

Rice Elementary

Innovative and Future thinking



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“All sustainable development goals come down to education.”

- Malala Yousafzai



What is Sustainability?

The most often quoted definition comes from the UN World Commission on Environment and Development:

“sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”



What is Sustainability?



Education is the foundation of a sustainable future.



Why a school focused on sustainability?

- Aligns with CUSD's Journey 2025 plan.
- Aligns with CUSD's core value of equity.
- The first school in Arizona with an overarching theme of sustainability.



Why a school focused on sustainability?

- Aligns with City of Chandler's and the Town of Gilbert's commitment to sustainability.
- A competitive edge to attract students and staff who are dedicated to a project-based, problem-solving approach to all we do.
- Provides an innovative, forward-thinking school choice in the southeast portion of CUSD.



Why a school focused on sustainability?

- Aligns with a global initiative.



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Components of Sustainability

Reduce
Environmental
Impact

Create a
Healthy and
Safe School
Environment

Include
Sustainability
Curriculum and
Instruction

Increase
Community
Engagement



Reduce Environmental Impact

- Recycling Program
- Energy Efficient Lighting
- Use of Solar Energy
- WaterSense™ Fixtures
- Xeriscape Grounds
- Low Impact Cafeteria
 - Reusable or Compostable Service Items
 - Food Waste Training and Prevention Systems



Reduce Environmental Impact

- Rainwater/Gray Water Collection and Reuse



- Water Stations for Refilling

- Incentivize Staff or Families Using Alternative Transportation

- Provide Charging Stations



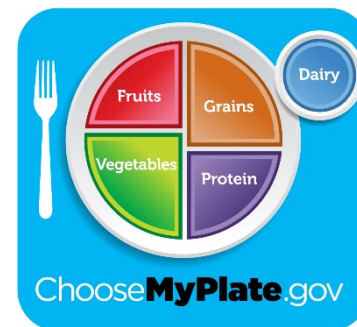
Create a Healthy and Safe School Environment

- LEED Certified Green School
- Reduce artificial lighting, install high-efficient fixtures, and utilize natural day-lighting.



Create a Healthy and Safe School Environment

- Designated Outdoor Learning Areas
- Safety Initiatives
 - Safety Patrol
 - Established Safe Bike/Walk Routes to School
 - Established ERP
- Clearly Posted Guidelines
 - Nutrition
 - School wide Fitness Program



Create a Healthy and Safe School Environment

- Clear Check-In Process
- Doors Remain Locked
- Camera Surveillance
- Partnerships with Fire/Police Agencies
- Bike and Walk Day/Week Celebration



Including Sustainability Curriculum and Instruction

- Provides an overarching focus that unifies the two programs – Classic and CTA

- Fosters inclusive practices



- Allows for authentic learning experiences



Include Sustainability Curriculum and Instruction

- Interdisciplinary Learning
 - Focus on AZ Standards
 - Project-based with Real World Applications
 - Student Responsibilities on Campus
- Community Garden
- Sustainability Related Field Trips
- Sustainability Focused Presenters



Include Sustainability Curriculum and Instruction

- Conservation Education Programs
 - Energy and Water Conservation Training
 - At school and continued education for families
 - Conservation Day Celebration
 - Composting
 - Hydroponics
- Student-led Audits/Improvement Teams
 - Building humidity/temperatures
 - Indoor air quality
 - Water use
 - Food waste



Increase Community Engagement

- Student Service-Related Activities
- School-Wide Service Campaign Annually
- Current Events in Daily Announcements
- Student Leadership Opportunities
- “Opportunities and Events” Board
 - Informs on community involvement



Increase Community Engagement

- Active Site Council and PTO
- Active Social Media Presence
- Continuing Education Opportunities for Families and Community



Increase Community Engagement

- Partnership with ASU School of Sustainability
- Partnership with Intel
- Partnership with City of Chandler
- Partnership with Town of Gilbert
- Partnership with SRP
- Partnership with American Heart Association



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Acting responsibly today to protect and preserve for tomorrow.

