

ABOUT THE GREEN SCHOOLHOUSE SERIES

The Green Schoolhouse Series is a community-outreach program under the Brighten A Life organization. Brighten A Life is a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to enhance the educational and living environments of disadvantaged children, families, and adults.

The organization's efforts will result in the building of a pair of highly sustainable, green schoolhouses for the Green Phoenix Learning Center, providing more than 7,000 square feet of state-of-the-art, environmentally-friendly classroom space.

The flagship schoolhouse, The Loft, is a cutting-edge, high performance facility designed and built to help foster healthier learning environments, help students achieve higher test scores, and reduce energy costs for the district. The Loft will serve as a fully-equipped classroom for high school students during the day, an after-school facility, and community center on evenings and weekends.



The Loft will incorporate solar technology, day lighting, high-efficient doors/windows and HVAC systems, earth-friendly flooring, an outdoor "green garden" complete with an Eco-Gazebo, and multiple other sustainable features, making this Green Schoolhouse an ideal anchor for the Green Phoenix Learning Center.

The center's second Green Schoolhouse, Tierra Verde, is a highly-sustainable, multicultural, multipurpose facility and will act as additional classroom space, adult learning center, and community center. Possessing similar green features, this second building will feature an open, flexible floor plan with moveable wall systems and a unique 900 square feet open-air learning atrium.

Cause and Effect Evolutions will spearhead and manage all aspects of the design and construction of the Green Schoolhouses at the Green Phoenix Learning Center. It is expected that during the next five years, 148 Green Schoolhouses will be built throughout the United States.

PARTNERS



City of Phoenix



Arizona Board of Education



Various green job employers throughout the region

GREEN PHOENIX LEARNING CENTER



A Charter High School and Adult Learning Center focused on **GREEN JOBS OF THE FUTURE**

A Partnership among the City of Phoenix, the Maricopa Community College District, and Rio Salado College.

CONCEPT

Located in the heart of the downtown Phoenix science and education core, the Green Phoenix Learning Center will undergo a state-of-the-art green retrofit, implement a curriculum focused on green jobs of the future, and include a charter high school program. The Green Phoenix Learning Center will be a hub not only for workers seeking retraining, but for high school students preparing for a lifetime of opportunities in a green career.



Current Campus



Future Garden Area



THE PROGRAM

In the coming years, there will be a growing demand for workers at every skill level to fill jobs in sustainability and green technologies. Rio Salado is developing a green curriculum that will include the areas of renewable energy, construction/building, alt-fuel transportation, and environmental services. Integrating environmental, economic and social sustainability knowledge and practices across disciplines and throughout the educational experience will prepare students who go to the green learning campus to think, live and work in ways that will preserve or improve our environment. In addition, individuals seeking GED preparation and English language acquisition will have access to basic skills training so they can become productive members of the workforce.

The campus will also serve as a regional support services center for Rio's online learners by providing college assessment for prospective students, academic advising, tutoring services, and offering a full array of free, in-person ABE programming. Offices will be provided for college staff, rotating counselors, advisors, tutors, and City of Phoenix social services/community agencies that can assist students with needed support services.



SMALL HIGH SCHOOLS – A PHOENIX SUCCESS STORY



Upon taking office five years ago, Phoenix Mayor Phil Gordon immediately began work transforming urban education at the high school level – by creating small high schools of choice and providing students a focused curriculum aligned with high demand jobs of the future. Benjamin Franklin Public Safety High School is the first high school in the country targeted specifically to prepare future police officers, firefighters and EMTs. BioScience High School is located in the heart of the downtown biomedical campus with an overwhelmingly minority student body. In its second year, BioScience racked up the highest math test scores in the state.

Under construction are two nursing and medical arts high schools at opposite ends of the city. More choices and targeted curriculum are resulting in better outcomes for our students.



Current Campus

Future Loft Building



THE HIGH SCHOOL

MCCD is already an experienced charter high school operator and will use that expertise to make the green high school a success. Certified academic teachers will provide instruction in the required areas necessary for an Arizona diploma, including English, math, science and social studies. Those classes will be specifically

aligned to Arizona's challenging academic standards, and will prepare students to begin taking community college-level courses in their junior and senior years. Community college classes that are part of the green curriculum will be offered for credit for high school students so that by graduation time, students will be well on their way to an associate's degree or have a head start on a 4-year degree. Courses will be taught by experts in the field, with service learning opportunities, internships and on-the-job training opportunities available with public and private entities throughout the Valley. Workforce Investment Act dollars available through the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act will assist with the curriculum changeover and program start-up.



THE FACILITY

MCCD and Rio Salado, in partnership with the City of Phoenix, are already planning Phase I of the Downtown Higher Education Center with "green" features/technology and a green learning campus on Rio Salado's existing 2.48 acre site. The new buildings, including classrooms, computer labs, a testing center, a community meeting room, and administrative offices, will be state-of-the-art and serve as a laboratory and demonstration model for green construction and green development. The Green Phoenix Learning Center has been selected by Brighten A Life to receive the first two educational facilities under the Green Schoolhouse Series initiative

