Grade 4 Academic Excellence:

Any student meeting the criteria will receive recognition of excellence in that subject area as defined below:

Literacy: Consistently achieves a standard of **Exemplary in 2 or more** of the Division 1 Language Arts Standards:

- NLSD.DIIG4.LA.REA Reading
- NLSD.DIIG4.LA.WRI Writing
- NLSD.DIIG4.LA.LIS Listening and Speaking
- NLSD.DIIG4.LA.VIEW Viewing and Representing

Numeracy: Consistently achieves a standard of Exemplary in 2 or more of the Division 1 Mathematics Standards:

- NLSD.DIIG4.MA.NUM Number
- NLSD.DIIG4.MA.PR Patterns and Relations
- NLSD.DIIG4.MA.STAT Statistics and Probability
- NLSD.DIIG4.MA.SS Shape and Space

Grade 5 through 8 Academic Excellence

Exemplary (E)	100	Excellent (E)
Proficient (P)	80	Proficient (Pf)
Approaching (A)	60	Satisfactory (S)
Not Yet (NY)	40	Limited (L)
Not Applicable (NA)	0-20	Poor (P) Insufficient (INS)

Student achievement meets a Standard of Excellence when their performance is demonstrated to be consistently Exemplary. The student has an in-depth understanding of the outcomes and produces excellent quality work. The student is capable of working independently in order to understand the outcomes, skills and strategies. While we understand Exemplary achievement indicators in NLPS are not directly connected to a numerical score, a student will be recognized for excellence in a subject area when they consistently provide a body of evidence that reflects

achievement above a Proficient level. Awards will be recognized for each core subject award: Language Arts, Math, Science, & Social Studies.

Grade 4 through 8 Academic Merit / Attitude Award

When student achievement does not meet the criteria for Academic Excellence as described above, but a student has shown an attitude that demonstrates a commitment to continual improvement, they may be recognized by grade level teams for the Attitude & Merit Award in accordance with the criteria below:

Des <mark>cr</mark> iptor	Student consistently:	
Responsibility	 demonstrates integrity & honesty in learning; makes efforts to get caught up on missed work; and perseveres, pushes self to be accountable, and seeks/accepts feedback. 	
Independent Work	 stays on task during independent work; follows instructions closely; and makes efforts to complete tasks on their own but asks for help when appropriate. 	
Initiative	 takes initiative with learning activities and can thinks independently; notices opportunities to be helpful and follows through; and embraces new challenges. 	
Organization	 uses class time wisely; arrives prepared with required materials; and submits completed assignments when required. 	
Collaboration	 is respectful and cooperative with staff and students listens actively to others and contributes to discussion when appropriate; and takes a leadership role in group activities. 	
Self Regulation	 is mindful of school rules treats school and equipment with care; and finds appropriate ways to manage frustrations or other challenges when they arise in a way that contributes to a positive learning environment. 	

Grade 4 through 8 Citizenship Award

The Citizenship Award recognizes students who go above and beyond in representing the Aurora Middle School Code-In-Action (Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe) and who actively improve school spirit and Thunderbird Pride through positive citizenship. Grade level teams identify a select number of students meeting the criteria as below:

Descriptor	Student consistently:
Code-in-Action	 Is respectful; Is responsible; and Is safe.
Integrity	 stays true to commitments; speaks only things that are true, helpful, & kind; and does the right thing even when no one is looking.
Altruism	 takes initiative to help out others without being asked; contributes positively to school-wide or community organizations; and seeks opportunities to brighten someone else's day without need of remuneration, recognition, or any other reason
School Spirit	 celebrates the successes of others; participates in (and often leads) school activities that spread positive experiences through the school community; and models Thunderbird pride.

Grade 8 Athletes of the Year

The Athletes of the Year are students nominated by physical education teachers and school staff coaches that most exemplify the attributes below. This is not an award for ability alone, but rather of SPORTSMANSHIP and LEADERSHIP. **Up to 2 athletes** of any gender can be recognized.

Descriptor	Student consistently:
Participation	 must be involved in 2 or more school sports; and excels in at least 1 school sport. Participated in school athletics in previous years (where applicable)
Commitment	 stays true to team commitments (practices/games); focuses on growth and development rather than winning
Coachability	 seeks out and accepts feedback from coaching staff, teachers, and volunteers follows through with coaching feedback in a way that improves their personal game and team impact
Sportsmanship	 lifts up, supports, and celebrates the successes of others (particularly when they may not be as athletic); respects all players, coaches, volunteers, and officials; Understands and demonstrates how to lose gracefully; and puts team and school success ahead of self.
Leadership	 encourages team development and supports the growth of others; models and encourages sportsmanship attributes in others

Grade 8 Academic of the Year Award

The Academic of the Year Award goes to the Grade 8 student (or students should there be a tie) with the highest academic average of their four core subject areas - English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies.

Grade 8 Spirit of Aurora Award

The prestigious Spirit of Aurora Award goes to the Grade 8 student who is recognized for school citizenship (as above) in addition to participating in volunteerism in the community at large that reflects positively on our school. This prestigious award is received by one student who meets all the criteria below in ways that demonstrate to our community the best that Aurora Middle School has to offer.

Descriptor	Student consistently:
Code-in-Action	 is respectful; is responsible; and is safe.
Integrity	 stays true to commitments; speaks only things that are true, helpful, & kind; and does the right thing even when no one is looking.
Altruism	 takes initiative to help out others without being asked; contributes positively to school-wide or community organizations; and seeks opportunities to brighten someone else's day without need of remuneration, recognition, or any other reason
School Spirit	 celebrates the successes of others; participates in (and often leads) school activities that spread positive experiences through the school community; and models Thunderbird pride.
Community Representation	 volunteers formally and/or informally throughout the school community and community at large represents the school in a manner reflective of a positive ambassador for Aurora Middle School