

AGENDA

**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING
LEUCADIA WASTEWATER DISTRICT**

Monday, December 5, 2022 – 11:00 a.m.
Via Teleconference

Pursuant to the State of California Executive Order N-29-20, and in the interest of public health, the District is temporarily taking actions to mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic by holding meetings by teleconference. The general public may not attend this meeting at the District's office due to social distancing requirements.

Members of the public attending via teleconference will be provided with an opportunity to comment on each agenda item prior to Committee discussion.

To join this meeting via Teleconference please dial: (669) 900-6833

Meeting ID: 846 3003 6590 Password: 186832

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Public Comment**
4. **New Business**
 A. Review of the Teacher Grant Applications. (Pages 2-16)
5. **Information Items**
 None.
6. **Directors' Comments**
7. **General Manager's Comments**
8. **Adjournment**

MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 1, 2022
TO: Community Affairs Committee (CAC)
FROM: Paul J. Bushee, General Manager
SUBJECT: Review of Teacher Grant Applications


RECOMMENDATION:

Staff requests that the CAC recommend that the Board of Directors:

1. Award four Teacher Grants totaling \$5,535; or
2. Discuss and provide direction, as appropriate.

BACKGROUND:**Tactical Goal: Services/ Teacher Grant Program Awards**

LWD's Teacher Grant Program was established during 2008. Over the years, minor adjustments have been made to the program, such as updating the timeline of the program and increasing the dollar amount of the grant that teachers are eligible to receive. During 2018, total program budget increased to \$6,000 and the maximum grant per teacher increased to \$2,000. In addition, staff increased its outreach efforts to encourage teachers to apply for the grant.

DISCUSSION:

During September 2022, staff provided LWD teacher grant program information to nine elementary schools, one middle school, and one high school. Staff and Rising Tide Partners (RTP) contacted schools and teachers via email initially and sent reminders until the deadline for submissions, November 18, 2022. Staff updated LWD's website to include a Teacher Grant Program page and RTP posted several Facebook posts about the program.

As a result of these efforts the District received the following four applications:

Received Teacher Grant Applications:

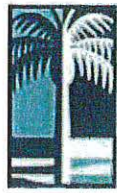
Applicants	School	Amount Requested:	Project
Katie Oberman	El Camino Creek Elementary	\$800	Green Team Club and STEAM Class
Kristie Mahin	El Camino Creek Elementary	\$735	Hydroponic Herb and Vegetable Gardens
June Honsberger	La Costa Canyon High School	\$2,000	The Pollinator Plant Garden
Nancy Jois	Capri Elementary	\$2,000	Erosion and Storm Drains
TOTAL:		\$5,535	

Staff reviewed the applications and each meet the program's required criteria to qualify for a grant. The total cost for the four grant requests is under the FY 23 budget of \$6,000. Staff is recommending grants be awarded to all four applicants in the amounts requested. The applications are attached for your review.

Staff recommends that the CAC review the teacher grant applications and forward all applications to the Board of Director's for consideration at the January 11, 2023 meeting.

th:PJB

Attachments



LEUCADIA
WASTEWATER
DISTRICT

LEADERS IN
ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION



Grant Application Form

During the 2022-2023 school year Leucadia Wastewater District will award grants to teachers in local elementary, middle, and/or high schools in LWD's service area. The District anticipates awarding up to three grants up to \$2,000 each.

Use this cover sheet as page one of your application. Identifying information is to be included on the cover sheet only. IN YOUR PROJECT NARRATIVE DO NOT INCLUDE YOUR NAME, THE NAME OF YOUR SCHOOL, OR THE NAME OF YOUR DISTRICT. Completed applications MUST BE emailed to ntorresgarcia@lwwd.org or received by Friday, November 18, 2022.

IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

Katie Oberman

Teacher's name

K-6

Grade

STEAM

Subject

El Camino Creek Elementary

School name

Encinitas Union School District

District

7885 Paseo Aliso Carlsbad, CA 92009

School address, including street, city and zip

Jodi Greenberger

Principal's name

760-943-4329

School phone number

EUSD Enrichment

Name of parent organization (i.e. PTA or school foundation)

Green Team Club and STEAM Class

Project title

\$800

Grant amount requested

Teacher's signature

Please tell us how you heard about this program

☐ Poster/Flyer ☐ Web site ☒ Another Educator ☐ Newsletter ☐ Other

Green Team Club and STEAM class proposal - Water conservation through hydroponics, rain barrels, and drought resistant planting

Description of Project

Every student at our school attends STEAM class once a week, in which they learn about a series of concepts including concepts involving gardening and environmental protection. All students are beginning to learn about our global water crisis, with specific grades digging deeper. All 4th graders are beginning their hydroponics program, 5th graders are learning about the human water cycle and its interactions with the global distribution of fresh water versus salt water, and the 6th graders will be beginning their program on stormwater pollution prevention. I would like to expand these concepts to apply to actionable items at our school by leading a Green Team club once a week for students to contribute to the school community through water conservation and “water wise” gardening. Students will learn about ways to save water while growing plants for both food and aesthetics by planting and caring for ornamental drought resistant plants in the planter pots around campus, watering those plants with water collected in our existing rain barrels, and caring for the food growing in the hydroponics tower by measuring the conductivity and pH of the water. Students will plant and set up these projects during STEAM class, and carry out the weekly maintenance of watering and checking the hydroponics water at the weekly Green Team meeting. Students will also document their observations of the hydroponics tower to analyze the claim that hydroponics uses 80% less water than conventional gardening, and construct arguments for how to grow food and decorative plants more efficiently.

Participating students will include all of 4th-6th grade; roughly 225 students.

In-kind resources include one hydroponics tower already constructed and in use, as well as established campus rain barrels.

This project will take place throughout the school campus with drought resistant plants in planters throughout campus and a hydroponics tower near the back of campus. The project will span the second semester of the 2022-2023 school year, and will take place during STEAM classes throughout each week as well as in Green Team meetings once a week at recess.

Objectives:

Students will be able to explain the global water crisis and the importance of water conservation by citing specific examples, such as rain water collection and responsible planting and growing. Students will be able to explain why hydroponics saves water in gardening and know how to maintain a hydroponic crop.

Budget:

\$700 - Tower Garden FLEX Growing System by Juice Plus+ (available for future use in subsequent years)

\$100 - succulents and other drought resistant ornamental plants

Thank you for your consideration.



LEADERS IN
ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION



Grant Application Form

During the 2022-2023 school year Leucadia Wastewater District will award grants to teachers in local elementary, middle, and/or high schools in LWD's service area. The District anticipates awarding up to three grants up to \$2,000 each.

Use this cover sheet as page one of your application. Identifying information is to be included on the cover sheet only. IN YOUR PROJECT NARRATIVE DO NOT INCLUDE YOUR NAME, THE NAME OF YOUR SCHOOL, OR THE NAME OF YOUR DISTRICT. Completed applications MUST BE emailed to ntorresgarcia@lwwd.org or received by Friday, November 18, 2022.

IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

Kristie Mahin

Teacher's name

1st

Science

Grade

Subject

El Camino Creek Elementary School

Encinitas Union School District

School name

District

7885 Paseo Aliso Carlsbad, CA

School address, including street, city and zip

Jodi Greenberger

760-943-2051

Principal's name

School phone number

ECC PTA

Name of parent organization (i.e. PTA or school foundation)

Hydroponic Herb and Vegetable Gardens

\$600

Project title

Grant amount requested

Teacher's signature

Please see attached email.

Please tell us how you heard about this program

☐ Poster/Flyer ☐ Web site ☒ Another Educator ☐ Newsletter ☐ Other

Description of project:

Our proposal is one that addresses Next Generation Science Standards for 1st grade. (1-LS-1.A) We are asking for 3 countertop hydroponic herb and vegetable gardens per classroom (total of 9 kits) so that our 52 first graders, and 4 first grade teachers can take part in the affirming experience of plant growth. Each child will be able to both nurture and witness the growth of herbs and vegetables from seed to plant in their very own classroom without the laborious tasks of traditional vegetable gardening. Traditional soil gardening can be messy from soil and often attract fungus gnats. Soil gardening can usually only be done in summer or spring months and requires the perfect amount of sunlight, resulting in slow growing plants. Our hope is that the kits will be purchased by January, quickly assembled in respective classrooms, resulting in at least 2 harvests before the end of the school year. There are no other funds being allocated for this project.

Objective: With our proposal, students will be able to watch their herbs and veggies grow without soil, and the mess and pests that can often come with it. The plants will be self-sufficient over the weekends and breaks. LED lights allow for quicker growth than soil gardening, not to mention a year-round harvest, providing herbs and vegetables for our first-grade families. The project will allow them to learn about water conservation, as these small gardens provide the perfect amount of water with very little maintenance, addressing the crucial need for water management knowledge. These countertop gardens will provide a perfect example of plant adaptations as well, giving the children first-hand experience in the nutrient/light/water balance needed to promote plant life.

Budget: We are asking for a total of \$735. Each kit costs \$79.99 and one lot of seed packets for \$14.99 (this will provide enough seeds for all classes for 2 cycles of harvest) The beauty of these hydroponic gardens is that they can be used year after year. The only item needing to be purchased being the seeds, and possibly pods which are a minimal cost and can probably be acquired through a parent donation of less than \$30 per year.

Thank you so much for your consideration!
Kristie Mahin

Nitze Torres Garcia

From: Kristie Mahin <Kristie.Mahin@eusd.net>
Sent: Friday, November 18, 2022 7:37 AM
To: Nitze Torres Garcia
Cc: Jodi Greenberger
Subject: Re: Grant Proposal

So sorry about that! Prices went up since I write this weeks ago and I didn't update that portion. And now one item is no longer available. **I am requesting \$733.** Here is a link to the items I am requesting on Amazon. (one item is on sale right now, but I don't know how long they will be on sale, so requesting the amount to purchase at regular price just in case, \$589 would be the amount if kits are still on sale)

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3UNHYUQAS7HLF?ref=wl_share

Thank you so much for letting me know!
Kindly,

Kristie Mahin

she/her/hers (What's this?)

First Grade Teacher

El Camino Creek

Encinitas Union School District

www.eusd.net

Encinitas
UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

From: Nitze Torres Garcia <ntorresgarcia@lwwd.org>
Date: Wednesday, November 16, 2022 at 3:55 PM
To: Kristie Mahin <Kristie.Mahin@eusd.net>
Cc: Jodi Greenberger <Jodi.Greenberger@eusd.net>
Subject: RE: Grant Proposal



CAUTION! EXTERNAL SENDER - STOP, ASSESS, AND VERIFY

Do you know this person? Were you expecting this email, any links or attachments? Does the content make sense? If suspicious, do not click links, open attachments, or provide credentials. Don't delete it. **Report it by forwarding to phishing@eusd.net!**

Good afternoon Kristie,

I noticed that in your grant application you have requested \$600 for your project and in your proposal budget, the amount you requested was \$735. Would you please review your budget and confirm the amount you are requesting?

I kindly suggest that you provide an itemized list with your proposal budget so that when it is presented to the committee they can easily see how the money will be allocated.

Please review and resubmit your application/proposal to me by the deadline which is this Friday November 18, 2022.

Very respectfully,

Nitze Torres Garcia
Administrative Specialist I
www.lwwd.org



Leucadia Wastewater District
1960 La Costa Ave.
Carlsbad, Ca 92009
(760) 753-0155 Ext. 3001

Confidentiality Notice: The information contained in this electronic document is considered a confidential and/or privileged communication between Leucadia Wastewater District and the addressee. If the recipient of this email communication is not the intended addressee, such recipient is strictly prohibited from photocopying, distributing or otherwise using this email or its contents and/or attachment in any way. If you received this message in error, please contact the sender listed above by any contact means listed.

From: Nitze Torres Garcia
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 11:25 AM
To: 'Kristie Mahin' <Kristie.Mahin@eusd.net>
Cc: Jodi Greenberger <Jodi.Greenberger@eusd.net>
Subject: RE: Grant Proposal

Hello Kristie,

Thank you for submitting your grant application.

We look forward to presenting it to our Selection Committee for review.

Best Regards,

Nitze Torres Garcia
Administrative Specialist I
www.lwwd.org



Leucadia Wastewater District
1960 La Costa Ave.
Carlsbad, Ca 92009
(760) 753-0155 Ext. 3001

Confidentially Notice: The information contained in this electronic document is considered a confidential and/or privileged communication between Leucadia Wastewater District and the addressee. If the recipient of this email communication is not the intended addressee, such recipient is strictly prohibited from photocopying, distributing or otherwise using this email or its contents

and/or attachment in any way. If you received this message in error, please contact the sender listed above by any contact means listed.

From: Kristie Mahin [<mailto:Kristie.Mahin@eusd.net>]

Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2022 4:52 PM

To: Nitze Torres Garcia <ntorresgarcia@lwwd.org>

Cc: Jodi Greenberger <Jodi.Greenberger@eusd.net>

Subject: Grant Proposal

Ms. Garcia,

Thank you so much for your consideration!

Kindly,

Kristie Mahin

she/her/hers (What's this?)

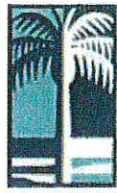
First Grade Teacher

El Camino Creek

Encinitas Union School District

www.eusd.net

Encinitas
UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT



LEUCADIA
WASTEWATER
DISTRICT

LEADERS IN
ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION



Grant Application Form

During the 2022-2023 school year Leucadia Wastewater District will award grants to teachers in local elementary, middle, and/or high schools in LWD's service area. The District anticipates awarding up to three grants up to \$2,000 each.

Use this cover sheet as page one of your application. Identifying information is to be included on the cover sheet only. IN YOUR PROJECT NARRATIVE DO NOT INCLUDE YOUR NAME, THE NAME OF YOUR SCHOOL, OR THE NAME OF YOUR DISTRICT. Completed applications **MUST BE** emailed to ntorresgarcia@lwwd.org or received by Friday, November 18, 2022.

IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

June Honsberger and Alyson Thile

Teacher's name	
10th-12th	Science (Chemistry and AP Biology)
Grade	Subject
La Costa Canyon High School	San Dieguito Union High School District
School name	District
1 Maverick Way, Carlsbad 92009	
School address, including street, city and zip	
Justin Conn	760-436-6136
Principal's name	School phone number
La Costa Canyon High School Foundation	
Name of parent organization (i.e. PTA or school foundation)	
The Pollinator Plant Garden	\$2000
Project title	Grant amount requested
June Honsberger and Alyson Thile	
Teacher's signature	

Please tell us how you heard about this program

☐ Poster/Flyer ☐ Web site ☐ Another Educator ☐ Newsletter ☒ Other

The Pollinator Plant Garden

A. Description of Project:

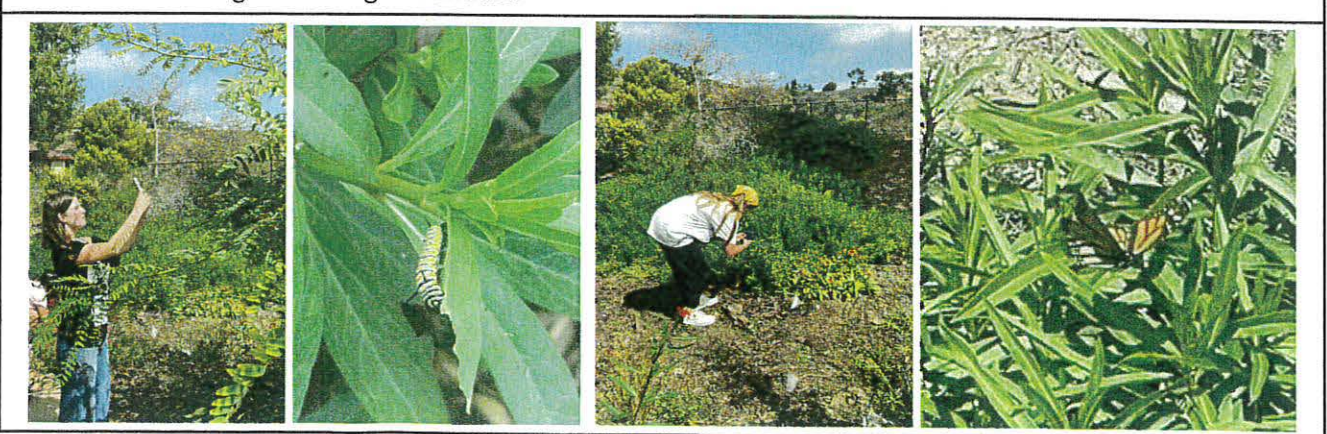
Our project will focus on increasing pollinator species at our school since pollination is the first step of flowering plant reproduction and most plants rely on insects to distribute their pollen. This makes pollinators a key component to the health of our schools native plant and butterfly gardens. According to the Pollinator Project at the University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE), San Diego County has over 650 species of native bees. But bees aren't the only pollinators, wasps, flies, butterflies, moths, beetles, other insects, birds, bats, rodents, and even lizards are all important pollinators and their presence in our school gardens will lead to a healthy and biodiverse environment (Bethke, 2022).

In order to support the existing pollinators and attract additional species to our campus, the students have begun to document the varieties of pollinators using iNaturalist. iNaturalist is an app on their smartphones that helps to identify and record all the species they observe in the gardens. Using this data they will then redesign the gardens to attract the missing pollinator species and create additional habitats for the existing pollinators. Students will research the drought tolerant varieties of flowering plants and trees that will provide the best food sources for the many types of pollinators. Additionally they will construct bee boxes for the nonaggressive, solitary native bee population and design watering stations for all pollinators in the gardens. Once the designs are finalized, the supplies will be ordered and planting and construction will begin.

After the gardens are installed the science students and club members will be responsible for maintaining the gardens for the duration of the school year. Also, students will continue to inventory the varieties of pollinators, noting any changes in the species biodiversity throughout the year. The data collected will help guide the future biodiversity of the school gardens. The overarching mission of this project is to foster the students environmental stewardship and awareness of the importance of biodiversity in their community.

This project will be a joint endeavor between two classroom teachers, 100 high school science students (grades 10-12), and the school's California Biodiversity Club. The project will be ongoing, with planting and construction beginning in the Spring of 2023. These hands-on activities require garden tools, soil, compost, plants, trees, mulch, and pollinator habitat materials (bamboo and wood). The grant funds would be used to purchase the necessary supplies to make this project a success. Our parent foundation is helping with the project by providing the materials for the watering stations.

Students collecting data using iNaturalist.



B. Learning Objectives

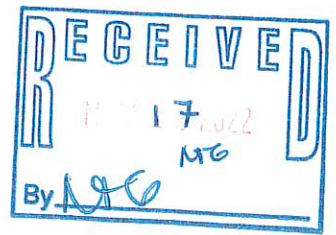
Students will study the relationships between pollinators, native plants, and biodiversity in our drought tolerant school gardens. They will research and choose native plant varieties that will thrive in our arid Southern California climate and provide pollen and habitat for the many pollinators on our campus. Students will inventory the varieties of pollinators, noting any changes in the biodiversity throughout the year. This data will be used to guide our future garden projects and studies.

C. Budget

Item	Quantity/vendor	Amount	Non-Consumables
Shovels	5 @ \$20.00- Home Depot	\$100	x
Hand trowels	10 @ \$10.00- home depot	\$100	x
100' garden hose	2 @ \$25.00 – Home Depot	\$50	x
Bamboo pieces (pollinator habitat)	20 @ \$15.00 – amazon	\$300	x
Garden Gloves	20 @ \$5.00 – Home Depot	\$100	x
Pinewood pieces (pollinator habitat)	30 @ \$10.00- Home Depot	\$300	x
Garden Soil	15 bags @ \$10.00 – Home Depot	\$150	
Mulch/compost	25 bags @ \$5.00 – Home Depot	\$125	
Plants & Trees	Anderson's La Costa Nursery	\$775	
	Total	\$2000	



LEADERS IN
ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION



Grant Application Form

During the 2022-2023 school year Leucadia Wastewater District will award grants to teachers in local elementary, middle, and/or high schools in LWD's service area. The District anticipates awarding up to three grants up to \$2,000 each.

Use this cover sheet as page one of your application. Identifying information is to be included on the cover sheet only. IN YOUR PROJECT NARRATIVE DO NOT INCLUDE YOUR NAME, THE NAME OF YOUR SCHOOL, OR THE NAME OF YOUR DISTRICT. Completed applications MUST BE emailed to ntorresgarcia@lwwd.org or received by Friday, November 18, 2022.

IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

Nancy Jois
Teacher's name

Kindergarten
Grade

Subject

Capri Elementary
School name

Encinitas Union School District
District

941 Capri Road La Jolla CA 92024
School address, including street, city and zip

Stacy Crum
Principal's name

(760) 944-4360
School phone number

Capri PTA
Name of parent organization (i.e. PTA or school foundation)

Erosion and Storm Drains 2,000
Project title

Grant amount requested

Nancy P. Jois
Teacher's signature

Please tell us how you heard about this program

☐ Poster/Flyer ☐ Web site ☐ Another Educator ☐ Newsletter ☒ Other

To Whom It May Concern:

I am applying for a grant in the amount of \$2,000.00 to teach 4 kindergarten classes about the water cycle and water resource management to meet the Next Generation Science Standards for kindergarten. With these funds, these 4 classes would participate in a project learning about erosion, the water cycle, xeriscaping and would create a public service announcement for their families and the community about the importance of protecting the water system by planting drought tolerant and native plants on a slope near a storm drain on campus.

- Students will investigate the steps of the water cycle. They will describe each step of the water cycle and the state of matter that the water is in during each step. Students will demonstrate their understanding of the water cycle by designing and building their own water cycle model. They will take these models home to explain the water cycle to their families.
- By creating these models, students will see how erosion occurs and that water carries soil and debris to the ocean. After creating these models, students will add native and drought resistant plants to a slope on campus to help mitigate erosion near a storm drain.
- Students will synthesize what they've learned by creating a 5-minute videotaped PSA to reinforce for themselves and to teach their families the effect erosion has on storm drains. For the video several students will narrate what they have learned about the water cycle and the effects of erosion on storm drains.

This project consists of 90 students and 6-8 staff members. We would use \$630 of the funds to make individual water cycle models (materials per model \$7.00 x 90 = \$630.) Before we begin filming teachers will secure releases from students so the LWWD will be able to show this video on a public forum. A parent from our school works in the film industry and has offered to help put the video together for free.

As a result of this project students will be able to:

1. Create and explain a water cycle model
2. Explain the impact of erosion on storm drains
3. Understand their knowledge can be used to teach others.

Budget: \$2,000.00

\$630.00 for Supplies for 90 water cycle models

\$1,370.00 for purchasing drought tolerant / native plants

Thank you for your time and consideration.