



SCHOOL PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING

C.J. JORGENSEN ACADEMY OF SERVICE LEARNING

2023-24 Evaluation Report

In partnership with Center for the Future of Arizona, Arizona State University's Participatory Governance Initiative, and C.J. Jorgensen Academy of Service Learning.

In 2022, Roosevelt Elementary School District (RSD) became the first fully elementary school district in the nation to adopt School Participatory Budgeting (SPB). Through SPB, students “learn democracy by doing” through a process of generating ideas, developing proposals, campaigning and deliberating, and voting to fund improvement projects that build stronger school communities.

RSD partnered with Center for the Future of Arizona (CFA) and Arizona State University's Participatory Governance Initiative (PGI) to pilot, implement, and evaluate the SPB process.

After a successful pilot year with nine schools, RSD continued to implement SPB and engaged two new schools in the second year of the process. The district-wide goals of SPB are to:

- Deepen connections among students, teachers, and staff within the school community
- Increase outcomes of students' civic knowledge, attitudes, skills, and practices
- Positively impact student well-being and school climate

This report shares the impact of SPB at Jorgensen from the Academic Year 2023-24.

KEY STAKEHOLDERS

RSD District Leaders

- Executive Director of Leadership and Learning
- Executive Assistant to the Executive Director of Leadership and Learning

C.J. Jorgensen Academy of Service Learning piloted SPB in the 2023-24 school year, supported by:

School Leaders

- Principal Holena Lebrón
- Dean of Students LaToya Turner

SPB Sponsor

- Ramon Dominguez

Student Steering Committee

- In-Classroom
- 15 8th Grade Students

SPB Advisors

- Center for the Future of Arizona Civic Health Team
- Arizona State University Participatory Governance Initiative



SPB Ballot Proposals:

- Shading for benches/Seating areas
- Reflections in the Mirror
- Upgraded Garden
- Brand New Mirrors in Bathroom

2023-24 Winning Project & Budget

\$3,000

Shading for benches /
Seating areas

STUDENT REFLECTIONS

- “The teachers made the process fun and inclusive.” –8th grade student
- “I learned how to focus more.” –8th grade student
- “I learned that the process takes a lot of time, but I am proud of our work.” –8th grade student

HIGHLIGHTED STUDENT GAINS IN KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES, SKILLS, AND PRACTICES

- **97%** reporting, “I can help others to solve conflicts.”
- **93%** reporting, “I feel like I can make a difference in my school.”
- **93%** reporting, “I respect other people’s ideas, even if I disagree with them.”
- **90%** reporting, “I believe when people work together, they can make a difference.”
- **90%** reporting, “I plan to vote as soon as I am able to.”

