Aurora Public Schools

Division of the Superintendent

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TO: **Board of Education**

FROM: **John Barry, Superintendent**

DATE: **January 14, 2010**

SUBJECT: **Division Quarterly Report**

Last spring, we started the process of submitting reports to the Board of Education to keep you informed of information within divisions. As part of that process, one report is included with the January 19 Board agenda and a hard copy of the report was included in your packet. **This report will be included in the minutes and officially submitted for the record at the January 19 Board meeting, so we stay true to our theme of Trust, Teamwork and Transparency.**

1. Athletics and Activities

Aurora Public Schools

Office of the Superintendent
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Date: December 10, 2009

To: John Barry and Members of the Board of Education

From: Tony Antolini and Anthony Sturges

Subject: Department of Athletics and Activities

The following are highlights of the Athletic/Activities Department update to the Leadership Team and the Board of Education:

- Benefits of athletic and activity programs as they relate to the district's academic mission.
- High school athletic participation increased 2.5% in 2008-09.
- Middle school athletic participation increased approximately 4% in 2008-09.
- APS student athletic participation fee lowest of ten largest school districts.
- Athletics and Activities program one of the best bargains at 0.12% of district budget.
- Aquatics competitive programs growing while lessons dip slightly due to pool repairs.
- District facility rental continues to increase providing schools with instructional funds.

Items of interest:

- Through collaboration with middle and high school principals and athletic directors a comprehensive athletic/activities orientation was implemented across the district to increase participation in these programs.
- A financial plan was established for athletic scheduling as it relates to district transportation to ensure funds are spent efficiently.
- The plan to merge the four comprehensive high schools into the same athletic league by fall 2010 was successful and will be endorsed by CHSAA in January 2010.
- The Board of Education's approval of a pilot program where sixth graders may participate in athletics at the K-8's is showing great promise as 84 sixth graders took advantage of this opportunity in the fall sports alone (boys and girls track & field, girls swim & dive).