

Oak Park Elementary School District 97  
Gift Acceptance Form

Date 4/5/17

Donation to School/Location Whittier School

Detailed description of the gift Buddy Bench for our playground area

Estimated/actual gift value \$1,500.00 (check)

Intended use The bench will be a place for students to sit to find a friend to play with at recess.

How will the gift benefit the district?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Development or Staff Training | <input type="checkbox"/> Equity across all schools                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Installation and/or construction work      | <input type="checkbox"/> District-curriculum                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coordination of scheduling work            | <input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing maintenance/replacement                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> District and/or school computer network    | <input type="checkbox"/> Hiring Staff <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other |

Outside vendor required Yes  No

District performing the work Yes  No

Donation Timeline \* Would like the bench installed summer 2017.

Terrie B. W...

4/5/17

Principal/Administrator Signature

Date

**For Internal Use Only**

Superintendent Approval Yes  No

Board Approval Needed Yes  No

Work Session Agenda Date \_\_\_\_\_

Board Approval Date \_\_\_\_\_

Donor Notification \_\_\_\_\_

Administrator Signature

Date

**RECEIVED**

APR 25 2017

BUSINESS OFFICE

APR 25 2017

RECEIVED

April 2017

To District 97,

My daughter Madison Hart is a 1<sup>st</sup> grader at Whittier with Ms. Volz. Madison came up with the idea of a "friendship bench" last fall and has worked to discuss this idea with her teacher Ms. Volz, the PTO, and wrote a letter about her idea to Principal Warner. We also met with Principal Warner in February and she was very supportive of the idea. The concept is that there is a designated bench at Whittier Playground called a "friendship bench" or "buddy bench" which children can sit on during recess if they are feeling lonely, left out, or can't find someone to play with. By sitting on the bench, it allows other children to see that someone needs to be included and the children can go to the child on the bench and include them.

Madison did fundraising this spring and collected \$1500 from her grandparents, family, friends and some neighbors. Enclosed is a check for \$1500 to purchase and install Whittier's Buddy Bench. I believe there should also be a plaque attached about the importance of inclusion of all children at Whittier School and that the bench was from Madison Hart. If the cost of the bench and installation is less than \$1500, we would like the remaining funds to go toward programming at the school about inclusion and the purpose of the "Buddy Bench".

I am so proud that my 1<sup>st</sup> grader has the insight to understand the importance of including all children during recess, which she stated "can be like a crazy maze where you can't find friends".

Please accept this donation for the Whittier Buddy Bench from my daughter Madison Hart.

Sincerely,

The Hart Family

731 N. Taylor Ave

Oak Park, IL, 60302

MADISON HART

PS: FOR THE

COMMUNITY!

