

WLES Nature Center Renovation

Tentative Plan:

Attached please find tentative plans for the Nature Center Renovation. This renovation will span the course of a few years as improvements are made and monies are generated.

Initial Phase

The initial phase of renovation focuses upon creating handicap accessible pathways and usable learning spaces throughout the area.

Quotes

Quotes are being secured for the concrete sidewalks and slabs and landscape architects/contractors will finalize the plan and implement the ideas.

Ultimately, the area will have natural shade provided by trees that are being planted. Until that time, shade sails will be installed over larger areas and picnic tables with umbrellas will provide shade to students.

Funding

Funding for the initial phase was generated through a "Fun Run" fundraiser orchestrated by the WLES Parent Council. The Fun Run has provided \$20,000 to use for the sidewalks and "hardscapes". We are requesting that the Board approve the gift of \$20,000 from the WLES Parent Council.

An amazing parent volunteer and staff member, Colin Kippenbrock, worked on this project during the 2021-2022 school year, building tables, benches, and raised garden beds. Tragically, Colin passed away in July of this year. His family generously asked that donations be made to this project in lieu of flowers for his funeral. Those funds will be added as they become available. Once we have a final total, we will present the amount to the Board for approval of that gift as well.

Student Create Slideshow Fall of 2021 - This slideshow was created by students during the 2021-2022 school year to propose changes to the Nature Center and ask for funding. The WLES Parent Council responded brilliantly! This slideshow includes some of their vision for creating an outdoor learning environment for all WLES students.

[Student Create Slideshow Fall of 2021](#)

Current Nature Center



Initial Phase of Renovation

