

GIVE adopts JFK Middle College High School in Norco

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NORCO, Calif. - The Green Institute for Village Empowerment has adopted its first school campus, John F. Kennedy Middle College High School, in an attempt to help spread the message of sustainability to today's youth.

The adoption was formalized at a special assembly Thursday involving several Corona-Norco Unified School District officials, more than 600 students and GIVE founder, Ali Sahabi. This is the first school adoption for both GIVE and the JFK campus.

"This is a wonderful adoption and very applicable to JFK," said Corona-Norco School Board President Cathy Sciortino. "It reflects the philosophies of John F. Kennedy, to 'Dream of things that never were,' and I believe that GIVE embodies that idea."

Under the terms of the adoption, GIVE will educate JFK students about sustainability, and the students will spread the message through presentations they will make to elementary schools, said JFK Principal Don Ward.

"This adoption is meant to be a people-people thing," Ward said. "It's all about the positive exchange of ideas and collaboration."

GIVE is a nonprofit organization established in 2006 to promote the concept of sustainability, a term used to define balance in the way people live, how their choices impact the environment and others in their community. Sahabi explained the concept at the assembly.

"We all make decisions every day that affect our future," Sahabi told the students. "As we make these decisions, we need to be aware of how our actions impact the people around us, and our environment."

Many students in the audience Thursday wore T-shirts they received as volunteers at GIVE's Green Valley Earth Festival held in April at Dos Lagos in Corona. Several stood up and applauded when Sahabi finished speaking.

More than 300 JFK students have signed up as members of GIVE, and the campus is the first high school to establish a student chapter of GIVE, Ward said.

In addition to its educational outreach, GIVE is also the sponsor of the Green Valley Initiative, (GVI), an economic development plan to promote green technologies, renewable energy, alternative transportation and sustainable lifestyles in the Inland Empire. Visit www.greenvalleynow.org

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