

What Does the Outdoor Classroom Do?

## NATURE IS OUR LEARNING LAB

- \* **Student Enrichment**: Provides a space where teachers can bring students outside to explore while reinforcing curriculum. The Outdoor Classroom committee coordinates with teachers to create activities that encourage the students to learn from the world around them integrating a variety of topics, for example, science kits, math and STEM concepts, social studies, reading and art.
- \* **Growing Gardens**: Our gardens are direct results of student enrichment activities, such as, pea planting, cabbage program, 3 sisters garden and hydroponic beds. We grow a variety of produce: sugar snap peas, tomatoes, lettuce, corn, green beans, jalapeños, cabbage, swiss chard, parsley, basil, carrots, zucchini, pumpkins, squash and with our new structure, there will be more to come!
- \* **Bring back the pollinators!** All plantings in the Outdoor Classroom will reinforce a pollinator-friendly habitat.
- \* All Harvests of the garden are donated to NK families in need.
  - During the school year: Davisville Middle School's **Blessings in a Backpack** (a weekend backpack of nutritional snacks and fresh produce for children who depend on federal breakfast and lunch programs).
  - In Summer: NK Food Pantry

## CONNECT STUDENTS WITH OUR COMMUNITY AND EMPOWER THEM TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Community Partnerships

- \* **Katie's Krops** a grant empowering youth to start vegetable gardens of all sizes and donate the harvest to help feed people in need. We are one of 100 gardens. This year Katie was named on UCal Berkley's Global Food Initiative 30 under 30.
- \* URI School Master Gardener Mentor Program: direct link for local environmental initiatives, best practices resources for growing and student enrichment topics.
- \* Blessings in a Backpack
- \* Plum Beach Garden Club
- \* Local Farmers

How Can You Help? Partner With Us

- \* Do you like working hands on with student enrichment activities?
- \* Would you like to work in the garden beds with our students?
- \* Are you curious about growing plants outdoors in the winter or composting?
- \* Would you be able to help maintain the gardens? (flexible eveningS/weekends)

Requirements: Enthusiasm for learning, current BCI

LET US KNOW YOU'RE INTERESTED! THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO HELP.

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