

# SHARPEN YOUR



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## **A+ COLORADO STRONGLY URGES VOTERS TO SUPPORT AURORA BOND 3C**

A+ Colorado strongly supports the \$300 million school bond for Aurora Public Schools to provide building repairs, renovations, safety improvements, new classrooms, technology upgrades and new schools. Aurora's students and economy desperately deserve your support for these critical investments.

Aurora continues to struggle to support students to achieve at grade level. Well-equipped and safe classrooms are an important component of what is required for the district to improve.

Aurora Public Schools have grown significantly over the last decade (an additional 7,000 students are now enrolled). During the same time frame, APS passed just one bond, in 2008, which paid to repair some buildings in disrepair and keep up with the growth. More than 70% of APS schools are more than 30 years old. Far too many students are getting much of their education in dilapidated "mobile" classrooms" which are now at 37 APS schools. Other APS schools do not have adequate access to the computers, labs, gyms, and libraries that help support the skills and knowledge necessary for the twenty-first century.

The 2016 APS bond will support every student by having improvements in every school in addition to adding many new classrooms to meet the district's growth. Many of these funds will support support new classrooms on the eastern edge that are experiencing overcrowding while also supporting improvements in northwest Aurora where too many students are in aging buildings.

If we want to benefit all Aurora students we have to equitably share bond and mill funds with all public schools, including public charter schools. We congratulate the APS board for approving a number of new high-quality charter schools designed to serve APS families that have not had access to effective schools. We strongly urge the APS board to adopt a policy that

ensures that all bond and mill funds are shared equitably with charter schools. Aurora families deserve great facilities and equitable funding for all of Aurora's public schools, the APS board should not discriminate against public charters in Aurora.

**A+ Colorado strongly urges Aurora's voters to support measure 3C on November 8.**

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The mission of A+ Colorado is to sharpen public education by building public will and advocating for the changes necessary to dramatically increase student achievement in schools and districts in Colorado. We are an independent, nonpartisan 501(c)(3) organization working to bring the power of Colorado citizens to the effort of school reform. For more information, please visit [www.apluscolorado.org](http://www.apluscolorado.org).

