Mike Coffman

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City of Aurora

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Representative Jason Crow
2170 S. Parker Road, Suite 280
Aurora, CO 80231

Dear Representative Crow,

This letter serves to document community support for Adams-Arapahoe School District 28J, doing business as Aurora Public Schools (APS), in its application for Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) funding for Fiscal Year 2026. The requested funding will support the transformation of Sixth Avenue Elementary which was closed in 2023 into a two-way dual language magnet school.

Of APS's 40,015 students, 19,813 identify Spanish as their home language. Notably, 8,183 of these students are in the earliest stages of English language acquisition. These figures highlight a clear and urgent need within our district to provide educational opportunities that foster bilingualism, biliteracy, and culturally sustaining teaching practices.

The proposed school will serve as a magnet program for students in preschool through fifth grade, with a target enrollment of 468 students by the end of its fifth year. The instructional model will ensure balanced content delivery in both English and Spanish, using parallel curricula to maintain academic rigor across all subject areas.

The City of Aurora proudly supports Aurora Public Schools in this funding request. The CDS request will provide $468,336.25 toward the total project cost of $4.7 million, enabling the refurbishment of the facility in preparation for a planned opening in the 2026–2027 school year.

This critical investment will expand access to high-quality bilingual education and enhance opportunities for students across our community. Sixth Avenue's transformation will serve as a beacon of innovation and excellence in bilingual education, preparing students to succeed academically, socially, and professionally in a diverse, multilingual world.

Sincerely,

Michael Coffman, Mayor
Aurora, Colorado