

Landscaping, Lights, and Lots of Color!

More than simply curb-appeal, taking care of appearance is about supporting a Welcoming School Community

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PART ONE: INTRODUCTIONS

Today's Presenters



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Vice President
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Before We Begin



Handouts

Some printed materials are available. Slides will direct you to the page numbers.

Additional Resources

Visit TRIGroup.us for additional resources on this topic.

Interactive Practice

- Two groups:
- New Friends
 - Old Friends

FUN!

Allan and Peter have been having fun together for a long time. Let's keep that going!

"Landscaping, Lights, & Lots of Color" (AKA "curb appeal")



01 Know What & Why

What is Curb Appeal? Why does a welcoming environment matter?

03 Determine Direction

How do you prioritize and then plan accordingly?

02 Know How

How do you garner support and strategically plan?

04 Communicate

What does follow-up look like? How do you turn short-term wins into long-term momentum?

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3. The Community Starts Having Higher Expectations
Engagement on 'smaller' projects shifts to support for larger programs

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2. It's More Than Paint
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4. Leaders Set Direction
Setting & Reaching Goals determines how you are evaluated






Who's With Us Today?

Find a Partner and Introduce Yourself:

1. Your name and role
2. Why did you choose this session?
3. Goals for future application?
4. Finally...any tips for fun in Palm Springs!



PART TWO: Define “Landscaping, Lights and Lots of Color (AKA Curb Appeal)”

It's about creating a WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT

Physical appearance is important, but curb appeal is more than just making areas look nice.

Schools are places where:

- Students learn. Staff serve. Community members gather. To do those things really well requires a sense of pride and belonging.

The appearance of the school influences the person's perception of safety, care, and academic rigor that occurs within the school.

- Families have more choices than ever for schools. Facilities needs to ensure the family walks in and shows interest vs driving past to a neighboring district or charter school.



It's More Than Just Paint...
But ask, *"How does this help create a welcoming environment?"*



HARDSCAPE

Sidewalks, Pavement,
Blacktop, Parking/Striping,
Fencing, and paint too!

SOFTSCAPE

Trees, Shrubs,
Ornamentals,
Lawns/Fields, Flowers!

STRUCTURAL

Shade Structures,
Benches, Tables, Play
Structures, Flagpoles,
Signage, Marquee,
Planting Containers, etc.

1st Impressions Matter!



**CA School Facilities Research Institute,
KEY FINDINGS:**



- "Neighborhoods and the planning of the environment around schools helps create community and spaces for youth to learn skills beyond the classroom."
- "Schools outdoor green space has a significant impact on health, learning, and academic achievement."
- "Building disrepair has been associated with student performance and absenteeism."
- "Crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) is a strategy that gains input from students and researches the gaps. Involving people, including students, can help create feelings of safety and psychological well-being."
- "Buildings and grounds used within and outside of school hours contribute to student well-being, increased physical and mental health, positive relationships, and increased access to student services."



PART THREE: ESTABLISHING PRIORITIES & BUILDING CAPACITY

Involve the Community!



1. School Site Council, PTA, Parents, and Students
2. City/County Recreation Department
3. City/County Development Agencies
4. Police & Fire Departments
5. Architects, Landscapers, Maintenance Staff
6. Neighborhood Residents
7. The Mayor, The Board, The Superintendent

Be a SYSTEMS THINKER*

1. Make Meaningful Connections Within and Across Systems:

- a. Maintenance, Custodial, and Facilities Goals
- b. LCAP Goals and School Site Climate Program Goals
- c. City, Park, and Regional Development Goals

2. Understand Structure to Leverage Action:

- a. Creative Budgeting & Grant Funding
- b. Student Work and Learning Experience
- c. Environmental Programs
- d. Publicity and Recognition



PART FOUR: PRACTICAL STRATEGIES

Planning and Coordination: Build Momentum and Anticipation!



Strategies to Consider:

1. Communicate, Communicate, Communicate!
 - a. Opportunities: Name all the possibilities
 - b. Limitations: Budget, Time, Staffing
 - c. Board and Community Presentations
2. Involve Students & Teachers in Design and Implementation, "Learn by Doing"
3. Assess in Various Conditions:
 - a. Day/Night, Rain/Shine, Summer/Winter, Open/Closed
4. Share Decision Making
5. Assess Equity in Access: Which School Deserves Special Attention?
6. Pilot Small, Celebrate Accomplishments, then Expand
Then, document that you did these things!

Thank you!

Questions? Want more advice?

We're here at the conference this week to help.

Check out our resources at trigroup.us

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