Jamba Juice, GENYOUth plant seeds for success with school garden grants

Event on Thursday morning will show how the funding is being used

November 10, 2015 (Sacramento): Students at Nicholas Elementary School will demonstrate their new garden science curriculum at an event on Thursday morning to thank Jamba Juice and the GENYOUth Foundation for grants to 14 SCUSD campuses totaling $36,000.

GENYOUth’s program outreach partnered with Jamba Juice on grants for school gardens. At SCUSD, campuses are using the funding to either start gardens or maintain existing ones.

School gardens are becoming increasingly important as outdoor, living science labs where students can study ecosystems, learn about environmental sustainability and examine healthy food choices. The lessons are especially critical in low-income neighborhoods where students grow up without experiencing Sacramento’s agricultural riches. South Sacramento, where Nicholas Elementary is located, has been labeled a “food desert” for its lack of grocery stores and farmers’ markets.

“We are so grateful to Jamba Juice and GENYOUth for helping students learn to love nature and the wonderful bounty a garden provides,” said Superintendent José L. Banda. “This work helps our students grow with healthy minds and healthy bodies.”

Nicholas Elementary is using its grant funding to purchase and install fencing around the school garden. At Thursday’s event, students will analyze soil samples and teams will dig post holes for the new fence.

“School gardens are an important way for students to be active out of doors and to learn the nutritional value of fruits and vegetables,” said Julie S. Washington, chief marketing and innovation officer, Jamba Juice. “Through gardening, they learn that plants need care and nurturing to grow strong, and they make the connection that their bodies need similar care.”

- WHAT: Jamba Juice/GENYOUth School Garden Grant Event
- WHEN: 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, November 12
- WHERE: Nicholas Elementary, 6601 Steiner Drive, Sacramento, CA 95823
About SCUSD:
The Sacramento City Unified School District is the 10th largest K-12 district in California, serving 43,000 students on 76 campuses. SCUSD’s Board-approved mission is to graduate students as competitive lifelong learners, prepared to succeed in a career and higher education institution of their choice to secure gainful employment and contribute to society.

About GENYOUth:
A leading nonprofit, GENYOUth brings leaders in health and wellness, education, government and business together in a movement to empower America’s youth to achieve a healthier future by uniting partners, raising funds and uplifting the student voice. GENYOUth has established itself as a thought leader in youth health and wellness and collaborates with its partners to convene experts, conduct research, publish perspective reports, and build programs that make a lasting difference in the pursuit of healthy, high-achieving youth. Founded in 2010 through a public-private partnership with the National Dairy Council and the NFL, GENYOUth has raised funds, increased visibility and commitment to school wellness among health and wellness leaders, educators, students, parents, community leaders and businesses. Learn more about GENYOUth partnership, volunteer and donation opportunities at http://www.genyouthfoundation.org or contact us at info@genyouthfoundation.org.

About Jamba, Inc.:
Founded in 1990, Jamba, Inc. is a leading restaurant retailer of better-for-you, specialty beverage and food offerings, which include great tasting, whole fruit smoothies, fresh squeezed juices and juice blends, hot teas, and a variety of food items including hot oatmeal, breakfast wraps, sandwiches, Artisan Flatbreads™, baked goods, and snacks. As of June 30, 2015, there were 807 Jamba® stores system-wide in the United States, of which 601 are franchise-operated stores, and 206 are Company-owned. Jamba is a proud sponsor of "Team Up for a Healthy America" in the fight against childhood obesity and encourages fans to join the Team Up community of celebrities, athletes, and other leaders committed to getting kids active and involved at www.myhealthpledge.com. Fans of Jamba Juice can find out more about Jamba Juice’s locations as well as specific offerings and promotions by visiting the Jamba Juice website at www.JambaJuice.com or by contacting Jamba's Guest Services team at 1-866-4R-FRUIT (473- 7848).

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