



San José Unified School District
Inspiring and Preparing for Success!

Media Advisory

For Immediate Release: March 19, 2006

For further information contact: Karen Fuqua
408.535.6444/ cell: 408.313.5303

The Sun Shines on Terrell School All Year!

Terrell Elementary School's Life Lab Garden Grand Opening

Wednesday, March 22, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

3925 Pearl Ave. San Jose, 95136

A Community Investment!

Drive by Terrell Elementary School and you will see children and adults “busy as bees” preparing their new Life Lab Garden for this Wednesday’s grand opening. But the preparation for this day has been in the works for the past one and a half years. In June 2004, Erikson school was consolidated with the majority of the students reassigned to Terrell. Although, books, desks, teaching materials and even some teachers moved with the students from Erikson to Terrell, sadly their well-loved Life Lab Garden had to be left behind.

Through generous donations of time, materials and money, Terrell students now have the wonderful learning opportunities the outdoor garden classroom can provide. Classes will work the garden and learn water cycle standards in a rainforest unit. Students will learn how and where plants grow and their native names, then harvest the crops and eat them. Children can explore the idea of habitats, and interconnected natural systems. From the compost heap through the butterfly garden and on to the vegetable gardens, this will be an opportunity for students to dig into “Mother Earth.” They will touch wiggly worms, view a flower not only for its beauty but take it apart and find the seedlings. The garden is a means for scientific investigation.

Terrell’s community learning garden has been funded by numerous supporters including: \$5,000 from the City of San Jose through City Councilmember Judy Chirco, the \$15,500 greenhouse was funded by both Erikson & Terrell’s PTAs, Home Depot not only provided \$2,000 in materials but a full day of labor from 50 volunteers! Jeff Kolsky donated the Shade Structure, which included \$12,000 in labor and materials. Pipe & Trades Union Local 393 supported the project with \$2,000 material donation and volunteer labor headed by Carl Cimino. **Over 30 businesses and community organizations have donated resources for the garden & volunteers.**

A complete list is available upon request.

WE HAVE A CHALLENGE GRANT!

Ewing Philbin, of Ross Recreation has donated 3 Teaching Stations

We need 6 more! A value of \$4857.15

Help us meet the challenge!