Gateway Senior First to Earn APS Summit Badge

Gateway High School senior Marc Taurasi is crazy about computer programming.

Taurasi took this interest and applied it to Digital Badging, APS’ new innovative platform for students to demonstrate the knowledge, skills and achievement that occurs within and beyond traditional academic settings. Badges are credentials that can help open doors for students down the road.

Taurasi recently became the first APS student to earn a Summit Badge – in Information Literacy – the prize for completing all of the Journey Badges in the specified area.

Congratulations to Marc on this wonderful accomplishment!

Students Create Plans for Success

In 2015, Aurora Public Schools launched a new strategic plan, APS 2020: Shaping the Future. Its three goals set forth what every student will walk away with upon graduation. Over the past few months, staff and administrators have worked closely with all students on the first goal: [Every Student Will Have:] A plan for his or her future.

Hinkley High School junior and International Baccalaureate student Teaggan Ilela understands the importance. She knows her personalized academic and career plan can be her roadmap to success.

“I want people to know that I do have a plan,” Ilela said. “I want to be a doctor. My doctor even encourages that career choice, which is really cool.”

Like most students, Ilela’s plan has changed at least once since her freshman year. That’s the idea – students develop their plans throughout their academic careers. To ensure success, every student also has a team of caring adults who share the responsibility of pushing them toward the finish line.