

Community Focus Statement G: Provide quality educational opportunities at all levels.

Action Statement G.1: Establish mountain-wide partnerships for joint use of existing Public School infrastructure with universities and junior colleges to provide expanded educational opportunities for residents.

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Benchmark: Teach at least three classes annually in the Hilltop communities through partnerships with regional higher education institutions.

Champion: Volunteer group or person or can be identified by the community

Estimated Cost: \$1,000–\$6,000



Charles Hoffman Elementary School. Photo source: Rim of the World Unified School District

Joint-use agreements between universities or junior colleges come in various forms, depending on the type of agreement and who owns the facility being used. The most applicable form for the Hilltop communities is a basic joint-use agreement where non-district entities set up an agreement to gain use of school district controlled, owned, or utilized facilities. This agreement would allow universities and junior colleges to set up satellite-type campuses in different communities with minimal infrastructure costs and provide communities with adult classes or higher education learning opportunities.

Currently, the Hilltop communities are fairly limited in existing facilities but do have Charles Hoffman Elementary School, which has the existing infrastructure to potentially offer joint use educational opportunities for residents in most traditional subjects. Additionally, the Pali Institute in Running Springs is a facility that can provide a unique learning environment as an alternative to traditional classrooms. Hilltop communities residents can also access programs put together in adjacent mountain communities such as the Lake Arrowhead communities.

A basic joint-use agreement is fairly easy to establish and is usually a short-term agreement. This type of agreement would allow classes to change frequently while still allowing for renewal or a long-term agreement if the program was widely desired. Basic joint-use access generally does not require an extensive legal framework and can be created with an agreement establishing basic fees and some indemnification of the school district related to liability. Communities can also create an organization which identifies educational gaps in the community and looks for universities or colleges that specialize in related topics. This option provides a point of contact for schools and keeps information new and relevant for community members.



Action	Action Leader	Timeline	Resources
1. Create an Education Committee	Champion	Months 1 – 6	University of California Berkeley Center for Cities and Schools: Partnerships for Joint Use – Expanding the Use of Public School Infrastructure to Benefit Students and Communities http://citiesandschools.berkeley.edu/reports/Partnerships_JU_Aug2010.pdf
2. Work with regional higher educational institutions to identify interest in establishing satellite operations in the Hilltop community area.	Education Committee with Rim of the World Unified School District, Running Springs Area Chamber of Commerce	Months 1 – 6	
3. Work with local community members and economic groups to determine the preferred educational programs.	Education Committee	Months 3 – 6	
4. Sign joint-use agreements allowing higher education institutions to use school district facilities.	Rim of the World Unified School District	Months 7 and 8	
5. Market programs to community members, in coordination with higher educational institutions.	Education Committee	Month 9, on-going	
6. Continue to coordinate between community members and higher education institutions to offer programs of value to Hilltop community members.	Education Committee	Month 13, on-going	