



PRESS RELEASE

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Students at Deer Canyon Elementary School Will Benefit from Eco-Friendly Running Track Thanks to Community Volunteers and Donations

The Deer Canyon Elementary School community is coordinating efforts to build a running track for the kids to help promote and improve the health and fitness of its students. The track is being constructed using donated time, labor, and materials.

Terry Worthington, Deer Canyon Elementary School principal, said, "It is difficult to believe that our project began just a few months ago with a dream and a bit of determination. Great minds came together, sharing resources, donating skills and materials and, in some cases, contributing financially. The building of this track is an example of what a community can accomplish to create something amazing for our children, families, and school, despite many obstacles. Thanks to an incredibly supportive community and the generosity of several community partners, assistance from PUSD, and help from a lot of volunteers, a new track is being built the week of November 28th!"

The track will be completed on Volunteer Work Day, December 1st. The press is invited to visit Deer Canyon from 9:30 am to 11:00 AM to speak with members of the school community who will be working at the site.

Deer Canyon 's eco-friendly running track is being built using construction materials and methods that will minimize greenhouse gas emissions, reduce storm water runoff, and maximize the use of recycled materials. The soil that will be excavated from the track area will be refurbished and reused on site to improve the condition of Deer Canyon's athletic field.

"By recycling the excavated soil for on-site reuse, the number of diesel trucks and other soil loading equipment that would typically be used to load, transport, and dispose of the excavated soil at an off-site location and that contribute to greenhouse gasses will be eliminated," said Daryl Hernandez, Principal Engineer. "Local sourced materials are being used for the running track.

Because these materials are being supplied by local vendors, carbon emissions for transporting the track materials are significantly reduced. These natural materials also allow for rain water to infiltrate to the subsurface, which reduces the flow of storm water runoff into storm drains.”

Additionally, recycled materials are being used to line over 1800 linear feet of the track’s boarder. Using these recycled materials helps to reduce the amount of trash that would otherwise be disposed of at a local landfill.

Special thanks to Deer Canyon’s partners in this effort, including: Mike Tarantino, Director, PUSD Maintenance and Operations; Jose Munoz, Grounds Supervisor, PUSD Maintenance and Operations; Daryl Hernandez, Principal, E2ManageTech; Brian Cahill and Tim Berry, Balfour Beatty Construction; Mark Huppert, Creative Landscape Design and Construction; and the Deer Canyon Staff and community.

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