



## **COLORADO SKIES ACADEMY CUTS RIBBON, UNVEILS PERMANENT CLASSROOM BUILDING AT CENTENNIAL AIRPORT CAMPUS**

### **MEDIA CONTACT**

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**AURORA, Colo.** – Colorado Skies Academy, a free public charter school that opened last year at Centennial Airport, is celebrating the grand opening of its permanent classroom building serving students in sixth through eighth grades. Small groups of students on staggered schedules began using the classrooms Monday, and a socially distanced celebration, which will be livestreamed for attendees, is happening Thursday at 4 p.m.

Colorado Skies Academy, which provides a project-based curriculum through the lens of aviation and aerospace, was formed by community members and opened last August in partnership with the Maker Learning Network. The school was lauded recently by parents for its quick transition to distance learning and moving its entire comprehensive curriculum online when the COVID-19 pandemic started – CSA students began their online classes without a single day of interruption after federal and state officials issued guidelines that forced the closure of physical school sites -- and CSA is being praised today for its safe return to in-person learning in its new classrooms.

“For Colorado Skies Academy, our ribbon cutting represents so much more than just this single event. It represents our bond issuer’s tremendous generosity in choosing to invest in the future of Colorado and CSA. It represents our amazing facilitators and staff, who have chosen to share their passion for kids and Project-Based Learning with generations to come. It represents the leadership of board members and administrators who have worked tirelessly to make this vision of a leading edge, aviation and aerospace focused middle school, a reality for the future. And most importantly, it represents our learners, who have the opportunity to one day be the caretakers of this great nation,” CSA Board President Christa Coryell said.

CSA Director Suzanne Acheson thanked the community for its immense support – and looked to the school’s bright future in its new building and with such innovative programs.



“This is more than a building – it’s a physical testament to the unwavering partnership and deep commitment we feel every day from our parents, our team and this community,” Acheson said. “This grand opening of our new classrooms is the realization of big dreams and years of hard work. There is a clear need and desire for Project-Based Learning in Colorado and across our nation, and CSA’s focus on aviation and aerospace brings a new element for students whose imaginations go far beyond what’s here on land.”

Parent Jennifer Ulman, whose son Erik attends sixth grade at CSA, said: “If you’re lucky, you get to see your dreams come true. CSA was just a vision when we first heard about it. Now this beautiful new building stands before us and amazing students are bringing it to life. Our son has seen firsthand that hard work from a team of believers does pay off. To all the future graduates of CSA – may your dreams and goals be successful as this endeavor has been.”

Amber Golden Raskin, co-founder of the Maker Learning Network, formerly iLEAD Schools Development, said: “CSA is the embodiment of our Network’s ultimate goal: Working with young people who learn deeply, think broadly and shoot for the stars. They are the backbone of America. The hands-on learning at CSA is the polar opposite of memorizing and regurgitating facts. We’re proud to help create environments where children can be their best selves.”

To complete a CSA enrollment application and to learn more about the school, please visit <https://coloradoskiesacademy.org/apply/>

**MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA:** For interviews with Suzanne Acheson, Amber Golden Raskin or CSA board members and parents -- or to obtain large, high-resolution photos and renderings, please use the contact information above.

