



**PROSPECT HEIGHTS DISTRICT 23
FINANCE & BUILDINGS AND SITES COMMITTEES
ACTION ITEM**

Date: January 31, 2022
Title: Recommendation for Repairs & Improvements - Eisenhower Playground
Contact: Amy McPartlin, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

As discussed at previous Buildings and Sites Committee Meetings, approximately \$300,000 of our approved ESSER III grant has been designated for the improvements and additions of Outdoor Learning Spaces at each of our schools. The upgrade of the playground, including the removal and replacement of the timber equipment has been on the long-range capital plan at a budgeted amount of \$375,000 and has been deferred for several years.

While the plan to update the Ike Playground has been deferred for several years, the available ESSER funding and District goal of adding Outdoor Learning Spaces, affords us an opportunity to add a learning space in the best location, while taking into account and improving the overall space.

In researching age appropriate modifications, Administration visited new playgrounds in the area, including NSSEO and River Trails and met with staff to gather feedback on the design and desired additional components. In working with our current vendor, Team Reil, we have achieved a design which meets the goals of providing an outdoor instructional space and also addresses the long term needs of the physical play area in a most thoughtful way. Several components have been added to provide additional opportunities for our special needs population and we're excited to enhance this space that will serve the District's younger learners well for many, many years to come.

BUDGETARY IMPACT

For this project, \$80,000 would come from ESSER funds with the remaining costs of \$\$120,000 covered through Fund 60. PTO is expecting to make a \$5,000 donation to go towards "buddy" benches around the perimeter. As this purchase is being made under a Sourcewell Cooperative pre-bid purchasing agreement, it is exempt from public bidding under Illinois School Code.

RECOMMENDATION:

Administration is requesting approval to proceed with the proposed improvements to the Eisenhower Elementary School playground in the total amount of \$203,946. Following Committee approval, action to be taken by the full Board at the February 9, 2022 meeting.