

Creekside Community School Sustainable Agriculture Plan and Sustainability

1. Content and standards

The Sustainable Agriculture program will provide the skillsets needed for growing food using regenerative farming practices along with academic skills and knowledge. The content will be created to match these. Beginning with foundational courses that are open to every student, funneling into the core courses of study.

2. Alignment and articulation

Sustainable Agriculture coursework will provide foundational skills and content that will allow students to transition into post-secondary educational tracks. The program will align with various community colleges throughout the state that have agriculture programs. It will also provide coursework for students interested in agriculture and growing food for communities using regenerative and sustainable practices, business, soil management, customer service, management, sustainability, and landscaping. We are working toward articulation of this alignment, including exploring possibilities for dual credit with the dual credit specialist at PCC.

3. Assessment and evaluation

Students enrolled in the Sustainable Agriculture CTE track will be regularly evaluated with formative assessments to determine their skill proficiency. The capstone project will act as an opportunity to directly apply learning and demonstrate their proficiency in the skills areas. This will be assessed through student reflection and self-assessment, instructor feedback, and a rubric outlining skills proficiencies. The final assessment for students will be a capstone project, which will give them an opportunity to share and show their growth with the school and larger community.

The success of the program will be regularly evaluated to improve its effectiveness in meeting student needs and aligning with post-secondary outcomes. The advisory committee, including industry professionals, community college instructors, and fellow educators, will meet annually to reflect and integrate feedback in order to continually improve the program. The success of the program will be partially based on the number of students who complete the program, their assessment results, and student feedback.

4. Student support services

The Sustainable Agriculture program will be accessible to all students, and the Farming I course will provide foundational learning that will connect students to growing food. Our vision is to make this available to the majority of students at Creekside, in order to better support student mental health and foster positive school community. Farming I is open to all students. This will give students the opportunity to have a taste of the Sustainable Agriculture pathway, and allow staff to build relationships with and identify students whose interests align with the program goals. Students completing the second and third-year coursework will provide mentoring and support to fellow students, therefore connecting and informing others of the program.

Creekside Community High School offers a constellation of comprehensive supports to insure access and support towards success for every student. Our school serves students in our district working with the greatest obstacles within an alternative education setting. Our support includes:

- Full service special education services
- Integrated mental health supports
- A bottom-liner adviser for each student
- Proactive social and emotional learning opportunities
- Restorative Practices Integration
- A community of care
- A dynamic student support team that meets weekly to identify and support the root struggles that

5. Professional development

Will be attending OATA and other ag professional development.

Sustainability

In partnership with local non-profits, this program will be sustained by school funding and grants. With Perkins money, we will be able to maintain current and an add additional greenhouse and maintain infrastructure.