

Rancho Sahuarita Wins 2006 Crystal Apple Awards

The Rancho Sahuarita Company has been awarded a Metropolitan Education Commission (MEC) 2006 Crystal Apple Corporate Award for their contributions to education. Nominated by Dr. Jay St. John, superintendent of the Sahuarita Unified School District (SUSD), this award was presented to Rancho Sahuarita on Wednesday, May 10th at the MEC's award luncheon.

The event's theme, "Saluting the partnership between education and business" is befitting to Rancho Sahuarita's vision of providing its families an extraordinary lifestyle through exceptional educational opportunities. In cooperation with SUSD, Rancho Sahuarita has generously donated land for two school campuses, at a value in today's dollars of over \$10,000,000, and it has reserved a potential third campus to serve the southern portion of its growing community.

At Rancho Sahuarita, families can enjoy innovative and dynamic on-site public schools. Children can walk to school, parents can be involved in school activities and families can benefit from cutting edge facilities and resources. Miles of paved walking trails connect the various Rancho Sahuarita neighborhoods to the campuses so that children can walk or ride their bikes to schools, without having to share the road with vehicles.

Currently, Rancho Sahuarita's master plan includes a K-12 school campus, situated in the center of the community on 120 acres, 35 acres of which were donated by Rancho Sahuarita to SUSD. To foster student learning, the campus houses the most advanced technology including fiber-optic computer technology, telecommunication centers, libraries and fully integrated science labs. Recreationally, the campus includes a 1,200 seat auditorium, three gymnasiums, athletic fields, tennis courts, and a swimming pool.

Construction has started on a second campus, the Anza Trail K-8 School, on 25 acres of Rancho Sahuarita donated land, which will serve to educate 1,200 students, pre-kindergarten through eighth grade. Adjacent to the campus will be 11 acres of parkland, consisting of ball fields, multi-use fields, playgrounds, sport courts and pavilions. An outdoor amphitheatre will also be built into the natural grade of the site to encourage student creativity and expression.

As Rancho Sahuarita continues to grow, they look forward to working alongside SUSD on future projects that will continue to provide exceptional educational opportunities for the growing community.