



March 19, 2015

To: District 97 Board of Education

From: Holmes PTO and Suzie Hackmiller

**Re: Holmes PTO Outdoor Classroom Initiative**

The Holmes PTO would like to enhance and expand the use of our courtyard space as an extension of learning that is consistently utilized to inspire and further develop teaching, concepts, objectives and outcomes explored through core curriculum. We are seeking Board approval. We have designated \$60,000 for this initiative to be fully funded by the PTO. Improvements are planned in the following areas:

- Designated circular seating/learning space
- Noise barrier protection
- Plantings
- Seating around mature trees
- Sensory area
- Storage system
- Water feature
- Weather station

The PTO plans to work with Therese O'Neill through the process as bids are secured for these projects. Please let us know if the Holmes PTO can proceed with planning in these areas, knowing that all bid processes will be coordinated through the Business office.

If there are any questions, please feel free to contact Holmes PTO Co-Presidents: Sharon Hermanns at [slh5568@aol.com](mailto:slh5568@aol.com) or Julie Root at [jroot@codemap.com](mailto:jroot@codemap.com) or Holmes Principal: Suzie Hackmiller at [shackmiller@op97.org](mailto:shackmiller@op97.org) . Thank you for your consideration in this matter.