



## From the Executive Director



Hello readers and welcome to our first APS Foundation e-newsletter, The Foundation Flyer! This is a new quarterly communication for the purpose of sharing Foundation updates, media hits, and spotlighting alumni and current students.

I'm thrilled to share that the Foundation will be opening our **5th** College and Career Center this fall at Vista Peak Preparatory. Our College and Career Centers are designed to help students navigate their future including college visits, career opportunities, internships, externships, financial aid nights, college fairs, military fairs, college applications, scholarship essay writing, and more.

The College and Career Centers have had a great impact since launching in 2015:

- Served over 10,000 students
- Earned \$57 million in scholarships
- Showcased various career opportunities through internships, apprenticeships, and technical training programs.

I'm excited to have you join us and happy reading!

Jill Ruiter

## Recent News

**WELLS  
FARGO**

Thank you to Wells Fargo for their ongoing support of Aurora Public Schools Foundation! **Their support ensures that APS students have access to essential College and Career support and resources.**

Click [here](#) for the full story.



### APS Alumni



Eric Luper

Eric is not only a Gateway High School alumni, but also Century Elementary and Aurora Hills Middle School alumni! We recently spoke with Eric where he said "I still miss things about it [APS]". Eric is currently a weekend anchor, reporter, and producer at Denver7 but, his passion for broadcasting goes back to his time at Gateway.

As a younger student, one of his older classmates asked him to join their media team who created news segments and shows that were broadcast for the school on Thursdays. His passion continued to grow from there.

Eric attended Metropolitan State University of Denver where he studied Speech Communications with an emphasis on Broadcasting. While Eric knew his passion in high school, navigating his post-secondary education was still a challenge. Looking back, he wishes he had a College and Careers Center in his high school - and not just for himself. Eric received grants and took out a loan, but during our conversations he found himself wondering how many more of his fellow seniors would have gone to college if they had a place to go to help them prepare for it.

Eric believes that the help these centers provide will motivate students that college and post-secondary education is the right choice.

### APS Senior



Hana Fentahun

Hana is a 2019 graduate of Rangeview High School and is planning to attend George Washington University this fall. George Washington University is a top-ranked private university with a price tag to match. Hana's first year of college is going to cost her \$75,000.

Hana is also a first-generation college student. Her parents are originally from Ethiopia and moved to the United State to ensure a good education for their daughters. When 9News talked with Hana, she said "Applying for everything, I don't think I would have figured it out on my own, so it's a blessing that [they're] here to help and support us find those ways." With the College and Career Centers help, Hana has received \$70,000 in scholarships for her first year.

The College and Career Centers help students and their families, just like the Fentahun's, daily. Aurora's student population is one of the most diverse in the nation, students from over 130 countries, speaking over 160 languages call this city home. It isn't uncommon for our students to be the first generation of their family to pursue a post-secondary education.

## Upcoming Events

APS Foundation  
**7th Annual Gala**

September 20th  
The Stanley Marketplace

Join us for a night of celebration, inspiration, and relentless support of the APS students and their future.

RSVP TODAY

You are cordially invited to the

**2019 GALA**

Friday, September 20<sup>th</sup>  
The Hangar at Stanley Marketplace  
Aurora, Colorado

In The Pursuit of Education

Relentless

**AUG. 3**



**Back To School Kick-Off!**

Open to all APS students and their families. We are expecting over 15,000 in attendance. Join the fun!

Saturday from  
10:00 AM until 12:30 PM

Town Center at Aurora  
14200 E Alameda Ave.,  
Aurora, CO 80012

[Click here for full details.](#)

**AUG 26 & 31**



**Inline Hockey**

Starting on August 26th  
8 week program for \$90

**Skate Class**

Starting on August 31st  
8 week program for \$90

\$10 from each registration will go back to your school and to Aurora Public Schools Foundation!

[Click here for full details.](#)

**OCT. 12**



**Avalanche Game vs. Arizona Coyotes**

TICKETS START AT \$26  
NO ADDITIONAL TAXES OR FEES!

\$5 from each ticket purchase will go back to Aurora Public Schools Foundation!

[Click here for full details.](#)

## About Us

We exist to make possibility a reality for every Aurora Public Schools students. We advance private, non-profit, public and philanthropic partnership to develop and leverage resources to drive innovation and excellence for our 38,000 students who represent 130 countries, 5,000 teachers and staff, and 64 schools.

- We create a college and career bound culture and resource hub through the operation and support of 4 College and Career Centers in APS high schools.
- We facilitate direct philanthropy to support classroom, schools, and programs within APS.
- We advance partnership and leverage resources to drive innovation and excellence for the students of APS.