


**AGENDA**  
**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**LEUCADIA WASTEWATER DISTRICT**  
March 9, 2015 – 9:30 AM  
1960 La Costa Avenue, Carlsbad, CA

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1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Public Comment**
4. **New Business**
  - A. Review Teacher Grant applications. (Pages 2-12)
5. **Information Items**

None.
6. **Director's Comments**
7. **General Manager's Comments**
8. **Adjournment**

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** March 5, 2015  
**TO:** Community Affairs Committee  
**FROM:** Paul J. Bushee, General Manager   
**SUBJECT:** Review of Teacher Grant Applications

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff requests that the CAC recommend that Board of Directors:

1. Award four Teacher Grants totaling \$3,728; or
2. Discuss and provide direction, as appropriate.

**DISCUSSION:**

Implementation of LWD's Teacher Grant Program was included as a tactical goal on the Fiscal Year 2015 Tactics and Action Plan.

During December 2014, staff provided grant information to nine elementary schools, one middle school, and one high school indicating that the submission deadline was February 27, 2015. The District received the following four applications by the deadline:

Received Teach Grant Applications:

Applicants	School	Amount Requested:	Project
Ms. June Honsberger	La Costa Canyon High School	\$1,000	Earth Day Gardens – Design, plant and maintain a native garden
Ms. Bethany Luna	Park Dale Lane Elementary	\$1,000	Water-Wise Kinder-Garden
Ms. Kelly Cole	Flora Vista Elementary	\$850	Wastewater Public Service Announcements for LWD
Ms. Elaine A. Dolnack	Flora Vista Elementary	\$878	Butterfly & Hummingbird Native Pollinator Garden

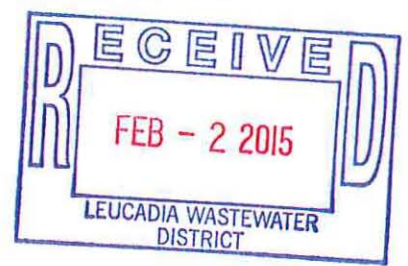
The applications have been attached for your review. The FY 15 budget includes \$5,000, which is intended to fund up to five \$1,000 teacher grant applications. Staff recommends that the CAC review the teacher grant applications and forward the qualified applications to the Board of Director's at the March 11, 2015 meeting for their approval.

th:PJB

Attachments



LEADERS IN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



### Grant Application Form

During the 2014-2015 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 five grants up to \$1,000 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 [thill@lwwd.org](mailto:thill@lwwd.org) or received by Friday, February 27, 2015.

#### IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

June Honsberger

Teacher's name

9-10th grade

Grade

Earth Science

Subject

La Costa Canyon

School name

San Dieguito Union HSD

District

1 Maverick Way, Carlsbad, CA 92009

School address, including street, city and zip

Bryan Marcus

Principal's name

760 436-6136

School phone number

La Costa Canyon Foundation

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

Earth Day Gardens

Project title

\$1000.00

Grant amount requested

June Honsberger

Teacher's signature

Please tell us how you heard about this program

- Posture/Flyer
- Web site
- Another Educator
- Newsletter
- Other

## Outdoor Science Classroom

### A. Description of Project:

This water use project will have students design, plant and maintain a native plant garden and an outdoor classroom. The outdoor garden/classroom will be located in the middle of six science classrooms. The project will allow students to experience nature and the connections between local climate, native plants and the water cycle. The students will design, plant, and maintain a native garden. Students will observe the connections between local climate, native plants and native wildlife in this outdoor classroom. We will investigate the benefits of providing a habitat for native wildlife through a variety of garden activities and experiments. These hands on activities require garden tools, soil & compost, native plants, native trees, seeds, and mulch. Funds are needed to make this garden project a success. The grant would be used to purchase necessary supplies.

This garden project will involve two classroom teachers and 130 high school science students, grades 9-12. The project will be on going and will begin in March 2015. Each class will be responsible for one area of the outdoor garden for the duration of the school year. Our parent foundation will provide the outdoor tables for this project.

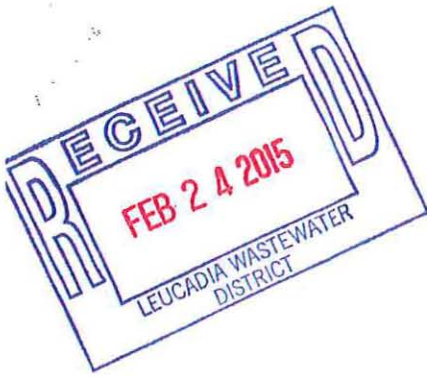
### B. Learning Objectives

Students will understand the water cycle and the symbiotic relationship between local climate, native plants and native wildlife. Students will study our arid climate in Southern California and how it affects the choices we make in our garden. Students will research and choose low-water plant varieties. Students will record and graph growth patterns in plant varieties to determine the characteristics of successful gardening.

### C. Budget

Item	Quantity/vendor	Amount	Non-Consumables
Wheelbarrow	2 @ 50.00- Home Depot	\$100	x
Hose reel	1 @ 50.00- Home Depot	\$50	x
50' hose & nozzle	2 @ 25.00 – Home Depot	\$50	x
Garden Soil & Compost	30 @ 5.00 – Home Depot	\$150	x
Watering cans	10 @ 5.00 – Home Depot	\$ 50	x
Plants, Trees & Seeds	Sunshine Gardens/Andersons	\$600	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1000</b>	





LEADERS IN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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#### IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

**Bethany Luna**

Teacher's name

**Kindergarten**

Grade

*Multiple*

Subject

**Park Dale Lane Elementary**

School name

**Encinitas Union**

District

**2050 Park Dale Lane, Encinitas 92024**

School address, including street, city and zip

**Jodi Greenberger**

Principal's name

**760-944-4344**

School phone number

**Park Dale Lane PTA via Encinitas Union**

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

**Water-Wise Kinder-Garden**

Project title

**\$1,000**

Grant amount requested

*Bethany L Luna*

Teacher's signature

Please tell us how you heard about this program

- Posture/Flyer 
  Web site 
  Another Educator 
  Newsletter 
  Other

## 2015 Leucadia Wastewater District Grant Application

**1. Summary of project:** Create a water-wise, multi-purpose outdoor classroom to explore plant propagation, nature conservation, local history, flora, fauna and more. The garden will incorporate all academic areas, with plans to qualify as a "Certified Wildlife Habitat."

**2. The number of students, staff/community members involved:** In addition to kindergarten students, we will recruit 5-10 parent volunteers, draw on expertise of the two current school Garden Volunteers, my contractor husband, community members, and the Encinitas Union School District maintenance crew.

**3. Describe the curriculum, activity, or project:** Our revamped Kinder-Garden will become an interactive, outdoor classroom that elicits wonder, excitement and engagement. Imagine a place where students watch native birds nibble at feeders and a Sunflower House, bathe in birdbaths and nest in birdhouses built by the children. In the xeriscaped (water-wise) garden, students witness native plants and other drought-tolerant species thrive, learn about natural water conservation and propagation of native plants. They'd study insects living on the foliage of a Bean Teepee and Pollination Garden boxes, expand palates in the sensory herb Raingutter Wall Garden, make pizzas with Pizza Garden produce, and enjoy harvests from "Vegetable," "Rainbow" and "Bunny Patch" garden boxes. Children could escape to the magical privacy of the bean teepee, or read on the bench inside the Sunflower House.

**4. One sentence listing any in-kind resources or matching funds being used:** Grant request reflects only the anticipated cost of materials, since labor, a portion of materials (seeds/soil) and site preparation will be provided free or in-kind by K students under the direction of teachers, parent volunteers, community families, and the EUSD maintenance crew, with cash donations being finalized from the PTA.

**5. Provide the location, timeline or schedule for your project:** Completed in the Kinder-garden area within 4 weeks of funding: Hanging Wall/Rain Gutter herb gardens - EUSD maintenance install posts. Concrete, clamps, pots and rain gutters affixed to fence panels by parent volunteers and students. Within 2 weeks: garden beds installed, pizza garden planted, sunflower house/bean teepee erected and rain barrels placed, linked and set up. Birdhouses/feeders created in classrooms. Project complete in 4 months.

**Objectives:** Describe your goals for students for this project.

1. Encourage interdisciplinary, interactive learning, per new Common Core curriculum standards, while reaching children on a different level in an outdoor environment.
2. Introduce students to water-conscious methods of gardening, teach the value of sustainability, responsibility and caring for our earth while allowing a hands-on experience encompassing nutrition, science, mathematics, language and the arts. Life lessons would be taught with full student participation, naturally encompassing all learning styles, socioeconomics and backgrounds.
3. Encourage both stress relief and academic growth through interaction with nature, and notice the direct result of their own efforts in the greenspace.
4. Attain certification as a "Wildlife Habitat" to engender pride, respect and interest from kindergarten students, the school and the wider community.

**Budget:** Please include a brief itemized budget for your project.

**Materials** estimated: \$1,000, pre-tax. Includes rain gutter hanging wall gardens, sunflower and birdhouses, bean teepee, pizza garden, feeders, and birdbaths. **Labor:** Free – K students under direction of teachers, support from parent volunteers and community. **Site Preparation:** provided in-kind by school district. Donations being finalized from PTA and local families, including cash and in-kind donations of seeds, labor and soil. We'd prioritize materials to reflect funding awarded.



LEADERS IN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



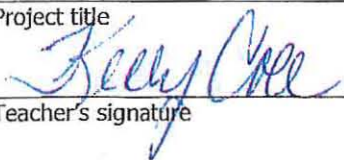
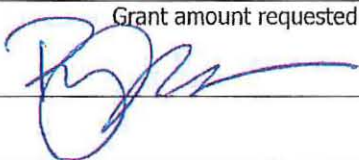
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#### IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

Kelly Cole and Ryan Harper

Teacher's name	
5	Science
Grade	Subject
Flora Vista	Encinitas Union School District
School name	District
1690 Wandering Road, Encinitas, CA 92024	
School address, including street, city and zip	
Stephanie Casperson	760-944-4329
Principal's name	School phone number
Flora Vista PTA	
Name of parent organization (i.e. PTA or school foundation)	
Waste Water Public Service Announcements	\$850
Project title	Grant amount requested
	
Teacher's signature	
Please tell us how you heard about this program	
<input type="checkbox"/> Posture/Flyer <input type="checkbox"/> Web site <input type="checkbox"/> Another Educator <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <i>Jennifer Beales</i>	

**LWD Teacher Grant Application  
Student-Produced Public Service Announcements  
Videos on Wastewater Education**

**Introduction**

In an effort to provide a real-life experience for our students, Flora Vista's 5th graders will accomplish every part of this project. Student teams will produce short "PSA" videos on a variety of wastewater topics. Working together with FV's Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) instructor, students will manage all facets of the production, from research and writing to camera work and editing. Eight student leaders served on the Grant Committee, helping to write this grant and to introduce the project to their classrooms.

**Description of Project**

1. Flora Vista 5<sup>th</sup> graders will be creating PSAs for Leucadia Wastewater District. There will be videos on many topics, like what not to put down the toilet, and preventing [stormwater] pollution. We will work with our music teacher to record and learn how to use special equipment. When we are done we will edit until it is perfection! The videos and announcements can be shared on the District's website and Facebook page.
2. All 5<sup>th</sup> grade students (57) will produce the videos, aided by 4 staff members and one PTA parent.
3. The students will create high-quality Public Service Announcements (PSAs) to share with the community about ways to protect our wastewater system and environment. Students will utilize our existing video studio to create their short, entertaining and educational PSAs.
4. This project will give students an opportunity to use our PTA-funded video studio—approximately \$15,000 of equipment (two cameras, two teleprompters, computer, editing software, teleprompter software, etc.)—for a real-life purpose, and to impact our community in a positive way.
5. Videos will be produced in Flora Vista's video studio, on campus and around the community. Staggered groups of students will begin working on the PSAs immediately, with all videos being completed by June 2015.

**Objectives**

Our aim is to complete a project utilizing all aspects of our students' education, from Language Arts, Science, Art and Computers, while providing them with real-world experience in collaboration, leadership and responsibility. We also hope to positively impact our community with important messages, to help our students understand how they can affect change.



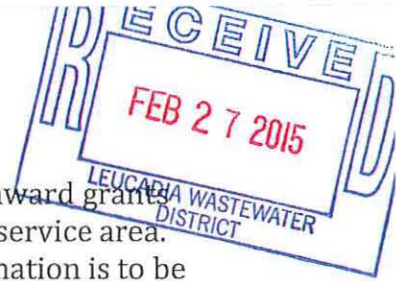
Fifth grade science standards call for fifth grade students to obtain and combine information about ways individual communities use science ideas to protect the Earth's resources and environment. Students will conduct short research projects that use several sources to build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic. In Language Arts, students should learn to integrate information from several texts on the same topic in order to write or speak about the subject knowledgeably.

**Budget**

Salary for consultant staff member to work with students to film and edit	\$750
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Props, costumes, and other necessary materials	\$100
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<b>Total Amount Requested:</b>	<b>\$850</b>
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Completed applications **MUST BE** emailed to [thill@lwwd.org](mailto:thill@lwwd.org) or received by Friday, February 27, 2015.

**IDENTIFYING INFORMATION**

**Teacher's name:** Elaine Dolnack

**Grade Subject:** Science Consultant K-6

**School name:** Flora Vista Elementary School

**District:** Encinitas Union School District

**School address, including street, city and zip:** 1290 Wandering Road, Encinitas, CA 92024

**Principal's name:** Stephanie Casperson

**School phone number:** (760) 944-4329

**Name of parent organization** (i.e. PTA or school foundation): Diane Silberman

**Project title Grant amount requested:** \$ 878

**Teacher's signature:** Elaine Ann Dolnack

**Please tell us how you heard about this program:** Another educator

### **A. Project Description**

My proposal is to create a butterfly and hummingbird habitat and native pollinator garden at our elementary school. My vision is that students in kindergarten through sixth grade can utilize the outdoor learning environment for observing and collecting data, essentially as an outdoor observatory. Over 430 students can benefit from this project, as well as the entire community. This project ties into our garden science, ecosystems, and students who participate in our SWPPP program. The PTA and Andersen Nursery will help support our budget. The location of the project is a fenced-in area in the quad/playground area surrounded by classrooms where both parents and children congregate. We hope to have this project completed by June 2015.

### **B. Objectives**

I have included the SWPPP project students' input taken from our school's plan so that gathered storm water can be used to water that native plants in our small habitat. As a group, we set forth goals for student learning, ecological impact, long-term use, and achievable maintenance. The SWPPP students want to build rainwater barrel irrigation for two small, designated areas that have a drain pipe. They have tested the water and determine it to be exceptionally clean. The SWPPP students would like to help build the rain barrel irrigation as well as be in charge of maintaining the space under my supervision throughout the school year. We would be utilizing our Master Gardener that is assigned to our school as a consultant, in addition to the experts at Anderson Nursery.

I have done substantial research on native plants to the area. We would include plants in our budget that are drought resistant. Milkweed, narrowleaf, buckwheat, California fuschia, sunflowers, snapdragon, hummingbird sage, and agave all fall into that category. Certain butterflies are attracted to certain plants, and the same goes for the egg, larva, and pupa stage of life. The plant diversity is important. This careful selection of plants would be key in creating a learning environment where students can observe all stages of a butterfly's life cycle. Butterflies are pollinators, which are an important part of our ecosystem and a significant amount of vegetables growing in our adjacent garden rely on animal pollination. In addition, plants that attract hummingbirds would also be planted. This would add another aspect of learning to our habitat, as hummingbirds are also pollinators and insect eaters.

Our implementation phase will come next. Fortunately, we have Anderson La Costa Nursery who has offered to donate workers and offer us a large discount/partial donation for the native plants for our habitat. Maintenance is the most important part of the plan, because we want to invest in something that will last a long time. This will culminate in a special event and grand viewing open to the school community. This area is so special as it is fenced in to protect it, near the playground, and near where students and parents gather every morning. It would truly be a special place for students. We are planning for this to happen by June of 2015.

Our curriculum currently focuses on ecosystems in most grade levels, kindergarten through sixth grade in the Next Generation Science Standards. The

standards can be taught in our very own backyard, from our existing compost bin to our proposed butterfly and hummingbird habitat, which will attract invertebrates, insects, and other birds and small animals as well. Students will be able to view the food chain levels in a real and interactive way that cannot be duplicated in the classroom or on a projector screen. While there are virtual labs online for students that are amazing and duplicate learning otherwise deemed inaccessible, providing an outdoor classroom is authentic sensory learning. A wide circle of researchers think that a child's strong connection to technology and a strong disconnect with nature have strong implications to child development, both physically and emotionally.

**C. Budget**

For the rain barrel irrigation materials, mulch and soil, and plants with labor, I would like to ask for \$878 to cover the cost of native plants. We are getting a substantial discount for labor, plants, and soil from Andersen Nursery. Any additional funds necessary will be funded by the PTA. The habitat will be a valuable asset to the school and a permanent learning environment for years to come.

Soil		\$100
Mulch		\$30
Weedcloth		\$10
PVC primer and glue		\$12
2-inch manifold	x2	\$55
Teflon tape	x2	\$ 2
2 inch pvc ball valve	x2	\$ 5
2 inch PVC male adapter	x2	\$ 9
2 inch by 4 inch long TBE pipe	x2	\$14
2 inch PVC bulkhead	x2	\$ 8
Rain collection barrel	x2	\$59
Blue Drip Tubing Sprinkler	x2	\$22
Native Plants and labor Estimate		\$400
(discounted by Andersen Nursery)		
Total		\$878