Six Schools Recognized as Centers of Excellence

The Colorado Department of Education has named six APS schools as Centers of Excellence. The CDE distributes these awards annually to schools with the highest rates of student academic growth, as measured by the Colorado Growth Model, and a student population that is at least 75 percent at-risk. Congratulations to staff and students at the following schools:

- Boston K-8 School
- Fletcher Intermediate Science & Technology School
- Montview Elementary School
- Tollgate Elementary School
- Virginia Court Elementary School
- Yale Elementary School

CDE recognized 32 schools statewide with Centers of Excellence Awards. Montview, Tollgate and Yale elementary schools have earned the award two years in a row. “This confirms that the instructional practices we have implemented are meeting the needs of our students and closing the achievement gap,” said Tollgate Principal Laurie Godwin.

Aurora West Teacher Receives Title I Distinguished Teacher Award

Pam Williamson-Rybolt, eighth-grade literacy teacher at Aurora West College Preparatory Academy, has earned the Colorado Title I Distinguished Teacher Award from the Colorado Department of Education. Teachers who receive the award exemplify an extraordinary commitment to excellence in teaching and demonstrate high levels of student achievement and growth. Williamson-Rybolt has been teaching for 16 years.

“I’m honored to receive this award, and I’m proud of the achievement of my students,” says Williamson-Rybolt. “My goal as a teacher is to create lifelong readers and writers.”