



COWICHAN VALLEY REGIONAL DISTRICT

SUBMISSION FOR A GRANT-IN-AID (ELECTORAL AREAS)

Submitted by Director Acton Area B

Grantee: Grant Amount \$ 1000

NAME: Sunrise Waldorf Parent Association (SWPA)

ADDRESS: 2148 Lakeside Road Duncan, BC, V9L 6M3

Contact Phone No: swpa.treasurer@sunrisewaldorf.org. tel: 250.743.7253

PURPOSE OF GRANT: Funding for an Elementary School Climbing Structure

REQUESTED BY: SVActon
Director' Signature

ACCOUNT NO.	AMOUNT
01.2.1950.0468.112	\$1000

FOR FINANCE USE ONLY

BUDGET APPROVAL 

Approval at Regional Board Meeting of _____

Finance Authorization _____

Sunrise Waldorf Parent Association (SWPA)
2148 Lakeside Road
Duncan, BC, V9L 6M3

Re: Funding for our Elementary School Climbing Structure

Dear Sierra Acton,

Children need a variety of different types of play structures to foster different types of play. Our current play areas include swings, play houses, sand pits and a large field for soccer and baseball. While our current structures foster imaginative play, there is no structure specifically to challenge their gross motor climbing skills. Large structures like the two options we have chosen do just this. Climbing structures build core strength, require risk assessment skills and encourage problem solving skills.¹ This type of student led play nurtures confidence in students and promotes physical strength as well as strength of character. By climbing, children have the opportunity to test themselves and feel deep within their bodies where the limits are and how to change course when appropriate. These skills developed during play have been found to improve academic performance, including memory attention.² The gross motor climbing structures in our proposal build core strength and encourage abundant physical exercise. This improves academic performance including attention and memory.³ Local playgrounds are also known to reduce the rates of obesity and type 2 diabetes in rural children and improve the health of the whole community.⁴

This year the Parent Association for Sunrise Waldorf School (SWPA) is fundraising for a new climbing structure. Our new climbing structure will support the physical health of our K-Grade 8 students. These years are critical to long term health by supporting healthy metabolism and adequate physical exercise. The parent association is a non-profit organization and is incorporated under its own bylaws and constitution as legislated by the Society Act. As such, we are able to issue tax receipts for donations to our non-profit.

Sunrise Waldorf School is a K-Grade 8 Ministry approved and AWSNA certified elementary school in the Cowichan Valley, BC. Our school's philosophy focuses heavily on reverence for the natural world and we take a child centered approach to academic studies. Sunrise Waldorf School is an established member of Federation of Independent School Association (FISA).

¹ Landscape Structures, "Developmental Benefits of Play," accessed July 19, 2023.

<https://www.playlsi.com/en/playground-planning-tools/education/development-benefits-of-play/>

² Landscape Structures, "Developmental Benefits of Play."

³ Landscape Structures, "Developmental Benefits of Play," accessed July 19, 2023.

<https://www.playlsi.com/en/playground-planning-tools/education/development-benefits-of-play/>

⁴ Trust for Public Land, "Benefits of Parks Whitepaper," accessed July 20, 2023, pp. 13,

<https://www.tpl.org/resource/benefits-parks-white-paper>

Sunrise Waldorf School is situated in the rural area of the Cowichan Valley, on Vancouver Island BC. As we are a rural school, our student catchment is 15km in either direction. Our student body is made of 124 families with 148 students from Pre-K to Grade 8. Our student body includes 5% of students who are First Nations and 10% who are immigrants living in Canada on Permanent Resident cards. All our students aged 5 and up will have access to the climbing structure at various times during the school day as well as after school.

Our students are driven from the City of Duncan, Lake Cowichan or across the Trans Canada HWY from Cowichan Bay or south from Cobble Hill, Shawnigan Lake and Mill Bay. Most of our students' families carpool or are driven by their parents. The majority of our students cannot exercise on their way to school by walking and only a handful can ride a bicycle as it involves crossing a dangerous highway. Therefore, they are not exercising on their commute to and from school each day. When they are on school grounds, it is critical that they get adequate physical exercise and ample outdoor play.

In addition to playing on the climbing structure during school hours, our after-school clubs and summer programs will use the climbing structure between the school's end and before clubs begin. After school, our students participate in woodworking club, strings orchestra and choir. Participation in each club varies from 8-12 students per club. Our younger students aged 5-6 often stay after school for after-care. This climbing structure is also intended for their use as after care is often outdoors. Our new climbing structure will be accessible to all students participating in extra-curricular activities, providing an outlet for physical energy at the day's end before beginning their extra curriculums.

The playground will also be available during our beloved yearly festivals. Winter Faire and Mayfest are daytime festivals at Sunrise Waldorf School and opportunities for the wider Cowichan Valley community to visit the school grounds and use our facilities. Previous years have seen up to 600 and 400 guests respectively, roughly 40% of those are children.

During the summer months, our school holds 4 weeks of summer day camps as well as a morning gardening club. These camps and clubs host 15-25 children per day. Our playgrounds will be used by these groups during the summer months.

This project will be on school grounds, surrounded by gardens that are maintained by parent volunteers and our groundskeeper. The project entails leveling the area, building the structure, laying safe woodchip flooring and placing safety barriers around the structure. We would hire a professional company to build the new climbing structure only during the summer months when camp is not in session and with either professional company proposal enclosed in this document to ensure all health and safety standards are met. We have obtained two quotes for a medium sized structure and a large sized structure from two companies, Habitat and Kinsol Play.

All construction will be done in a safe and ecologically mindful manner. We will be recycling natural resources and use the minimally disturbed soil from levelling the land in our school gardens. The surrounding trees will be respected and levelling will remain a safe distance away to protect their root structures. No trees, bushes or gardens will be removed to build this

playground. Our desired aesthetic is to bring materials from the natural world into our daily, playful lives. As such, our play structure will be near school gardens, an outdoor living willow branch classroom, a greenhouse and a re-forested area.

We are looking forward to fundraising beyond our currently available funds in the coming school year, including help from our local government and corporate sponsorships. Over the next few months, we will be asking the CVRD and local companies to sponsor our playground. Our budget projections for this playground use our SWPA funds, anticipated fundraising from our annual silent auction, Winter Faire and a bottle drive in early spring. We are receiving matching funds promised by Sunrise Waldorf School.

We are very excited to have applied for the BC Capital Projects Gaming Grant this year. We have asked for funding of \$30,000. We are waiting until Dec 31 for the results. If unsuccessful, we will continue to fundraise and apply for the grant next year and build the playground summer 2025. We do not qualify for the Ministry of Education Playground Enhancement Program (PEP). The PEP grant focuses on upgrading school playgrounds in order to become universally accessible. As we are a small school of 150-160 students, we cannot accommodate students with visual impairments, severe hearing loss or students who require a wheelchair and other mobility assistance devices. There is another independent school in Cobble Hill who can accommodate these learners and therefore qualify for the PEP grant provided by the Ministry of Education.

In closing, we are requesting a grant in aid from Electoral Area B to support this project. We would be very grateful to receive this local grant. There is a need for playgrounds within the CVRD as population rates continue to increase. Our rural children will benefit from this climbing structure as it is unique in our area and promotes gross motor and risk assessment skills. Rural communities rely on school playgrounds as part of a healthy lifestyle. All children need a mixture of play structures to encourage different types of play and to challenge the whole body and brain.

Thank you for your time in reviewing this application.

Sincerely,
Amanda Knapp
Treasurer
Sunrise Waldorf Parent Association

Cowichan Valley Regional District
Statement of Revenue and Expenditures



Budget Type : AMENDED BUDGET

Fiscal Year : 2023
 Period : 12
 Account Code : ??-?-????-???? To ??-?-????-????

Account Code	Account Description	Current Period	Year to Date	Budget Amt	Variance	% Used
1	GENERAL REVENUE FUND					
112	GRANTS IN AID - AREA B					
	OPERATING REV					
19110	SURPLUS/DEFICIT - CURRENT YEAR					
0000	SURPLUS/DEFICIT	0.00	-32,251.82	-32,252.00	-0.18	100
TOTAL	SURPLUS/DEFICIT - CURRENT YEAR	0.00	-32,251.82	-32,252.00	-0.18	100
TOTAL	OPERATING REV	0.00	-32,251.82	-32,252.00	-0.18	100
	OPERATING EXP					
21950	GRANTS TO ORGANIZATIONS					
0000	GRANTS TO ORGANIZATIONS	0.00	0.00	31,802.00	31,802.00	0
0103	FRANCES KELSEY SECONDARY	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	-2,000.00	0
0148	MILL BAY MARINE RESCUE SOCIETY	0.00	500.00	0.00	-500.00	0
0161	FRANCES KELSEY DRY GRAD	0.00	500.00	0.00	-500.00	0
0205	COWICHAN SECONDARY SCHOOL	0.00	1,500.00	0.00	-1,500.00	0
0422	COBBLE HILL EVENT SOCIETY	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	-1,000.00	0
0452	COWICHAN REGIONAL VISITOR CENTRE	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	-1,000.00	0
0467	COWICHAN MISSING AND MURDERED	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	-1,000.00	0
TOTAL	GRANTS TO ORGANIZATIONS	1,000.00	7,500.00	31,802.00	24,302.00	24
28050	GENERAL GOVERNMENT CHARGE					
4100	ALLOC - GENERAL GOVERNMENT	0.00	450.00	450.00	0.00	100
TOTAL	GENERAL GOVERNMENT CHARGE	0.00	450.00	450.00	0.00	100
TOTAL	OPERATING EXP	1,000.00	7,950.00	32,252.00	24,302.00	25
TOTAL	SURPLUS / DEFICIT	1,000.00	-24,301.82	0.00	24,301.82	0
TOTAL	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	1,000.00	-24,301.82	0.00	24,301.82	0