



For Immediate Release

Contact:

Alan Glass
Special Projects Accountant/Energy Supervisor
Facilities Department
Pittsburg Unified School District
aglass@pittsburg.k12.ca.us
(925) 285-2370 cell

Nicky Mora
District Communications & PR Specialist
Pittsburg Unified School District
nmora@pittsburg.k12.ca.us
(831) 578-7180 (cell)

MEDIA ADVISORY

Groundbreaking Ceremony for New Construction of Parkside Elementary School Pittsburg's 1st Zero Net Energy School

Pittsburg Unified School District (PUSD) breaks ground on the construction site of a new Parkside Elementary School. Funded by Measure L, a 2011 G.O. Bond, PUSD is moving forward with plans for a new Zero Net Energy school, meaning there will be enough renewable energy onsite to cover the entire cost of utilities of the school campus. At an estimated cost of \$44,100,660, the new Parkside Elementary School is scheduled to open for the 2020/2021 school year. The new campus will replace the original school, which was built in 1958.

“Thanks to the generosity of the voters in Pittsburg, we are able to bring a new elementary school to our Parkside community,” said Janet Schulze, Superintendent at PUSD. “We have spent several years planning for this project and are thrilled to see all the hard work behind-the-scenes turn into a beautiful school that is cutting edge in green technology.”

The construction of the new school will encompass 85,976 square feet, 37 classrooms (including five Kindergarten and one Pre-Kindergarten classrooms, two Special Education classrooms and one multi-use classroom), a multipurpose gymnasium, library, computer lab, and educator collaboration spaces. In line with the Net Zero

energy design, the school will utilize a Solar/PV Arrays System around the campus grounds. The Arrays will serve as carport covers for most of the parking spaces onsite, as well as shade cover for an outdoor eating area and student pick-up and drop-off zone. The school campus irrigation system will utilize reclaimed water, ensuring a reliable and cost-effective water solution for landscape.

Details about the Groundbreaking Ceremony are below:

- WHO:** Pittsburg Unified School District
- WHAT:** Groundbreaking Ceremony for New Construction of Parkside Elementary School
- WHEN:** Tuesday, March 19, 2019: 3:00pm – 4:20pm
- WHERE:** 985 West 17th Street, Pittsburg 94565
- WHY:** Pittsburg Unified School District is breaking ground on the District's first zero net energy school.
- PHOTO OPP:** Photo and video opportunities are available at the Groundbreaking Ceremony. Please contact Alan Glass at (925) 285-2370.

About Pittsburg Unified School District

Video about PUSD: <https://youtu.be/X2xn3HOavfM>

PUSD is a K-12 district serving the community of Pittsburg, California. Founded in 1933, the school system is committed to providing an excellent opportunity for all students to learn. Pittsburg Unified is extremely proud of a [91% Dashboard graduation rate](#) for 2018 and the 20% gain since 2013. Additionally, PUSD's graduation rate is currently 7% higher than the State's average of 84%. PUSD's dropout rate for 2018 is 6%, an impressive 16% decrease from 2013 where the District's Cohort dropout rate was 22%. Awarded the College Board's Gaston Caperton Opportunity Honor Roll award in 2016 for expanding access to college, [Pittsburg Unified School District](#) (PUSD) is one of 130 school districts across the nation recognized for creating opportunities for traditionally underrepresented students. Comprised of eight elementary schools, three junior high schools, one comprehensive high school, one alternative education high school, an adult school, independent study options, and a preschool program, the school district serves more than 11,500 students. PUSD is located in the San Francisco Bay Area, fifty minutes outside of downtown San Francisco.

###