



## Media Advisory

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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### **La Merced Elementary to Unveil MUSD's 20th School Garden \$18,000 Grant from the Sherwood Foundation Awarded to District for Garden Programs**

**WHAT:** With a grant awarded from the Sherwood Foundation, Montebello Unified is opening its 20th school-based garden in the District, which includes 30 schools. The \$18,000 grant will be awarded to the District at an unveiling ceremony for the new garden at La Merced Elementary. The grant will also assist in supporting gardening clubs and programs throughout the District.

More than 2,000 students are involved in Montebello Unified's gardening programs, and the District and its partners have sought additional grants to expand their programs, incorporate gardening activities into their curriculum and promote principles of sustainability and water conservation.

The District aims to implement student-run gardens at every school to create a healthier school district, and in turn, a healthier community. In addition, 11 school garden clubs also come together each quarter to sell their harvest to the community at the MUSD Farmers Market. The next Farmers Market will take place Saturday, Dec. 13 at Bell Gardens Intermediate School from 9 a.m. to noon.

Light refreshments will be served at the La Merced garden unveiling.

**WHEN:** **Friday, Dec. 5**  
**2 p.m.**

**WHERE:** La Merced Elementary School  
724 N. Poplar Ave.  
Montebello, CA 90640

**WHO:** MUSD Board of Education Members  
La Merced Elementary students, staff and teachers

**Montebello Unified School District** is a dynamic learning institution employing top-quality educators. It is the combined work of many that allows the District to continue educating more than 30,000 students every year using the 40 Developmental Assets at all of our school sites. It is through everyone's efforts – students, parents, teachers, staff and administrators – that we are achieving the District's number one goal of raising student achievement. Learn more online at [www.montebello.k12.ca.us](http://www.montebello.k12.ca.us).