

“Potential Bounty Excites Youths”

Kennedy High School biology teacher, Park Guthrie, has started a program for students at Kennedy and Richmond High Schools to grow fresh produce on campus. “Instead of preaching about eating more produce, we want to engage kids in growing produce and teach them about healthy foods as an alternative,” Guthrie said.

Guthrie and several students and volunteers will attempt to educate students on healthy and sustainable foods on Saturday and Sunday with the 2 Farms in 2 Days project. They will take a strip of unused land on Kennedy’s property and transform it into an 8,000 square foot farm, then build a similar farm on Richmond’s property. Guthrie hopes this will encourage the students to fight against obesity as well as other unhealthy lifestyle practices.

Guthrie started the organization, Urban Tilth, which is backing the project. Urban Tilth’s goal is to get Contra Costa County to produce at least 5 percent of its own food supply. Guthrie is hopeful that the new farms at Kennedy and Richmond high schools can support a 40-box output, maybe even a farm stand at a local elementary school.