PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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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.