



SANTA PAULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Committed to Serving Every Student Every Day

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PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 8, 2023

RE: The Santa Paula Unified School District will receive \$7.4 million from the Cal Fire Green Schoolyard Grant program to create green schoolyards

Santa Paula, CA- The Santa Paula Unified School District (SPUSD) was selected as one of only six award grantees in the state of California to receive \$7.4 million from Cal Fire's Green Schoolyard Grant program.

On July 12, 2023, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) announced that SPUSD is part of the first round of grant awards, which includes six implementation projects and nine planning projects on schoolyards statewide.

The Green Schoolyard Grant program is designed to help convert schoolyards to green spaces by removing asphalt and planting trees and other vegetation to create more shade on campus. The cooler spaces will help protect students from rising temperatures and extreme heat.

The future green spaces will also help improve students' mental and physical well-being, as well as strengthen the communities' ecosystem health and climate adaptation.

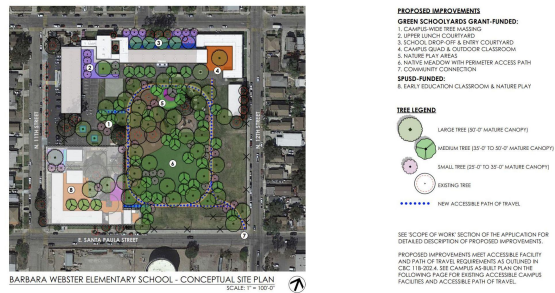
The funds are allocated to create green schoolyards at the following three schools: Blanchard Elementary, Barbara Webster Elementary, and Glen City Elementary. SPUSD will be working with architects, school site stakeholders, and City of Santa Paula officials in the next 6-8 months to create detailed layout plans.

Completion of the work at all three schools is estimated to be completed by March 2026.

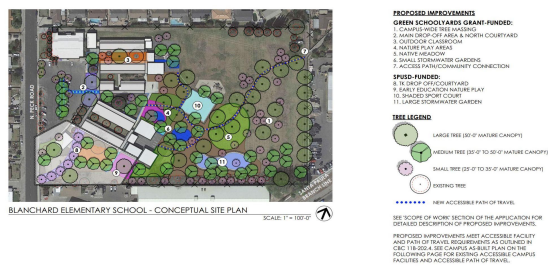
[For more information on the Green Schoolyard Grant program, please click here.](#)

The grant application proposal for this campus is preliminary and draft in nature. The District is committed to meeting the high level goals set forth by the CalFire Green Schoolyards Grant Program and exhibited in this preliminary design; however, detailed designs still require stakeholder outreach, design development, and regulatory approvals before construction and implementation.

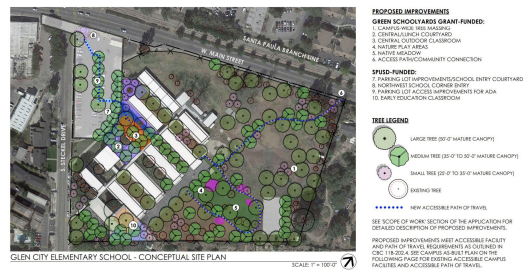
[To access the preliminary site design files \(shown below\), please click here.](#)



CAMPUS 3: BARBARA WEBSTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



CAMPUS 1: BLANCHARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



CAMPUS 2: GLEN CITY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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