Did you know that AACS has been open for 20 years? This school year marks our 21st year of operation. Did you know that every five years we renew our charter with the district? I along with our board members (past and present) and our business manager and accountant responded to several questions put forth from the district. These questions focused on our academic programming, what sets us apart from other schools, organizational structure, and finances. Not only were we to reflect over the past five years on each of those components but we also had to project out or predict what AACS could look like over the next five years.

When we return from fall break we will be a week away from the second piece of this charter renewal process which requires a four hour interview with a panel of district personnel. This gives various stakeholders within the district to ask questions about anything they read in our report or questions over content they would liked to have seen. From there, we might receive more questions to respond to after the panel debriefs.

The final step in this process is for the panel to make a recommendation to the APS School Board. This will happen sometime in December or January.
Want to know what’s going on around the school? Curious about upcoming projects or initiatives? Please check out one of the groups below during their discussion times.

http://www.aacademy.org/cms/One.aspx portalId=288728&pageId=1120173

Or join us at our next Board Meeting Monday, November 11th at 6pm

Community Action

- Event planning
- Family Nights
- Teacher appreciation
- Work with student groups

Next get together: Oct. 23rd

For more information contact: Karla Sue Byg

CAC@aacademy.org

Growth Feasibility

- Building improvements
  - Construction
  - Landscaping
  - Beautification

Next meet up is November 21 at 8am

Contact: James Kamb

jkamb@aacademy.org
“Aurora Academy’s mission is to provide a well-rounded curriculum with high academic standards for Kindergarten through 8th grade students.”

Aurora Academy Family Nights
October 23rd & 24th
10am-8pm
12158 E. Mississippi
(Peoria & Mississippi)

Help our school earn up to 35% of regular priced menu item purchases

Share with your family and friends! Present this flyer or mention the Aurora Academy fundraiser when you buy any regularly priced menu item.

NEW!! Can’t make it to Papa Murphy’s on Wednesday or Thursday? ANY regular priced order placed online using the code THANKS October 21st – October 27th at this location will benefit our fundraiser!
"Aurora Academy’s mission is to provide a well-rounded curriculum with high academic standards for Kindergarten through 8th grade students."

We will be collecting Box Tops for the entire 2019-2020 school year!

Collection dates for this year:

- **October 23rd**
- **January 22nd**
- **May 6th**

This year we will be awarding parties to the 3 classrooms with the most Box Tops for each collection period. Please turn in your clipped Box Tops to your homeroom teacher.

This is a great way for Aurora Academy to earn money. To date, AACS has earned $15,831.00 from Box Tops!

The money raised from Box Tops goes towards funding events sponsored by the Community Action Committee.

**REMEMBER:**
Watch for electronic bonus Box Tops & Box Tops printed on your receipt. Please also check the expiration dates.

Thank you so much for your contributions!
“Aurora Academy’s mission is to provide a well-rounded curriculum with high academic standards for Kindergarten through 8th grade students.”

**EARN CASH FOR OUR SCHOOL**

**NO MORE CLIPPING. ALL YOU NEED IS YOUR SMARTPHONE.**

The NEW and improved Box Tops mobile app uses state-of-the-art technology to scan your store receipt, find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to our school’s earnings online.

**HERE’S HOW IT WORKS:**

**BUY BOX TOPS PRODUCTS**
You can find Box Tops on hundreds of products throughout the store.

**SCAN YOUR RECEIPT**
Use the app to snap a photo of your receipt within 14 days of purchase.

**EARN CASH FOR OUR SCHOOL**
Box Tops earnings are identified and automatically updated at BTFE.com.

You do not need to clip or send Box Tops labels to school.

**BOX TOPS CLIPS ON PACKAGES**

Traditional Box Tops clips are being phased out of production but may continue to be found on many products throughout the store as packages transition to the new Box Tops labels. You can still clip these and send them to school. Please make sure each clip has a valid expiration date.

**BUY BOX TOPS PRODUCTS**

**CUT OUT THE BOX TOP FROM EACH PACKAGE**

**SEND YOUR BOX TOPS TO SCHOOL**

**SEE PRODUCTS & LEARN MORE ABOUT THE BOX TOPS APP AT BTFE.COM**

**THE ALL-NEW BOX TOPS IS HERE! DOWNLOAD THE APP:**
Aurora Academy’s mission is to provide a well-rounded curriculum with high academic standards for Kindergarten through 8th grade students.”

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You’re invited...

The Aurora Academy Cultural Fair!!!

All families are invited to Aurora Academy’s 4th Annual Culture Fair
There will be crafts, music, foods, dances, and history about different countries!!

Friday, November 8th, 2019
TIME: 6-8 PM
PLACE: AURORA ACADEMY GYMNASIUM
See you there!
At Aurora Academy, we encourage the students to advocate for themselves and know when to ask for help. Over the past month in 3-8th grade, we have taught and discussed reporting using Safe2Tell.

On the following page are some Safe2Tell FAQ’s for parents. Safe2Tell is an anonymous reporting service for students.

The link below will take you to some great resources and information about supports for students pertaining to certain reportable behaviors and concerns.

http://www.parenttoolkit.com/
Helpful Information for Parents & Guardians About Safe2Tell

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Recently, your student was presented with information on how they can help make their school and community safer by reporting dangerous and concerning behaviors. Safe2Tell provides students and adults in Colorado communities and schools an increased ability to both prevent and report violence and other concerning behaviors by making a safe, ANONYMOUS report. The Safe2Tell solution was developed specifically to encourage and empower bystanders when they have a concern about their safety or the safety of others. Safe2Tell guarantees anonymity by Colorado state law.

Students use Safe2Tell to report bullying, suicide concerns, depression, sexting, stealing, threats, cutting, abuse, dating and domestic violence, fights, drugs, alcohol, weapons or other types of dangerous situations that threaten their safety or the safety of others for the purpose of prevention and interventions.

What Safe2Tell Can/Cannot Do For You:
- Safe2Tell is a way for students to report threats to their safety or the safety of someone else in a way that keeps them safe.
- Safe2Tell helps increase awareness when school staff and/or administrators may not be aware that a situation has or is occurring for the purpose of prevention, early intervention, education and awareness.
- If you choose to make a Safe2Tell report in order to advocate for your child’s safety, the report will be sent to the school directly unless you specifically request notification to the Superintendent’s office instead.
- Safe2Tell does not notify the Reporting Party of the report outcome. All outcome information is private and autonomous to Safe2Tell.
- If you have previously reported the situation to your school staff and are not satisfied with the outcome, Safe2Tell is not able to enforce a different outcome. Please find the venue within your school district for escalating these concerns.
- Safe2Tell is not a resource for keeping a “record” of your school or child’s history.

What You Can Do to Advocate for Your Child:
- Attempt to keep lines of communication open with your child’s teacher, your school’s administrative staff and your Superintendent’s office.
- Always keep the best interests of the child at the forefront of the conversation.
- Please remember privacy laws protect EVERY student. No one is entitled to know the disciplinary outcome of another student.
- Ask your school/school district if there is a preferred protocol or resource staff dedicated to parents who need assistance advocating for their child.

For more information about Safe2Tell and to find valuable resources for parents, visit safe2tell.org.

Falcon Flash 22
Aurora Academy is college and career ready. In each grade level, we stress the importance of goal setting and specifically set individual SMART (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Timely) goals.

In 3rd-5th grade, students begin develop their ICAPS, participate in college/career ready specific activities and lessons throughout the school year. (Ameritowne, virtual and actual College visits, and 8th grade career fair).

6th-8th graders work on more personalized based, specific plans and are already beginning to plan, working towards finalizing those plans/opportunities for their next journey to high school.

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Middle school students and parents!

**You are invited...**

**Aurora Academy’s Annual High School Fair**

Friday, November 15th from 3:45-5pm in the Aurora Academy gym

- 8th graders attending will get free pizza
- SOAR Bucks and prizes will be offered to all middle schoolers that attend

Email the counselor; Christine Smith with any questions
csmith@aacademy.org
303-367-5983
Parents: Below are common mistakes for uniform. Please be aware of the guidelines and dress your child appropriately.

**NO**

- No long sleeve undershirts with short sleeve uniform shirts.
- No colored under shirts.
- No snow boots inside. Bring a change of shoes for in the school.
- No outline of pockets on uniform pants.

**YES**

- Yes, long sleeve uniform shirts.
- Yes, white under shirts.
- Yes, inside boots are okay.
- Yes, back pockets are inside. Only one pocket line is visible.
Wear Your Costume

Thursday, October 31st
Costume/Free Dress Day
Half Day – 12:00 p.m. Dismissal Time

Students may wear costumes or they may wear dress of their choice. All normal rules apply as far as modesty, sleeveless tops and shortness of skirts or shorts. Costumes must be reasonable for sitting in classrooms: no blood, no masks, swords, fairy wands, guns or accessories held in a person’s hand. We want children to be able to participate in instruction without excessive disruption.

Free ski/snowboard pass for K-5th graders

1. Parent/guardian and student (student must be present) visit any Epic Mountain Gear store (Colorado Ski and Golf, 2650 S Havana St. is close to AACS).
2. Bring a physical or digital copy of child’s report card, school I.D. or birth certificate
3. Deadline to register for Epic Pass is Sunday, October 13th
Visit https://www.epicpass.com/info/epic-schoolkids/colorado.aspx for more questions

Pack includes 4 days at each of the following resorts
- Vail
- Beaver Creek
- Keystone
- Breckenridge
- Crested Butte
Veteran’s Day Assembly
Monday, November 11th

Please join us for the Veteran’s Day Assembly to honor those who have served in our armed forces. If you are a veteran or someone in your family is a veteran, please attend one of the assembly times so we can honor your/their service.

Thank You
VETERANS

There are two times
5th- 8th grade students 8:15-8:40
Kinder-4th grade students 9:00-9:30.

The assembly will take place in the gym.
Middle School Fall Festival

Fee: $5.00
Time: 6-8 PM
Date: Friday, October 25, 2019
Grades: 6th-8th

Costumes or Dress of Choice
(you need to follow dress of choice rules!)

Come and...
eat food
play games
participate in a costume contest
enjoy some spooktacular music

8th grade fundraiser
Join the Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade Choir!

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CONCERT
December 12
6pm

**If your student cannot attend the concert, please DO NOT sign up!**

Sign up outside of Mrs. Harrison’s classroom.
Only 30 spaces available. Cost is FREE!
Board Game Club

Do you like to play board games and socialize with friends?
Are you in 3rd-6th grade?
If so, then this club is for you! We will meet twice a month in Room 206 (5th grade- Miss Richardson’s room).

**Bring:** Your favorite board game, snack to enjoy, and strategies to play with!!

**Dates:**
Sept. 25th, Oct. 9th and 30th
Nov. 13th, Dec. 4th and 18th, Jan. 15th and 29th,
Feb. 12th and 26th, March 11th
April 1st, 15th and 29th, May 6th

Art club will begin on October 23rd for grade 4th-8th every Wednesday from 3:30-4:30pm in the Art Room.

Contact Mrs. Daly for more information at jdaly@aacademy.org
Hola! Spanish Club

Do you like to speak/learn Spanish and socialize with friends?
Are you in 3rd-6th grade?
If so, then this club is for you! We will meet about twice a month in Room 206 (5th grade- Miss Richardson’s room) with Ms. Eckerling.

Bring a snack to enjoy, and strategies to learn with!!

Dates:
Oct. 2nd
Nov. 6th and 20th
Dec. 11th
Jan. 8th and 22nd,
Feb. 19th
March 4th and 25th
April 8th and 22nd
May 13th (final club will be a fiesta!)

Time: 3:30-4:30pm
Super Cleaning Saturday

October 26th

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Everyone is invited to help our students and staff stay healthy this fall and winter! We will scrub and disinfect all the surfaces that little hands touch. Please e-mail Gina Twombly at atwombly@aacademy.org to help clean from 9:00am - Noon.

GENTLY USED UNIFORM

SALE

Uniform Store open Saturday, Oct. 5th
9:00 – 12:00
Pajamas and Books!

Please join us for a night of reading AR books with your student!

Who: K-8 Parents and Students

When: October 24- 6:30-7:30

Where: Your child’s classroom

What: wear pjs, bring a stuffed animal, read AR books, eat dessert, and get a FREE book (K-3) or Homework Pass (4-8)

All parents who attend will receive one volunteer hour!

Questions? Email agates@aademy.org
Pajama Day Guidelines
Friday, October 25

Dress code guidelines still apply. If students are not following these guidelines, they will either be provided a uniform to wear or call home for one.

- Clothing may not have any sayings that relate to drugs, alcohol, tobacco, gangs, or weapons, or have any offensive phrases, as determined by Administration.
- Bare midriffs are not permitted
- Shirts must have sleeves
- Length of shorts, skirts, skorts, and dresses must follow the length specified in the Dress Code (no shorter than 3” above the knee).
- Clothing must be the appropriate size.
- Dress Code rules regarding hair and cosmetics are still applicable.
MEET YOUR 2ND GRADE TEAM

Ms. Eckerling 2nd Grade Teacher:

This will be my seventh year of teaching in the United States and ninth year teaching overall. I grew up in Denver, and graduated from Lake For- est College in 2010 with degrees in Spanish and Elementary Educa- tion. After graduation, I spent 2 ½ years teaching Spanish Literacy in South America as a Peace Corps Volunteer. When I finished my term of service in the Peace Corps, I decided to move back to Colorado. After coming back to Colorado, I taught 3rd grade for two years and then taught 5th grade for a year. This will be my fourth year teaching second grade at Aurora Academy. Please know that I will do anything I can to make sure your child grows this year. In my free time I love to travel, read, write, and spend time outdoors.

Mrs. Fields 2nd Grade Teacher:

I am looking forward to partnering with you this year, as your children learn and grow in my classroom. I am most easily reached with e-mail. My e -mail address is rfields@aacademy.org. I can also be reached at 303.367.5983, ext. 151. Please feel free to contact me with any cares or con- cerns.

This is my third year teaching 2nd grade. I am really excited! I graduated from the University of MN- Duluth with a degree in Elementary Education. I have a second degree from Concordia University- St. Paul.

I have been married for three years. My husband's name is Josh. I have a thirteen year old step son, named Zach. We love to go on mini-adventures, explore history, and learn new things together. I love to read, eat gummy worms, and drink Diet Coke.

Meet our New Teacher—Mr. Lubanga
Mr. Lubanga—Interventionist & Substitute Teacher

My name is Caleb Lubanga and I am proud to call Aurora Academy Charter School my new home. I am originally from Kenya, a country located in the East part of Africa. Kenya is famous for its athletic runners and the famous Swahili phrase ‘Hakuna Matata’, of the famed movie ‘The Lion King’.

I have both a bachelors and a master’s degree. I hope one day to get my PHD. I am a graduate of Metro State University of Denver.

I started my teaching career with Denver Public School Math Fellow Program. Prior to joining Aurora Academy, I was with Aurora Public Schools where I taught Math to both Middle and High School Students. I value the importance of early literacy and, thus, very excited in my new role.

Being a teacher is one of my favorite things. My students are some of my favorite people I see all day. Watching you guys grow into people you will become is a gift. You will all go on to be successful people and I am glad I got to be part of that.

In my free time I am very busy! I love to spend time with my son. Another thing I enjoy is hanging out with my friends watching sports.

One of my guilty pleasures is watching hours of Netflix. I don’t have a lot of time for this, but when I get the chance it is awesome! I love the Mountains of Colorado, and lived in Winter Park briefly.

I am so excited to be part of the team and will do my best to help students in anyway.

My favorite quote: If I had 8 hours to cut down a tree, I would spend 5 hours sharpening my axe.