



LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As School Garden Project of Lane County approaches the close of the 2020 school year, we find ourselves immersed in gratitude for the comfort and encouragement in knowing that our community continues to care and find value in the mission of SGP.

While our office remains closed, our work has not been placed on pause. SGP has dug deep to find how we can continue to remind our community that many of us are relying on nature for our well-being now more than ever.

GROW - the world has had to shift this year. All of us have had to reevaluate how to navigate the pandemic. SGP knew we couldn't do this alone. This school year has not only forged a great number of unexpected paths and directions for SGP but it has also fostered tremendous new ideas and ways to bring our program to our community.

EAT - this year we have seen an increase in people taking interest in gardens, nutrition, and self-sustainability. In response, SGP created a resource for home gardeners where folks may email us at **gardentips@schoolgardenproject.org** with their gardening questions.

LEARN – SGP understood that we would need to expand our reach in a new way. SGP launched its own YouTube channel dedicated to bringing garden and science education to everyone. Our current library of 52 videos provides a glimpse into the lessons and interactions that our students receive while they are in the garden. Please tune in at **https://bit.ly/SGPplaylist**

Please know that you ongoing support will allow SGP to continue to imagine new ways to provide opportunities for children to explore together, to learn together, and to grow and eat healthy food together.

Thank you so much for your continued championing of our program. Your generosity and kindness are so greatly appreciated.

Hope to see you in the garden!

Mindy Bell, Executive Director



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Thank you Board of Directors for your continued leadership and support!



"IN OUR BONES WE NEED THE NATURAL CURVES OF THE HILL, THE SCENT OF CHAPPARAL,
THE WHISPER OF PINES, THE POSSIBILITY OF WILDNESS. WE REQUIRE THESE PATCHES OF
NATURE FOR OUR MENTAL HEALTH AND OUR SPIRITUAL RESILIENCE."

- RICHARD LOUV

School Garden Project strives to help Lane County schools develop onsite vegetable gardens where we teach children science in the garden and the basics of growing food, using the garden as an outdoor laboratory. We also provide material and curriculum resources; professional development for educators; volunteer recruiting and training; and maintenance support to sustain and expand educational gardens

throughout our region and beyond. We are committed to a future in which children become knowledgeable healthy adults who understand the basics of growing food, can apply science principles to garden ecosystems, steward the natural world, eat fruits and vegetables, and contribute to a thriving community.

STRONG PARTNERSHIPS

Dutch Bros



In late September 2019, SGP was chosen as the Eugene Springfield area Buck for Kids recipient from Dutch Bros. That Friday, \$1 was donated to SGP for every drink purchased at every location in Eugene, Springfield, Cottage Grove and Junction City.

Through their incredible generosity and support, Dutch Bros raised \$15,501.58 to support garden education for all students in Lane County!

"I can't think of a better way to spend our energy and resources than to help support the kids in our communities," said Travis Boersma, CEO and co-founder of Dutch Bros Coffee. "Each year, our customers show up and make a huge impact. Together, we're doing amazing things — it's truly inspiring." An enormous thank you to our friends at Dutch Bros for their life impacting gift to students in our community and for the opportunity to partner with this tremendous organization.



WE'RE GROWING OUR COMMUNITY ONE GARDEN AT A TIME.



The data School Garden Project tracks yearly looks a bit different for the 2019-2020 school year. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we were unable to complete our spring sessions with students in their school gardens. The following information is the measurable information we delivered during the Fall/Winter terms.

1,415 STUDENTS PROVIDED 5 HOURS OF SCIENCE AND GARDEN LESSONS.

23 SCHOOLS SERVED IN LANE COUNTY.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, we've extended programming beyond school gardens - providing several educational and support resources for all members of our community.



gardentips@schoolgardenproject.org

Need gardening advice or have a question you'd like answered?

Email us!!

https://bit.ly/SGPplaylist

Featuring fun, family-friendly, educational videos for gardening, kid's crafts, recipes and more!

kids@schoolgardenproject.org

Kids, we'd like to hear from you too! We're here to answer any of your garden, science and nature related questions!

CHANGES TO OUR PROGRAMMING



Pivoting For Success



School Garden Project pivoted very quickly in March 2020 after it was announced that school would be closed for the remainder of the school year.

In April 2020, all SGP team members were provided video equipment and the only direction given to staff was to create videos that highlighted topics related science, gardening, art or food/nutrition. The strategy was to accustom the SGP team to working with video equipment in order to support working virtually rather than solely in person. This effort also provided the team a positive outlet to channel emotions as they mourned not being able to interact in person with our students.

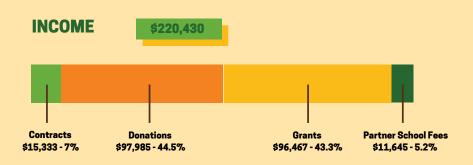
SGP reimagined the in-class portion of the fall curriculum typically taught during school lessons and transformed it into four videos to be delivered virtually. SGP will be reaching out to all teaching partners to offer a menu of support services and resources provided by SGP. This

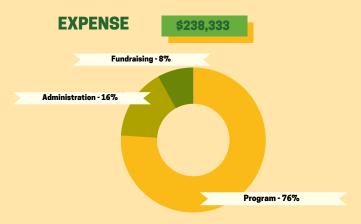
- teacher access to the four curriculum videos
- guest instruction by an SGP garden educator during virtual classroom time
- menu linking all videos available on the SGP YouTube channel

All videos, including curriculum videos, can be accessed through the following link - https://bit.ly/SGPplaylist



FINANCIAL & DONOR INFORMATION





thank you! **DONOR INFORMATION**

\$10,000 or Greater

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\$5,000 - \$9,999

Lane County Farm Bureau Lane County Waste Management PFS Med, Inc.

\$1,000 - \$4,999

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Key partnerships enable SGP to amplify the educational and health impact of our programs.

Our Partners:

Alliance for Healthy Families Bethel School District City of Eugene Eugene School District 4J Junction City School District Lane County Public Health Lane County Waste Management Lane County Farmer's Market **OR Community Food** Systems Network Oregon Department of Education OR Farm to School & School Garden Network Springfield Public Schools Springfield Utility Board, WELL Project University of Oregon, College of Education **Environmental Studies Food Studies** STEM CORE Upstream Public Health Willamette Farm & Food Coalition



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