



# A Playground for Everyone

D R E A M . I N V E S T . B U I L D .



## Development Update

We are pleased to report that we continue to make progress in the development of resources in support of “A Playground for Everyone”

Most noteworthy of our recent activities are:

- We have vetted over 250 philanthropic prospects (mostly comprised of corporate, private and family foundations)
- Of these, approximately 25 have been identified to align with our project
- To date we have four (4) outstanding funding proposals.
- We will continue to submit funding requests throughout 2013
- We will continue to identify additional funding opportunities
- We anticipate executing a business campaign this summer

Please contact Heather Meyer with any questions specific to the development effort.

## Unveiling Event a Success

In February, we unveiled the conceptual design of “A Playground for Everyone”. This represents the culmination of feedback from teachers, PTs, OTs, parents, and external research playground design and quality. Those in attendance included parents, kids, teachers, administrators, and various civic and business leaders in the community. The design was well received and the feedback positive!



### *Reduce Bullying?*

Once you break down the current barriers you open up a whole new world of understanding, empathy, and a sense of community, because our kids are integrated fully into one another's lives rather than being pulled apart because of the structural limitations that currently exist. This can also help alleviate bullying which typically takes place outside of the school walls.



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## Communication

Please check out our website at <http://turtlelakeplayground.weebly.com> for more information about inclusive play, and a more in depth look at the elements of the design, a list of committee members. If you missed seeing our annual report, a link can be found on the home page of the website.

Furthermore, the committee has developed collateral materials which consist of letterhead, brochures, and pledge cards. These materials will facilitate our ability to run an effective, professional campaign.

We're in the news! Our unveiling of the design of "A Playground for Everyone" was highlighted in an article in the Shoreview Press. A link to the full article can be found on the website, under "News." Also, the project was mentioned in the North Oaks News under City Notes back in March.

## Community Outreach

We are committed to educating those in the community about this transformation project and the benefits that it will bring.

We have received letters of support from both the City of Shoreview and City of North Oaks.

In April, we met with the Special Education Parent and Professional Advisory Council (SEPPAC). We left with support and further validation that this is the right time and the right place for "A Playground for Everyone."

We are working with consultants from the "Shoreview of the Ages" initiative. This initiative is supported by the City of Shoreview with generous funding from Ecumen and hopes to provide Shoreview residents of all ages access to community conversations and information that helps make Shoreview an age-friendly community. We are currently coordinating the taping of a video about our project for the community to view.

In the upcoming months, we will be presenting to the Shoreview/Arden Hills Rotary Club.

We have had preliminary conversations with the Lions Club. As they look to establish a new chapter in Shoreview, they identified our project as a potential way to partner in giving back to the community.