



NEWS

Glendale Unified School District

223 North Jackson St., Glendale, CA 91206-4380 • 818-241-3111, ext. 218 • FAX 818-548-9041

Contact: Steven Frasher, Public Information Officer
Public Information/ Administrative Services

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Distribution Date: June 18, 2012

NEWS ADVISORY

Solar projects to bloom over summer

School District will save millions, over time, with clean energy

GLENDALE, CA -- Seven schools in the Glendale Unified School District will be outfitted for solar power generation during the summer months. The program will save a projected \$18 million worth of power at today's rates over a 30-year span, resulting in after-construction savings around \$10 million.

"The projects are a visible step into 21st century solutions, providing a clean energy alternative to several of our schools where projects proved most cost-effective, saving millions of dollars in the long term, and even providing welcome shade at several sites that may otherwise have none," said Superintendent of School Dr. Richard M. Sheehan.

Clark Magnet High School, Mark Keppel Elementary and Columbus Elementary, in the Glendale Water & Power service area, and Crescenta Valley High School, Rosemont Middle School, Mountain Avenue Elementary and Monte Vista Elementary, in areas of La Crescenta served by Southern California Edison (SCE), will be receiving solar installations during the summer break. Costs at sites in the SCE service area will also be partially offset by California Solar Initiative conversion incentives.

Once the solar photovoltaic (PV) panels are in operation, the District will benefit from both reduced utility bills as the result of solar electricity production as well as the incentives that the systems in the SCE service area will receive. First year General Fund energy savings is estimated at \$543,000. Incentives will total approximately \$914,000. The total solar panel savings are expected to reduce GUSD electricity consumption costs by more than \$18 million over 30 years.

The project contract cost of \$7.2 million will be paid by Measure S bond funds; the systems should pay for themselves in General Fund energy cost savings in an average of 18 years, depending on the size of the system and long-term site energy use.

"This is a fiscally and environmentally responsible way to leverage bond dollars for long-term General Fund savings," said Board of Education member Greg Krikorian. Some panels will also provide shade to parking spaces, playgrounds and lunch areas.

#