Lansing Teacher Earns Colorado Teacher of the Year Award

Congratulations to Jodi Venzara, Lansing Elementary Community School third-grade teacher and English language acquisition teacher leader, for being named Colorado Teacher of the Year by Colorado Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages.

Venzara earned CoTESOL’s Virginia French Allen Award, which recognizes her as top in the state for demonstrating excellence in ELA classroom instruction and creativity in the development of materials and programs.

“Jodi has a keen awareness of her audience—both the teachers she collaborates with as well as the students she loves and teaches every day,” said APS ELA Consultant Erika Lee, who nominated Venzara for the honor. “She takes the time to know her students not only as learners, but as complex individuals with unique and exciting cultures as well.”

Colorado Gives Day an Outlet for APS Student Support

Seventeen year-old Alexis Greenwell comes from a household of broken dreams. Despite this, and even though Alexis was taking advanced classes, she was overwhelmed with applying for college. Her dreams of attending college were fading until she found the Career and College Resource Center at Hinkley High School.

The Aurora Public Schools Foundation launched the first Career and College Resource Center last year to help students like Alexis who want to go to college but are unsure how to make it happen. The Foundation’s goal is to create Career and College Resource Centers in all six APS high schools to ensure every student has access to the resources and guidance they need to plan for a successful future after high school.

Dec. 8th is Colorado Gives Day, an annual statewide movement to celebrate and increase philanthropy in Colorado through online giving. The Aurora Public Schools Foundation is asking for your support to help ensure our students’ possibilities become reality.

Learn more and give where you live by visiting ColoradoGives.org/apsf. For more information about the Aurora Public Schools Foundation, visit EducateAurora.org.