



Yorkville Elementary School

18621 Washington Avenue, Union Grove, WI 53182

Mark Rollefson, *Superintendent*

Bill Ticha, *Principal*

Dear Community Partner,

The Yorkville Elementary PTO – Playground Committee, a subcommittee of the Yorkville Elementary School Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO), a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, cordially invites you to participate in our community-based effort to build a new, inclusive playground to benefit our students and the families in our surrounding community.

Yorkville Elementary School is home to 441 students from Pre-K through 8th grade. Our school playground is the sole playground for both our students and the surrounding community. Our students use this playground throughout the school day, and it is also accessible to the public during non-school hours. Our deteriorating playground is in need of replacement due to cracked plastic, repaired welds, and an eroded play surface.

Our vision is to build a barrier free playground where every child may have access to and experience the joy and benefit of outdoor play. Currently, a percentage of our student population have varying degrees of physical limitations, sensory issues, and cognitive disorders that prohibit them from joining their friends on the playground. The new playground will benefit ALL CHILDREN in our student body, 4K-8, staff and community. Our objective is to include EVERYONE and provide a safe place where children of ANY ability can PLAY TOGETHER and equipment is appropriate for children with and without disabilities. We want to limit barriers, both physical and social, to help every child achieve their full potential while at Yorkville. An inclusive playground encourages PLAY, which can lead to mutual understanding and friendships. We want to encourage children of ANY ability to interact and PLAY TOGETHER cohesively and learn from each other.

The illustration on the following page outlines our vision for the new Yorkville Elementary School Playground.

At this point in time, we have successfully fundraised \$20,000+ (8%) towards this project, and are applying for local and national grants. The current anticipated project cost is around \$225,000 (pricing valid until 12/31/21). We must now secure additional funds and are asking for community support to bring this project to life. We are currently working on a Sponsorship Program and are hoping to have this available to release in the upcoming months.

Donations may be made via checks payable to “Yorkville PTO – Playground Project”, mail to: Yorkville Elementary – Attn: PTO-Playground Project 18621 Washington Ave, Union Grove, WI 53182. Donations can also be made online through our GoFundMe campaign - “New Inclusive Playground at Yorkville Elementary”.

Feel free to email us @Yorkville.playground@gmail.com for more information regarding donating, upcoming fundraisers, sponsorship options and any known grant opportunities. We welcome your feedback.

Visit our website for more up-to-date information on our fundraising efforts!

<http://yorkvillepto.weebly.com/playground-project.html>

Sincerely,

Heather Pfeffer, Liz Kramsky and Frances Kis, Co-Chairs, Playground Project