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Canyon View Elementary Celebrates Re-opening with Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

KENNEWICK, WASHINGTON:

A ribbon cutting ceremony celebrating the reopening of Canyon View Elementary will be held on Thursday, July 29 at 11:30 a.m. at 1229 W. 22nd Place in Kennewick. The ceremony, presented by the Tri-City Regional Chamber of Commerce, marks the completion of a year-long remodel and modernization process. City of Kennewick officials and Tri-City Regional Chamber members will be on site along with school district administrators, Canyon View staff, students, and parents.

The 32 year old building has been completely renovated, receiving all new electrical, plumbing, fire suppression, heating and ventilation systems. Some of the school's new features include larger classrooms, natural daylight from skylights, and full size gymnasium with a wood floor. In addition, the former gymnasium space has been converted into a cafeteria and multipurpose room that can be used for both school and community functions. Many more features, designed with input from teachers and staff, will help provide the best possible learning environment for students.

"It has been exciting to see the transition," says Canyon View Principal, Mark Stephens. "Staff members have been involved in this building project since the beginning stages. We now have a state of the art building to offer our students, teachers and community members. I am looking forward to seeing the students, staff members and their smiles as they all experience their first day of school in our new building!" continued Stephens.

Construction crews recycled over 1.3 tons of concrete, steel, wood, and other salvage materials, accounting for 82% of the total construction waste. A portion of the building's old sprinkler system was used to make new bicycle racks. The concrete and masonry has been hauled off to a local concrete plant for remanufacture and stressed and dying trees that were removed from site have been chipped into mulch for landscape material.

In May of 2009, Kennewick School District residents approved a \$68 million dollar school bond to build a new elementary and renovate four elementary schools that are over 30 years old with aging infrastructures. Canyon View elementary was the first to be renovated. This year, Southgate Elementary faculty and students will move in to their temporary home in the district's Fruitland building while the remodel of their school is underway. Cottonwood Elementary, the district's newest elementary will open in late August.

Interviews/Photos: Canyon View Principal, Mark Stephens, KSD Superintendent, Dave Bond, and KSD Facilities Manager, Doug Carl will be available directly following the ribbon cutting for interviews.

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