

GOING THE *_social_* DISTANCE



Science Teacher Chris Speck Final Chapter Their Story Continued...

Comcast has joined the campaign with a MATCH...



"Comcast is thrilled to support APS Education Foundation's Going the Social Distance Campaign with a \$10,000 matching grant. The Foundation does an incredible job investing in innovative and enhanced learning opportunities to help APS students reach their full potential. We can't wait to see what the Foundation does next, and the creative classroom and school programs they're able to fund as a result of this campaign. We invite the community to join us in supporting this effort. Donate today and double your investment!"

- Chris Dunkeson, Area Vice President, Comcast

Thank you for your support Comcast, your impact has enhanced the opportunities for students and teachers!

Continue to read Chris's story ... his inspiration is as impactful as Comcast's generous offer!



When asked what he wants for his students, coming back to class after a year of remote learning, Christopher Speck of Garfield STEM Magnet School replied, "I want my students to see themselves as scientists. If I do my job right, they will form their own questions, plan investigations, and draw conclusions from the data they gather. I want them to be curious about the world around them, to notice the interactions between facets of nature. I want them to fall in love with nature and protect it. Like any teacher I want my students to have happy, successful lives. My wildest dream has already been achieved in that some students have gone on to careers

in education. I am thrilled for them regardless of their trajectory as long as they bring a positive presence to the world and those around them."

What about his fellow teachers? "There is no reset button for the previous year," he said. "Still, I hope we can move forward as a community. We will continue to provide effective and impactful instruction. I hope that we are not myopic to the kaleidoscopic challenges of the pandemic, and ambitious enough to address the challenges that will persist in the coming years."

Christopher Speck continues to build a reputation as one of the most dedicated and innovative teachers in APS. How do his innovative ideas become real educational experiences for students? He writes, "Foundation funding is an investment in students. They are a validation of teachers' ideas and hopes. It highlights the trust the community places in our efforts. Foundation funding is also a reflection of the mission and vision of its supporters. This inspires me because the funded projects are a piece of each donor. My main goal as a biology teacher is to give students a solid understanding of the natural world so they can protect it. One of my former bosses at the Advanced Materials Lab once quipped 'Science is a race!'. That mantra drives planning and instruction. I try to overbuild my curriculum so that nothing is left out. If I do anything well, I want it to be consistently done well, and I want to add to it or make it better the following year. That is innovation."

You can join us in inspiring educators all over the district. As revealed in this story, each donor enters the classroom through these funded projects.

Comcast is going the social distance in the name of innovation in hopes you join them! For every dollar donated this week, Comcast will match your investment by providing \$10,000 in funding!



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April 16-30

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