

Living Schoolyards Board Policy

December 12, 2018

Tim White, Deputy Chief of Facilities, OUSD

Michelle Oppen, Wellness Coordinator, OUSD

Alejandra Chiesa, Bay Area Program Director, The Trust for Public Land

Sharon Danks, CEO, Green Schoolyards America



**OAKLAND UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Community Schools, Thriving Students



**green
schoolyards
america**

**THE
TRUST
FOR
PUBLIC
LAND**

Agenda

- Introduction and Partners

- Why Living Schoolyards

Sharon Danks, CEO Green Schoolyards America

- What we have accomplished

*Alejandra Chiesa, Bay Area Program Director,
The Trust for Public Land*

- Contents of the Board Policy on Living Schoolyards

Michelle Oppen, Wellness Coordinator, OUSD

- Next Steps



**OAKLAND UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT**
Community Schools, Thriving Students



Introduction



Green schoolyard in SF, credit: Green Schoolyards America

Special thanks to:

- Nonprofit Partners, such as The Trust for Public Land, Green Schoolyards America, Growing Together, Trees for Oakland, The Watershed Project, The Center for EcoLiteracy, Rose Foundation and OUSD staff that Board leadership



**OAKLAND UNIFIED
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Community Schools, Thriving Students





Green Schoolyards America improves the well-being of children and their communities by transforming school grounds from asphalt to ecosystems.



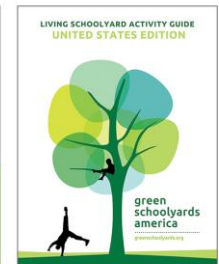
RESEARCH



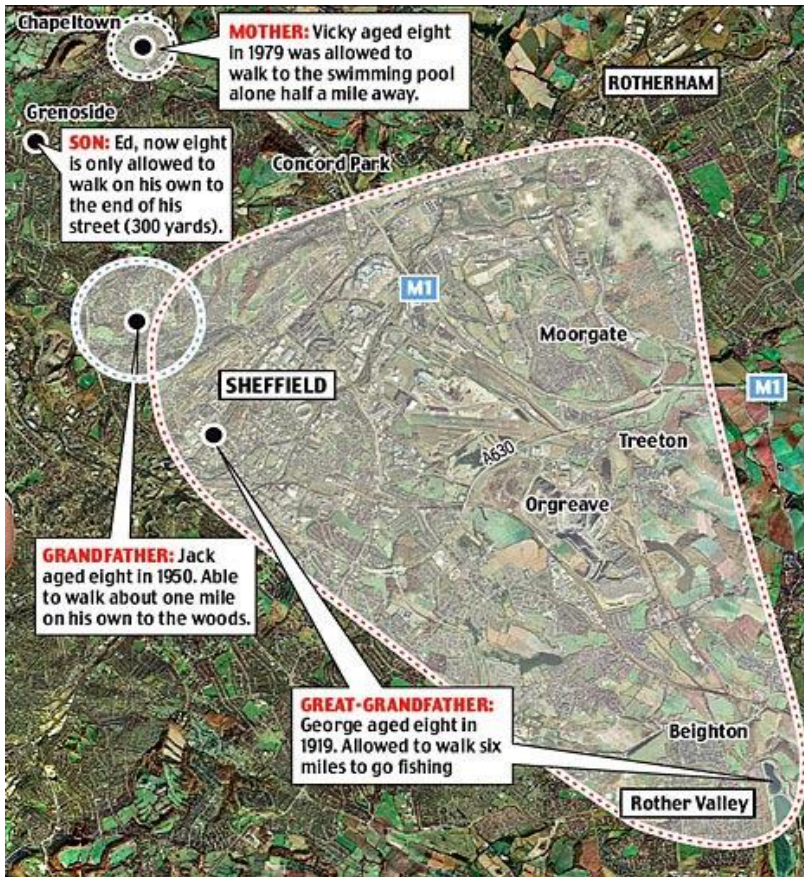
POLICY



SUPPORT



Children's Domain is Shrinking



ACCESS TO NATURE

School grounds are some of the last remaining places that children are allowed to be outside during their free time.

David Derbyshire
“How children lost the right to roam in four generations”
Daily Mail, June 15, 2007



HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Living schoolyards promote:

- Physical health
- Nutrition
- Mental health
- Social-emotional well-being



EDUCATION

- 21st Century education requires hands-on learning
- Living schoolyards provide places to teach across the curriculum and grade levels



HOOVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL — OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, USA



SCHOOL GROUND SURFACE TEMPERATURES (°F)



CLIMATE RESILIENCE

- Children need shade at school
- Stark reality: Children across OUSD are standing in the sun
- School ground surface temperatures are high and will increase as climate shifts





CLIMATE RESILIENCE

Living schoolyards:

- Reduce urban heat island effects by removing pavement and adding trees
- Protect children from increasing temperatures
- Support OUSD's Climate Policy



ENVIRONMENT

Living schoolyards
promote:

- Climate resilience
- Watershed health
- Ecosystem health
- Air quality improvement
- Coordinated environmental planning



QUALITY OF LIFE

Living schoolyards
promote:

- Joy and laughter
- Relaxation
- Positive social interactions
- Equitable access to green space
- Community engagement

The Trust for Public Land

The Trust for Public Land creates parks and protects land for people, ensuring healthy, livable communities for generations to come



Plan



Fund



Protect



Create

Background: What have we accomplished?

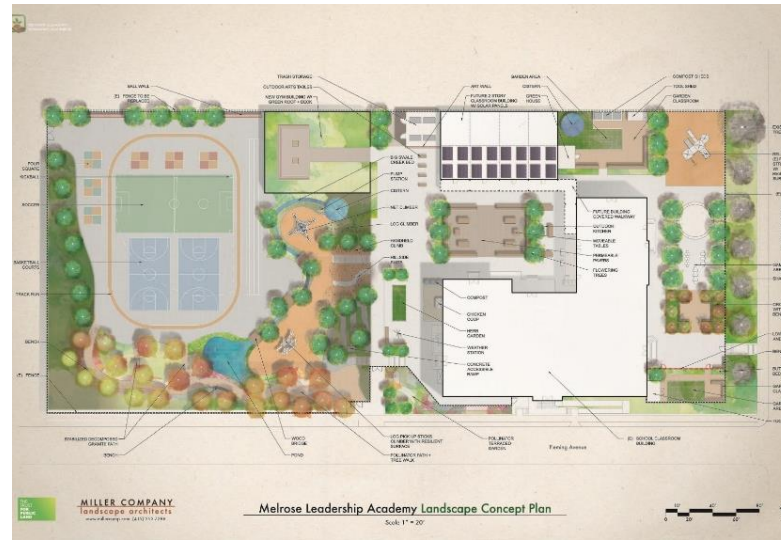
- Partnership Agreement
- Partnership Development and Awareness Building
- Secured 2.5 million in funding
- Selected and started developing pilot projects



Pilot Projects



Melrose Leadership Academy



Melrose Leadership Academy



ICS-TCN (Cesar Chavez)



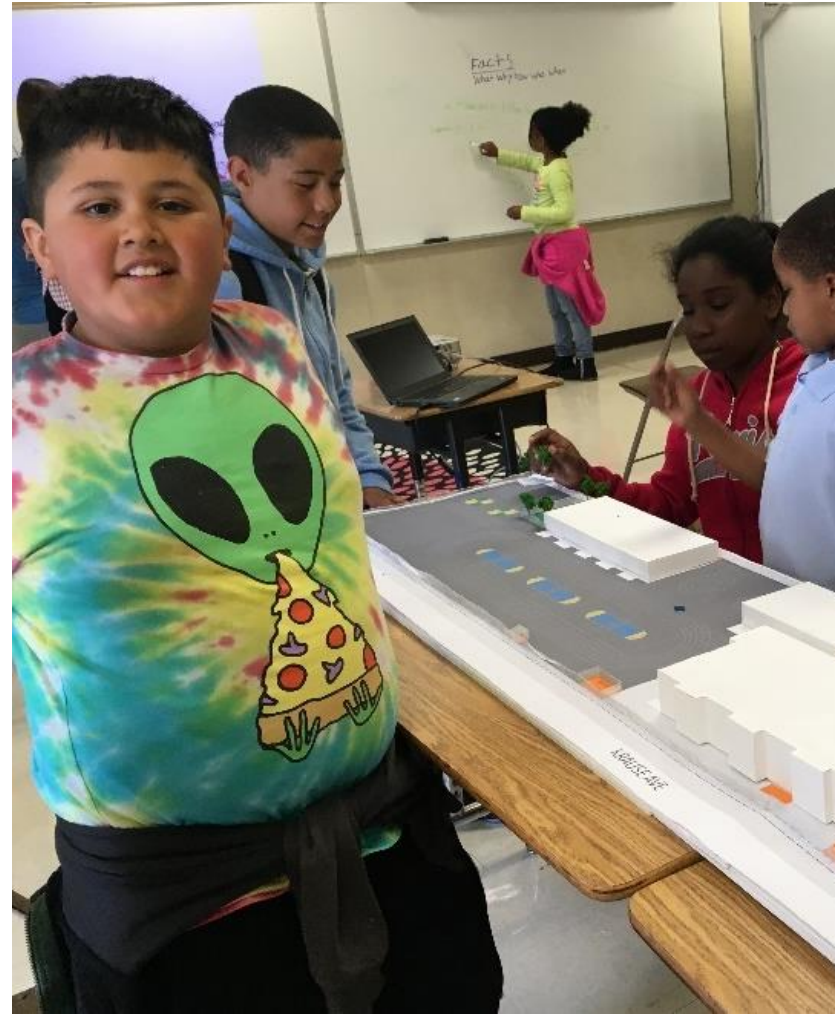
ICS-TCN (Cesar Chavez)



Markham Elementary



Markham Elementary



Board Policy on Living Schoolyards

Vision

OUSD's school grounds will become vibrant centers for 21st Century education, promote children's health, well-being and joy and function as ecologically rich community schools that connect all children and their neighborhoods to the natural world right outside their classroom door, every day.



Board Policy on Living Schoolyards Goals

These Goals support the Vision:

- Create Outdoor Environments Optimized for 21st Century Ed.
- Increase Children's Joy
- Improve Students' Health and Wellness
- Create Vibrant Play and Social Environments
- Increase Access to Park Space
- Strengthen Community Engagement
- Prioritize Equity
- Strengthen OUSD's Environmental Resilience

Board Policy on Living Schoolyards Implementation



Board Policy on Living Schoolyards Management and Stewardship



Board Policy on Living Schoolyards Funding



Board Policy on Living Schoolyards Timeline

* All of these milestones are subject to funding

- Create and convene Working Group - Immediately
- Appoint Interim Living Schoolyards Coordinator – as soon as funding is identified
- Start professional development - January 2019
- Create baseline GIS database - by September 2019
- Create a prioritized list of future living schoolyard projects - by May 2019
- Create Living Schoolyards Design Guidelines and Standards – by May 2020
- Negotiate Joint Use Agreement with City of Oakland – by May 2020

Next Steps

