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# Green Schoolyards for All Plan

**October 17, 2023 LAUSD Board Meeting | Chief Facilities Executive Krisztina Tokes**



# Executive Summary

**"Green Schools for All Resolution"** adopts the standard of 30% green/natural space for all District schools.

- Over 600 District schools do not meet the Resolution's goal ~ 80% of all Schools.
- Approx. 15 Million sq. ft. (350 acres) of paved schoolyard areas need to be upgraded to green/natural space.
- \$4 Billion needed to meet 30% green schoolyard goal.



# Executive Summary

**Recommendation – Green Schoolyards Initiative (GSY)** Focus on elementary schools with less than 10% green/natural schoolyards

- 205 elementary schools ~ 27% of all District Schools.
- \$1.5 Billion needed to meet 30% green/natural schoolyard goal.
- Prioritize schools for upgrades based on CalEnviro Screen and extreme heat temperature.
- Green Schoolyard improvements respond to input received from communities and stakeholders including focusing on shade from trees.

# How Many Schools Require Greening?



**634 Schools identified in the 2022 Greening Index do not meet the 30% green/natural schoolyard goal**

SCHOOL TYPE	QUANTITY	AVERAGE TARGET GREENING (30%) REQ'D PER SITE (SF)	TOTAL GREENING RECOMMENDED (SF)
Early Education Centers	68	1,000 (0.02 Acres)	68,000 (1.5 Acres)
Primary Centers	16	1,000 (0.02 Acres)	16,000 (0.5 Acres)
Elementary Schools	<b>458</b>	<b>32,000 (0.73 Acres)</b>	<b>14,656,000 (337 Acres)</b>
Middle Schools	24	8,000 (0.18 Acres)	192,000 (4.5 Acres)
High Schools	68	4,000 (0.09 Acres)	272,000 (6.5 Acres)
TOTAL	<b>634</b>	<b>23,981 (0.55 Acres)</b>	<b>15,204,000 (350 Acres)</b>

# Highest Need Elementary Schools

**Focus: 205** Elementary Schools with 10% or Less Green/Natural Schoolyards

- 111 of 205 have 5% or Less Green/Natural Schoolyards ~ 15% of all District Schools
- 33 of 205 are "Priority Schools" – 16%

Region	Elementary Schools	% of 205
East	58	28%
North	41	20%
South	69	34%
West	37	18%

BD	Elementary Schools	% of 205
1	32	16%
2	39	19%
3	13	6%
4	16	8%
5	32	16%
6	23	11%
7	50	24%

# Prioritizing GSY Projects

**Special Focus:** Communities most affected by extreme heat & climate change.

- **CalEnviroScreen 4.0 (CES)** – Identifies communities that are disproportionately burdened by multiple sources of pollution. Environmental, health, and socioeconomic information produces scores for every census tract in CA. A high scoring area experiences a much higher pollution burden than low scoring areas.
- **Extreme Heat Temperature Tool** – Explores the temperature of extreme heat days. Data is derived from daily maximum temperature, 30-year average for 1976–2005, including baseline, mid-century, and late-century projections by 6km grid cell.

**Prioritization Methodology:** Ranking based on a weighted calculation of 75% applied to the CalEnviroScreen (CES) score and 25% applied to the Extreme Heat Temperature score.

# GSY Projects: 1–25 Priority List

GSY Priority Rank	Site Name	BD	Region	Schoolyard % Green	CalEnviroScreen Score	Extreme Heat Temperature Score	Combined Score
1	EASTMAN EL	2	East	3.49%	73.71	71.22	73.09
2	ARMINTA EL	6	North	2.89%	68.18	76.69	70.31
3	UTAH EL	2	East	6.80%	73.31	57.40	69.33
4	BRIDGE EL	2	East	0.62%	73.09	57.40	69.16
5	SAN PEDRO EL	5	East	7.19%	76.52	43.64	68.30
6	COLDWATER CYN EL	6	North	3.64%	65.23	76.69	68.09
7	DENA EL	2	East	2.26%	70.13	57.40	66.94
8	HELIOTROPE EL	5	East	2.30%	64.41	72.99	66.56
9	NEVIN EL	5	East	8.94%	69.26	57.40	66.29
10	STRATHERN EL	6	North	5.05%	62.66	76.69	66.17
11	SOTO EL	2	East	1.49%	68.92	57.40	66.04
12	GRAPE EL	7	South	1.89%	76.85	33.52	66.02
13	LORETO EL	2	East	5.63%	66.95	62.77	65.90
14	TELFAIR EL	6	North	9.02%	63.26	72.52	65.57
15	ROSCOE EL	6	North	9.51%	62.14	74.76	65.29
16	CANOCA PARK EL	3	North	3.02%	55.01	92.94	64.50
17	SATICOY EL	6	North	4.53%	59.45	76.69	63.76
18	FLETCHER DR EL	5	West	3.61%	64.05	62.77	63.73
19	LORENA EL	2	East	7.14%	65.82	57.40	63.71
20	EUCLID EL	2	East	0.00%	65.82	57.40	63.71
21	ALBION EL	2	East	4.07%	63.82	62.77	63.56
22	BELVEDERE EL	2	East	7.00%	60.98	71.22	63.54
23	SOLANO EL	2	East	7.51%	63.58	62.77	63.38
24	ANN EL	2	East	0.61%	63.58	62.77	63.38
25	VERNON CITY EL	5	East	9.60%	65.20	57.40	63.25

# GSY Projects: 26–50 Priority List

GSY Priority Rank	Site Name	BD	Region	Schoolyard % Green	CalEnviroScreen Score	Extreme Heat Temperature Score	Combined Score
26	MARIANNA EL	2	East	7.87%	60.33	71.22	63.05
27	92ND ST EL	7	South	7.52%	67.75	48.10	62.84
27	FLORENCE G JOYNER EL	7	South	8.82%	67.75	48.10	62.84
29	BURTON EL	6	North	8.92%	59.69	71.59	62.66
30	SYLVAN PARK EL	3	North	5.64%	64.22	57.85	62.63
31	VANALDEN EL	4	North	6.95%	51.71	93.41	62.14
32	66TH ST EL – COS RIVERA	7	South	8.04%	71.24	33.36	61.77
33	GARDENA EL	7	South	5.46%	74.44	23.12	61.61
34	RITTER EL	7	South	4.23%	70.56	33.52	61.30
35	HOLMES EL	5	East	8.36%	65.69	48.10	61.29
36	CASTELAR EL	2	East	1.24%	60.63	62.77	61.17
37	ASCOT EL	5	East	5.74%	62.38	57.40	61.14
38	BREED EL	2	East	3.31%	62.08	57.40	60.91
39	VENA EL	6	North	7.79%	55.40	76.69	60.73
40	HART ST EL	3	North	7.59%	49.80	92.94	60.59
41	EL DORADO EL	6	North	8.39%	56.56	72.34	60.51
42	CITY TERRACE EL	2	East	8.88%	56.59	71.22	60.25
43	WEIGAND EL	7	South	0.34%	63.83	48.10	59.90
44	HUMPHREYS EL	2	East	3.87%	56.07	71.22	59.86
45	HAZELTINE EL	3	North	7.41%	55.78	71.59	59.73
46	SHARP EL	6	North	5.99%	55.40	72.52	59.68
47	GARDEN GROVE EL	4	North	3.27%	50.07	88.13	59.58
48	96TH ST EL	7	South	4.02%	63.19	48.10	59.41
49	HADDON EL	6	North	4.47%	54.89	72.52	59.30
50	FAIR EL	6	North	3.26%	53.26	76.69	59.12



# GSY Projects – 10 Highest Need Schools

GSY Priority Rank	Site Name	BD	Region	Schoolyard % Green	CalEnviroScreen Score	Extreme Heat Temperature Score	Combined Score
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# Community/Stakeholders Meetings



Q2-2023: Solicited input from community/stakeholders to help inform the 'Green Schoolyards for All Plan' priorities, scoping, and project development.

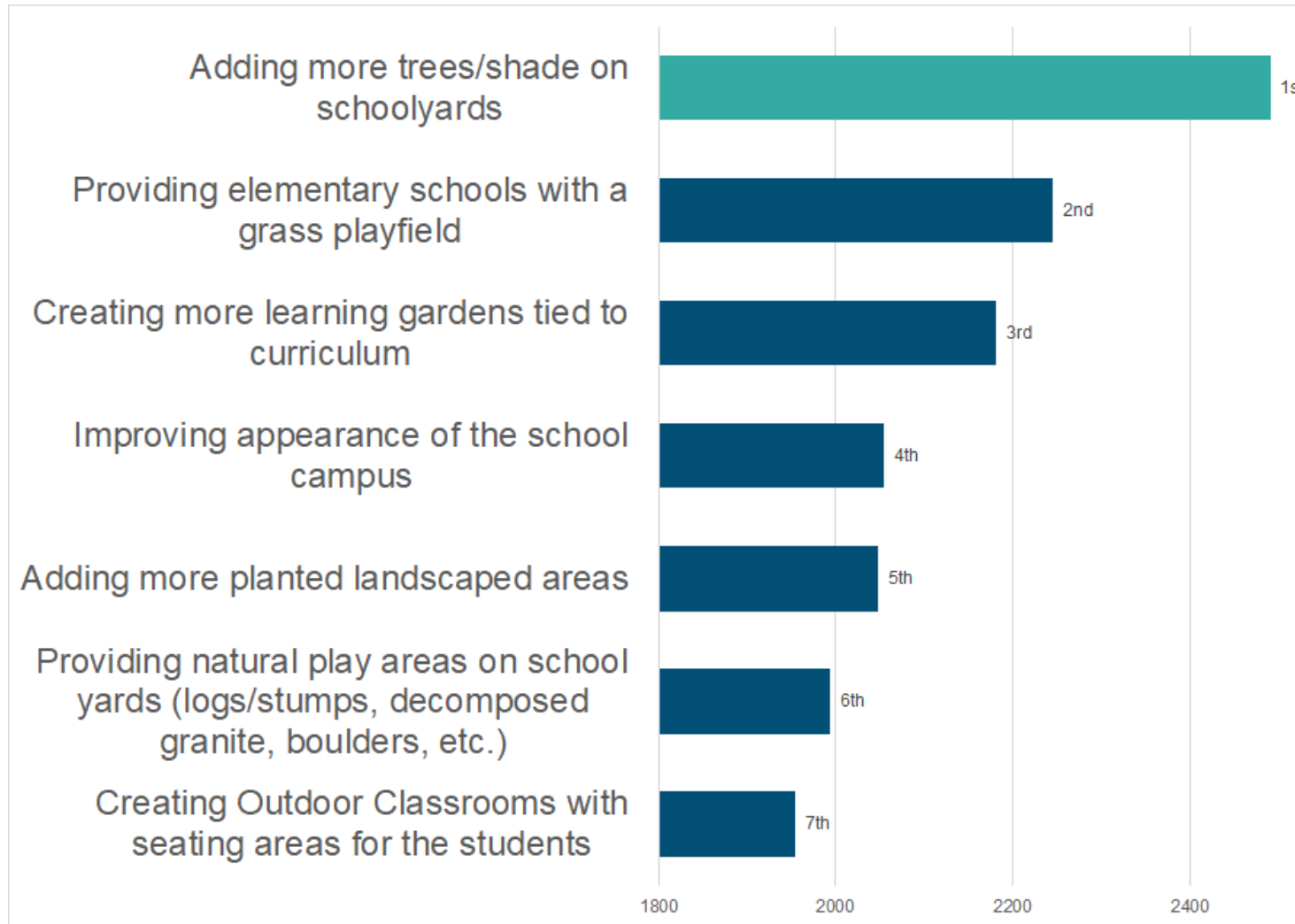
## Part 1:

- Five zoom sessions held, approximately 90 minutes each, 349 participants
- Input collected through online survey tool and follow up discussions in 7 languages.
- Participants: LAUSD students, families, educators, community-based partners, and environmental experts.

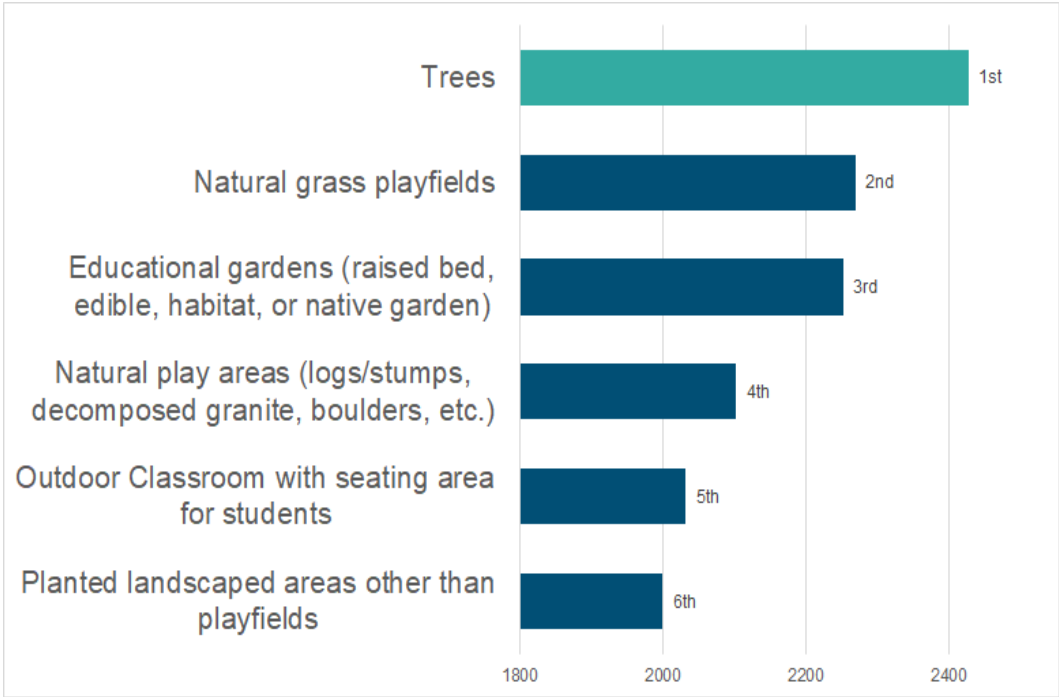
## Part 2:

- Follow-up online survey sent to all 349 participants.
- 576 responses received – representing more than 164 schools.

# Which do you feel the District should focus on when greening schoolyards?

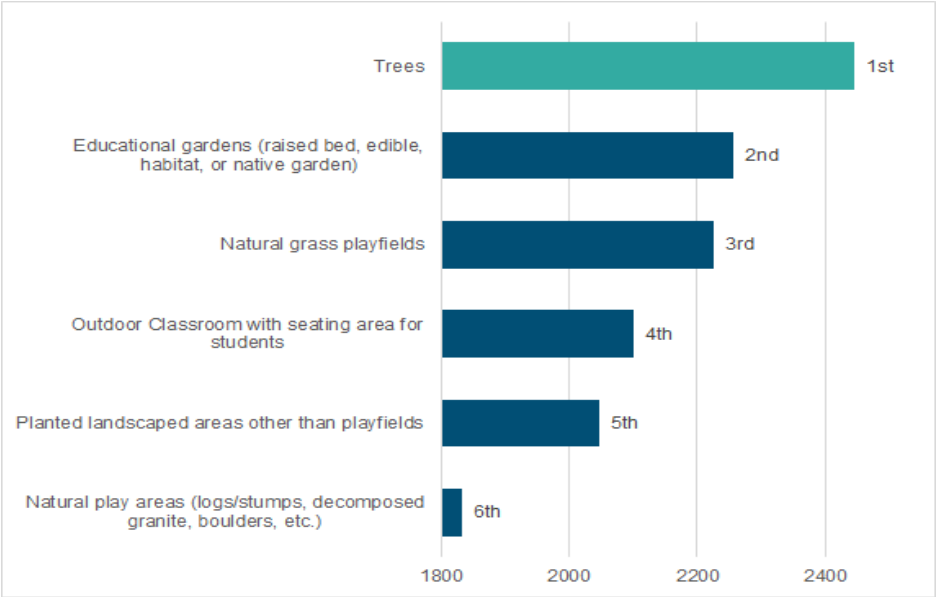


# When it comes to a student's access to green schoolyard space on their campus, which is most important to you?

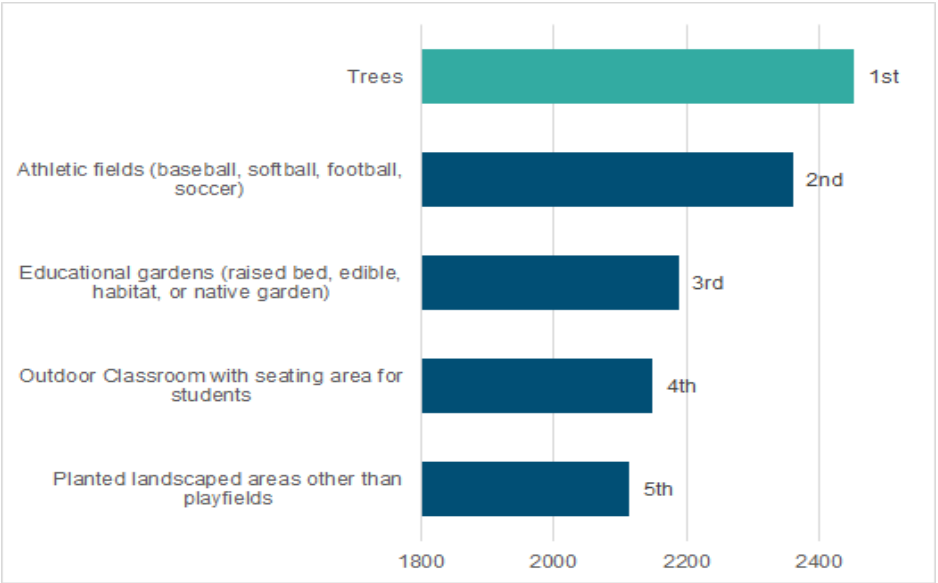


EEC/Elementary School

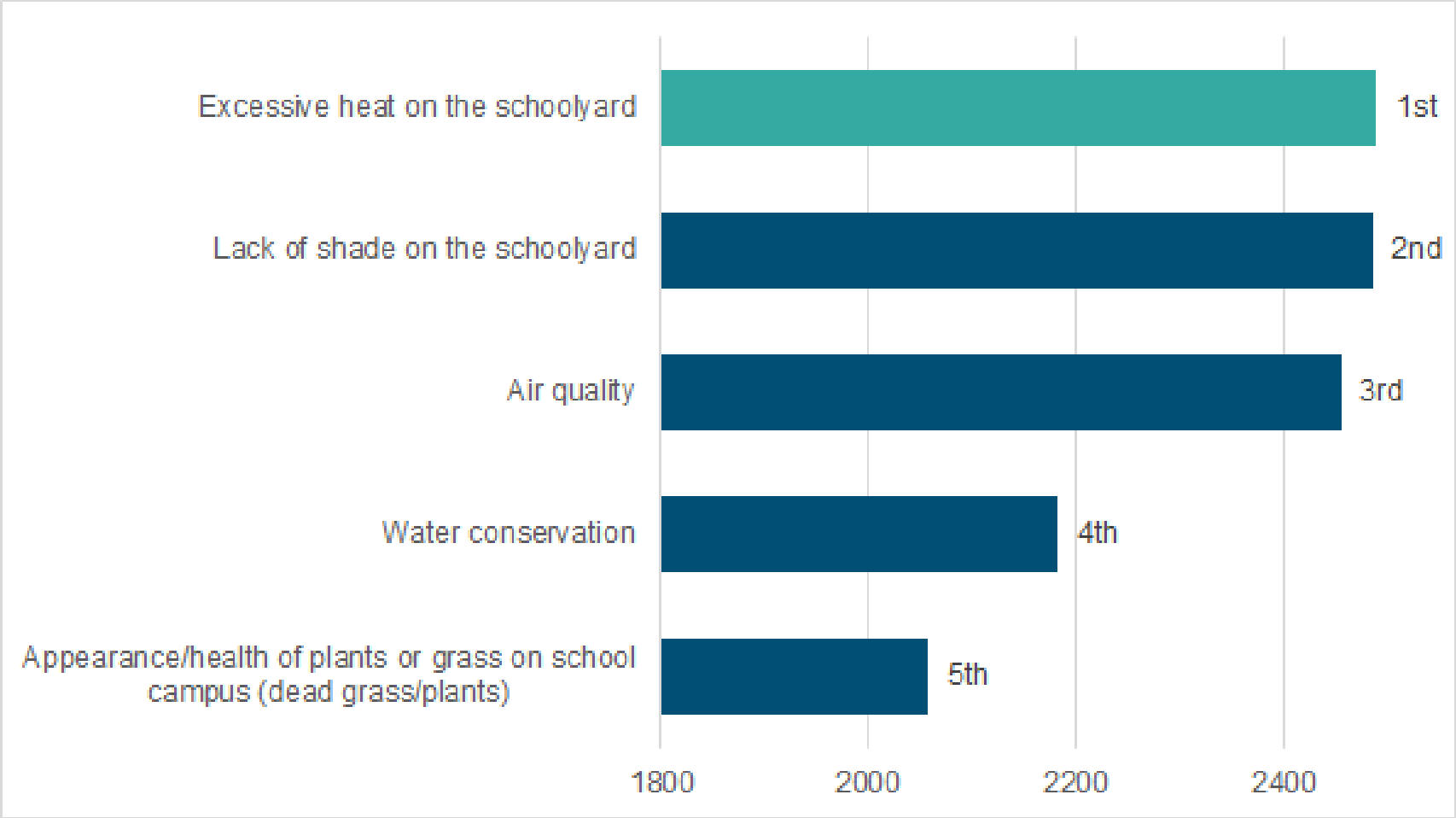
Middle School



High School



# When it comes to climate-related concerns for students on a school campus, which of the following are most important to you?





# Green Schoolyard Projects – Goals

## **Green Schoolyard Project Goals:**

- 30% green/natural schoolyard
- 20% shading of the schoolyard by trees
- The highest priority identified in the stakeholder survey was trees and shade.

## **Schoolyard** is defined as:

The exterior areas of the school site to which students have general, unrestricted, and secure access within the school fence line, including open space between permanent buildings wider than 20 feet.

# GSY Project Scoping Criteria

**Core Principles** for Developing Site-specific Project Definitions:

- **Increase green/natural areas to 30%** or to the maximum extent feasible.
- **Plant trees to achieve 20% shade** from trees at landscape and hardscape areas within 15 years. Provide shade where students are most active.
- **Provide grade level appropriate outdoor learning environments** aligned with curriculum and programs at the school.
- **Provide space for physical education and active play.** Prioritize green/natural spaces that allow for active play. Include a grass playfield at elementary schools, as space permits.
- **Consider visibility and site lines to improve safety and security** of the schoolyard.
- **Ensure access** to the green schoolyard is provided to all students.
- **Improve physical conditions and site infrastructure** to ease maintenance of the schoolyard.

# Current Funding Efforts – ~\$500 Million



## Greening As The Primary Scope

- Bond-Funded (Measure RR) \$400M
  - \$300M Playground And Campus Exterior Upgrades
  - \$5M SEEDS Learning Gardens
  - \$50M Outdoor Learning Environments
  - \$40M EEC Outdoor Classrooms
- Non-Bond:
  - ~\$40M Greening Upgrades (~30 projects)
  - ~\$50M Green Schoolyard Projects (~6-8 projects)
  - Third Party Greening Grants
    - \$55M CAL FIRE Green Schoolyards
    - CNRA Urban Greening Grants
    - Safe Clean Water Program

## Greening Provided As Feasible

Projects include upgrades to outdoor areas impacted by construction – positively improving green/natural schoolyards:

- \$840M Major Modernizations
- \$720M Classroom Replacements
- \$186M High School Athletic Facilities Upgrades

# Project Greening Analysis

For projects underway that include upgraded schoolyards:

- **Elementary Schools:**  
Majority of projects yielded 22–30% green/natural schoolyards
- **Middle Schools And High Schools:**  
Greening increased above 30% goal – inclusive of play fields and athletic fields



# Conclusions

- Systems are in place to measure, prioritize, and monitor green/natural spaces at school sites.
- Existing projects, programs and design standards align with the goals of the green schools for all resolution.
- Opportunities for partnerships are encouraged and supported.
- Collaboration with stakeholders, partners, and experts continues.
- Funding is in place to continue greening efforts.
- Additional funding needs to be identified for new capital projects focused on upgrading schoolyards.



# Next Steps

- Finalize and distribute the Green Schoolyards for All Plan.
- Continue to refine data and data systems to enable up-to-date progress tracking.
- Continue pursuing funding sources to upgrade and maintain green/natural schoolyards.
- Conduct due diligence and planning efforts at highest need Green Schoolyard sites.



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# Questions and Discussion