

RITE NOW @ ROP



Community partnerships play a key role in making a difference in the lives of the children we serve.

Canyon State Academy recently unveiled the new Student Union during a ribbon cutting ceremony that was attended by members of the Rite of Passage management team, community leaders, business partners, staff and students.

What's incredibly special about this particular project is that it was finished in 3.5 months with 49 trade partners, led by Taylor Morrison Homes and Studio Dwell, who came together and through their in-kind donations (time, materials, furniture, fixtures and equipment), 250+ volunteers, including over 50 students and staff from CSA, and over 2,000 volunteer hours, created a wonderful space for our students, valued at \$500,000, that will be enjoyed for years to come- a true modern day miracle!

What's even more amazing is that three CSA graduates who just happened to be employed by the trade partners took part in the effort. Their full-circle involvement in the project underscores the invaluable service CSA provides. Often these kids just need someone to believe in them enough to invest in them- and the parallel to the Rams Lounge renovation was not lost on the team.

"This really is a metaphor for the kids' lives," said Jesy. "Taking something that's worn and beaten down and everybody's given up on it and breathing new life into it- that's what this school does for the kids and that's what we as a group have done for this space. It was our number one goal to make this a place they wanted to aspire to be able to use."

Special thanks to Pastor Mo Grimm of Sun Valley Community Church for introducing Taylor Morrison Homes to Canyon State Academy, as well as to the Taylor Morrison Homes and Studio Dwell teams for helping Rite of Passage achieve its mission of improving the lives of youth, families and communities. For their dedication, leadership and commitment, both companies were recognized and presented with the 2019 Community Partnership Award. A Key to Canyon State Academy was presented to Mr. James VanCuyck, for his lead role as the project manager from Taylor Morrison Homes.
