Dear APS Community Members:

Thanks to your support, every APS student is benefitting from bond and mill levy funds approved by voters in 2008 and 2012. This report provides information about how we’re going beyond our promise to voters regarding the use of bond and mill levy dollars.

2012 Mill Levy
In November 2012, voters approved ballot measure 3C, a $15 million mill levy override that will recover a portion of the $70 million in state funding cuts that we have experienced over the past three years. The mill levy is providing funds for student achievement, instructional resources and recruiting and retaining high-quality staff.

2008 Mill Levy & Bond
The 2008 mill levy provides $14.7 million annually to fund programs that accelerate student achievement, such as free full-day kindergarten at all APS-operated elementary and K-8 schools, truancy intervention and Fifth Block of Instruction. The mill levy has also supported new instructional technology in APS and charter schools.

The $215 million bond program is on time and under budget. APS has saved more than $34 million due to careful financial management and a competitive construction market. This savings has enabled us to add dozens of new construction and technology projects to the bond program and do more than we promised voters. Our goal is to ensure that every student benefits by providing safe, modern learning environments that promote academic achievement.

We encourage you to visit our schools and see your bond and mill levy dollars at work. Thank you for your unwavering support and commitment to our students.

Sincerely,
APS Board of Education
and the APS Leadership Team
The 2008 bond program is funding improvements throughout APS ranging from new schools to full building remodels to security system upgrades.

The bond program has funded the construction of three new schools: **Vista PEAK Exploratory P-8** and **Vista PEAK Preparatory 9-12**—both on the APS P-20 campus—and the **Meadowood Child Development Center**, the third preschool center in the district. Bond program savings also enabled APS to replace the old **Aurora Hills Middle School** with a new building on the same school site.

The bond continues to fund whole building remodels to expand and modernize four older elementary schools. The **Altura**, **Elkhart** and **Lansing** remodel projects were completed last year, and a remodel of **Tollgate Elementary School of Expeditionary Learning** is currently underway.

Other bond projects include classroom additions, gymnasium additions, new roofs, heating, air conditioning and mechanical repairs, security system upgrades and energy efficiency projects. In addition, every APS-operated school receives building renewal funds for improvements identified by the school, ensuring that every student benefits from bond funds.

The **Citizens Bond Oversight Committee**, comprised of 10 Aurora community members, provides an independent review of the bond program to ensure public accountability. To learn more about APS bond projects, go to [bond.aurorak12.org](http://bond.aurorak12.org).

### 2012-13 School Year Bond Projects
- Tollgate Elementary—whole building remodel
- Kenton Elementary—two-classroom addition
- Side Creek Elementary—two-classroom addition/roof repairs
- Yale Elementary—heating and air conditioning repairs/roof repairs
- Clyde Miller P-8—heating and air conditioning repairs
- South Middle School—roof repairs
- Gateway High School—office remodel/new carpet
- Building renewal projects at five schools
The bond and mill levy programs are funding more than $20 million in technology improvements at all schools. Since 2008, APS has tripled the number of computers and technology devices used by students and staff.

The bond-funded technology renewal program provides annual funds to APS schools and sites to ensure that students and staff benefit from the most current technology. Other bond technology projects include network and application upgrades, wireless expansion and a digital telephone network.

The 2008 mill levy includes funds to support innovative instructional technology as well as APS charter school technology.

For a complete list of bond technology projects, visit bond.aurorak12.org/master-schedule and click on the technology schedule link.
Mill Levy Funds Support Student Success

The voter-approved mill levy programs provide funds for instruction-related programs that promote student achievement.

The 2012 mill levy provides funding in three key areas:

➢ **ACHIEVEMENT:** Reading, writing, math, science, early childhood education and more public school choices

➢ **INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES:** Instructional classroom technology, equipment and curriculum materials that help to prepare students for college and careers

➢ **HIGH-QUALITY STAFF:** Recruiting and retaining high-quality teachers and staff to provide for smaller class sizes, increases in graduation rates and lower dropout rates

The 2008 mill levy is funding programs, such as full-day kindergarten at APS-operated schools, truancy intervention and the Fifth Block of Instruction, that support the APS goal of increasing student achievement.

The APS District Accountability Advisory Committee, comprised of parents, staff and community members, reviews the mill levy budget annually at its public budget hearings in May. To learn more about APS mill levy programs, go to aurorak12.org/mill.

Did you know...

APS mill levy funds are making a difference in student success:

- The **Fifth Block of Instruction** provides 23 days of additional instruction for 10 percent of students. Participants achieve higher overall growth on state tests than non-participants.
- The **truancy intervention** program has decreased the percentage of habitually truant students from 15 to 10 percent.
- Six APS schools now offer the **International Baccalaureate Programme**, which focuses on rigorous academics and intercultural understanding for students in elementary through high school.
- **APS Academic and Career Pathways** prepare students for college and careers through rigorous curriculum, field experiences, mentoring, internships and job opportunities.