



8. More efficient use of developable land is facilitating the continued use of agricultural lands and the acquisition of open space.
9. Agricultural lands remain as a valuable form of development. Although they are not publicly owned open space, through voluntary agreements, many of them have become part of the County's multi-purpose open space system for their visual value and as buffers to other forms of development.

Educational Facilities

The educational system in Riverside County is highly respected as a valued positive force in the County's communities and economic environment. From pre-school through advanced degrees, the educational infrastructure has expanded remarkably in synch with the County's growth. A particularly effective aspect of education's role in the community is the array of partnership programs with the business community and local governments, dealing with job training, environmental resource management, recreation, and a host of other initiatives. Basic educational programs have moved the County's student population near the top ranks in the State as revealed by academic testing.

1. The priority need for quality educational facilities and programs in the County (in order to educate our youth, serve the ongoing educational needs of our existing communities and attract additional industry, business, and quality development) is satisfied through universally established partnerships between school districts and local governments. This is reflected in cooperative planning for school facilities and access to them.
2. A considerable contribution to the educational excellence within Riverside County has been made by expanded and new facilities at the community college and university levels.
3. There are now numerous examples of arrangements for joint use and financing of school facilities, as well as cooperative community based programs made possible by reduced costs of facilities.
4. Several industrial/office park sectors of the County include community college branch facilities in which job training and employee professional development programs are conducted under a business/college partnership arrangement.
5. The special housing needs of educators and students are recognized through innovative partnerships between developers, communities, and educational institutions to provide a range of residential choices for this segment of the population.
6. Effective and widespread initiatives to bolster resources and focus energies on basic education for our student population have resulted in the County's academic performance making a remarkable surge toward the top of county rankings in the State.