

The Mount Washington School

OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

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*"Come forth into the light of things, let nature
be your teacher."* William Wordsworth

Autumn 2007

Dear neighbor,

You can set your calendar to it: With fall comes an awakening at The Mt. Washington School. The teachers are back at their chalkboards, students lug book bags up and down the Sulgrave and Lochlea hills, and parents shuttle their kids from one activity to another.

It's hard to miss the additional commotion this year. Construction on the Outdoor Classroom has begun! Dump trucks are rolling onto the lot to deposit soil and materials for the amphitheatre. The paved labyrinth will soon be laid out, and a drinking fountain will be installed. Landscaping will be prepared for fall and spring planting, behind a new fence.

None of this work could be accomplished without the financial support of our neighbors like you. In just over a year, we have raised more than \$165,000 from individual donations, grants, foundations and fundraising events. Here are just a few examples:

- Mt. Washington residents and friends have donated at least \$57,750
- The school's penny drive netted \$2,627 in coins and matching donations
- \$77,500 has been promised through grants and local foundations
- The Whole Foods 5 percent day netted \$4,024.

We need just \$85,000 to reach our fundraising goal of \$250,000. We're two-thirds of the way there, but we still have some work to do to ensure that construction will continue in the spring. This will include renovating the cracked asphalt, installing a climbing structure and outdoor furniture, and completing the artwork for an archway over the entry.

We're asking for your help once more. Your tax-deductible gift of \$1,000, \$500, \$250 or \$100 will help us close the final fundraising gap. Simply complete the card included in this letter, and make your check payable to the Mt. Washington Elementary PTO. Then mail your donation to the address on the card.

We are looking forward to seeing the Outdoor Classroom take shape. Please join us in making this possibility a reality. Write your check today!

Sincerely,



Dr. Thomas V. Shepley
Principal
The Mount Washington School



Becky Redett
Chair
Outdoor Classroom Committee

P.S. Unexpected costs can come up with any construction project. Send in your donation today and help us handle these expenses quickly!

P.P.S. Does your company have a charitable matching program? Grow your contribution with your employer's help! We have already accepted matching funds from Wachovia, Struever Brothers, Washington Post, Verizon and others.