



Desert Mirage Elementary School Students Win Grant from SRP *School of Energy Video Challenge Second Graders are making a Difference*

Phoenix, AZ – April 20, 2020 – Stefanie McKee’s second grade students at Desert Mirage School in Glendale have been putting their interest and knowledge of being a Green School into action by forming the Junior Green Team, developed in order to get younger learners involved in the SRP Energy Savings program.

As a Junior Green Team, they work tirelessly to help students understand the importance of how to reduce, reuse and recycle, as well as keeping the campus clean. Each week they offer tips on the announcements on preserving resources and saving energy such as on turning off lights when not in use, and unplugging laptops carts.

Ms. McKee attended a summer workshop sponsored by SRP where they shared information about making videos and helping others to understand ways to help on campus. She brought the information back to her class and students wanted to share what they had learned. They entered the contest with one of their morning announcement videos and won a \$500 grant in the SRP Energy Video Challenge. McKee shared she is, “So proud of my students for coming up with the ideas for the younger kids on campus. It is exciting to see that this is their first time to win an award for the first year of implementation for doing this. Students have embraced the ideas and they feel like leaders on campus. They love wearing their Junior Green Team t-shirts from SRP. They wear them on field trips and on the daily morning announcements. The students are learning skills that will serve them well through their lives and will make a difference in their classrooms, their school, and their communities.”

Principal Matt Williams sees Science, Technology, Engineering, Math and Arts (S.T.E.A.M.) as important 21st Century skills for students. Learning to help be a sustainable school and community is what Desert Mirage School and Pendergast District is all about. These students and their amazing teacher are true energy leaders and we celebrate their creativity.”