



# Aurora Public Schools

## Fletcher Students Compete in School of the Future Contest

A team of students at Fletcher Intermediate School of Science and Technology have discovered a truly “creative” way to spend their afterschool hours. Once a week, the students gather after class to design a state-of-the-art science lab for their school. The goal of the project is to involve students in the design planning process from concept to completion as part of the 2011 School of the Future Design Competition.

To prepare for the project, students toured the new science classroom addition at Aurora Central High School and took notes about science lab features to include in their own design. They also learned about real-life work experience and careers from guest speakers employed in the design and construction field.



*Fletcher Intermediate teacher Jason Holmes and Amy Spatz work with students on their School of the Future design project.*

*“This project offers a unique opportunity for students to gain hands-on experience in the design process. At the same time, they’re learning about possible career opportunities.”*

*- Amy Spatz, Manager-Design & Construction, Aurora Public Schools*

Fletcher Intermediate is the only school in Colorado participating in this national competition this year. Unlike most of the competition entries, the Fletcher project will actually be completed as part of the school’s building renewal project funded by the 2008 bond program.

The School of the Future Design Competition is sponsored by the Council of Educational Facility Planners International. The annual competition, open to middle school students, challenges student teams to design their schools to enhance learning, conserve resources, be environmentally responsive and engage the surrounding community. Students present their projects to school district juries in January and to state and regional juries in February. The first-place regional winning teams will receive travel and hotel accommodations to participate in the final jury process slated for April in Washington, D.C.