

# AURORA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

APS 2020  
**SHAPING**  
THE FUTURE  
S T R A T E G I C P L A N



## VISION

Every student shapes a successful future.

## MISSION

In partnership with our community, we accelerate learning for all students to develop the knowledge, skills and character necessary to shape successful futures.



# HOW DO WE SHAPE A SUCCESSFUL FUTURE?



It takes vision, purpose and a plan. It also takes partnerships among Aurora Public Schools students, families, staff and our community.

Building on previous strategic efforts, APS began a new strategic planning process. To ensure that our new plan reflects the beliefs and goals of our community, we created a 14-member Strategic Planning Team to develop APS 2020. The team consisted of APS staff, Board members, parents, business leaders and community members. As part of the process, we collected feedback through multilingual discussions with APS students, parents, guardians, staff and community members and through online surveys.

This strategic plan represents the diverse voices of our community. We will use this plan to guide everything we do to achieve our vision: Every student shapes a successful future.

APS 2020 is a community effort with special thanks to the APS Board of Education, Leadership Team and Strategic Planning Committee. To view the list of the Strategic Planning Committee members, [aurorak12.org/spt](http://aurorak12.org/spt).

## Who We Are:

APS is the sixth largest school district in the state of Colorado with a current P-20 enrollment of more than 40,000 students in 60 schools and over 5,000 staff members. Our students come from more than 130 countries and speak more than 130 languages. The demographic breakdown of our students is:

- Asian: 4.6%
  - Black: 18.5%
  - Hispanic: 54.5%
  - Native American: 0.8%
  - Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander: 0.6%
  - White: 16.6%
  - Two or More Races: 4.4%
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- Free/Reduced Lunch: 71.3%
  - Special Education: 10.4%
  - English Language Learners: 35.9%





## HOW WE WILL GET THERE: THREE STRATEGIC GOALS

Every APS Student Will Have:

### 1 Goal 1: A **Plan** for His or Her Future

Within 90 days of entering APS, every student will create a plan that includes goals for academic achievement; graduation; extracurricular and volunteer service learning; work experience; college and/or career.

- The student will continue to develop this plan throughout his or her academic career.

### 2 Goal 2: A Set of **Skills** to Implement His or Her Plan

APS students will develop the following 21st Century skills:

- Critical Thinking (example: problem solving, global and cultural awareness)
- Collaboration (example: communication, interpersonal skills)
- Self-Direction (example: personal and civic responsibility, work ethic, financial literacy, resiliency, adaptability)
- Information Literacy (example: find and use information, information technology)
- Invention (example: creativity, innovation)

### 3 Goal 3: **Credentials** that Open Doors

In addition to a high school diploma, APS students will also have access to the following credentials:

- College credits
- Industry-based certificates
- Workforce training certificates
- Internship/externship completion certificates
- Digital badges
- Advanced Placement credits
- International Baccalaureate Diploma

## WHAT WE BELIEVE: OUR CORE BELIEFS

APS 2020 is based on our community's core beliefs about education – these are our foundation. We, as a community, believe:



Families are our partners in education.

Every student has unique abilities that we must recognize and engage.

A district with students at its center provides an adaptable and responsible foundation for learning.

All students must have equitable access to learning opportunities, technology and environments that support them in reaching their full potential.

Students take an active and ongoing responsibility for their learning.

Community partnerships provide vital resources and opportunities for students and families.

Student and staff safety is essential to our vision and mission.

Student achievement and growth are driven by a highly-effective and respected staff working as a team.

Students, families, staff and community members share the responsibility for student achievement.

Diversity is a strength in our community.

