouth Elementary School

What is your favorite subject in school?

My favorite subjects are math, science and social studies. In science class, we get to do very fun experiments, which we learn a lot from. I also like math because it challenges my brain.

What are your hobbies?

Sewing and discovery. I LOVE to sew. And I like to go around my neighborhood with my backpack and find stuff.

What has been your favorite part about elementary school? What will you miss the most?

The teachers because they help you learn and they pass on that learning to everyone else. And I'd have to say lunch, too, because everyone likes eating! I'm going to miss the teachers because they taught me a lot of important things and, of course, I'll miss my friends. Fifth-grade has been my favorite grade so far because you get treated more maturely.

What are you looking forward to the most about going to middle school?

I'm probably going to go to Global Village Academy. I'll get to learn a new language – probably French – and I already know a little bit of it.

What do you want to be when you grow up?

I have so many options. I'm kind of thinking about being a professional basketball player, especially since I have been playing [competitively]. I also have been thinking about becoming a botanist.